

TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION Governor Michael F. Easley

"We want to be the best place to teach and learn in America. That means providing good working conditions, competitive salaries and high standards for both teachers and students."

Governor Mike Easley 10-25-2005

The Plan To Raise Teacher Salaries

- <u>Above</u> the projected national average within four years (\$52,266)
- Substantially increases the competitiveness of North Carolina's beginning teacher salary
- Provides for an increase of \$750 for teachers on an annualized basis this year, effective in the November paycheck

The Plan To Raise Teacher Salaries

- This permanent increase was in addition to the average 2.24 percent increase already provided in the 2005-06 budget
- There will be additional average annual increases of <u>5 percent</u> for the following three years
- This increase will significantly increase pay for new teachers. Future raises may be provided as flatrate, percentage increases or some combination of both to meet the state's goal.
- •Examination for future years of differentiated pay for Hard-to-Staff schools and math, science, and special education

How Much Does This Cost?

• Costs an additional \$150 million per year to move the schedule

• Step must be funded as usual practice

Can We Afford This?

- Long-term average revenue growth indicates 'yes'
- Assumes average growth in spending (Medicaid, enrollment, etc)
- Accounts for other education investments such as low-wealth formula, high school reform, and so forth