

Request for Remote Public Input for House Select Committee on COVID-19 Public Comments Report - LINC

Date Submitted	Category	Name	Comments
03/30/2020 06:31 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs. Elizabeth Neuendorff	How are military families being addressed in regards to education for their students? Military families have 30 days to enroll after a PCS. This means there are students currently not enrolled in school. If they do not enroll, will there be a waiver for the 30 days? If these students have a IEP or 504 how are their needs being meet?
03/30/2020 06:39 PM	Education Working Group	Mr Stephen Lee	I understand we don't want the grading of students like we traditionally do. Like grading on how much a student knows and it has been unethical to do grade on a students behavior. But this is an entirely different situation. If we don't hold (Students Accountable) all this online resources is in vain. There should be some type of grading for (Production Progress) for students that are attempting to learn. And those that are just logging into their accounts online and doing none of the work assigned by teachers. It's total nonsense if you aren't making students accountable. We can be transparent in the grade they receive but I need not to say any more. Asking someone to build a house for learning and to receive nothing tangible in return is like giving every child a trophy for running. It may in this case be ok to just do that because a great deal of students aren't even running.
03/30/2020 06:40 PM	Education Working Group	Mrs Terri Sessoms	We have several teachers who are parents of young school age children. These teachers are being asked to both work as a teacher facilitating real time online instruction, while also assisting their own children with real time online learning. The overlap is creating much stress on the teacher/parent and all children involved are not getting the best instructional delivery possible. By expecting these teacher/parents to facilitate real time, online delivery, their own children are not receiving instruction. Can these employees be allowed to use the emergency leave granted last week so they may assist their own children? This would also allow the LEA to employ a substitute teacher.
03/30/2020 06:54 PM	Education Working Group	Karen Dameron	As a HR Employee in a school district, teachers who were scheduled to take licensing test were sent cancellation notices because of COVID-19. Testing centers have closed. There has been no guidance given on what will be done for teachers whose jobs are at stake if they can't take and pass licencing test by June 30th.
03/30/2020 07:33 PM	Education Working Group	Brandon Lee	Implement this now so that when all this is over, the following actions will be policy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide enough school librarians, psychologists, social workers, counselors, nurses, and other health professionals to meet national professional-to-student standards; - Provide \$15 minimum wage for all school personnel, 5% raise for all ESPs (non-certified staff), teachers, administrators, and a 5% cost of living adjustment for retirees; - Expand Medicaid to improve the health of our students and families; - Reinstate state retiree health benefits eliminated by the General Assembly in 2017; - Restore advanced degree compensation stripped by the General Assembly in 2013. Thank you.
03/30/2020 07:38 PM	Education Working Group	VP, Durham Hispanic Cmte Italo Medelius	Legislators, on the Durham Mayor's Hispanic-Latino Committee, we've been advocating for our mayors and commissioners to improve language accessibility with COVID-19 education and notices. In Durham, due to staffing, our Stay in Place notice did not come out translated until the morning after it was announced. Durham has been strong with language accessibility, I can only imagine how the rest of our counties (like Pender county

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03/30/2020 08:54 PM	Education Working Group	Katie Biasi	<p>where I grew up in a largely Hispanic community) are managing with translation. I ask you to please ensure at least for the rest of the crisis, any and all materials or notices or electronic communications be disbursed in both English and Spanish. Thank you.</p> <p>Please do not decide too early to close schools for the remainder of the year. It can be reevaluated closer to May 15. Deciding to close schools this early is too early.</p> <p>Students need in person instruction. Need to see their friends and have closure for the school year.</p>
03/30/2020 10:36 PM	Education Working Group	Teacher Lisa Dunn	<p>As we navigate the challenges of school closure and remote learning, we're already thinking toward how this will impact the next school year. An essential resource for serving our families going forward is adequate staffing. This means more personnel in the key areas that have been cut in North Carolina over recent years: teacher assistants, EC teachers and teacher assistants, social workers, counselors, and psychologists, among others. North Carolina communities are witnessing in real time the social safety net that public schools truly are. Before schools even closed it was evident that North Carolina public schools were running near bare minimum staffing to meet student needs. When schools reopen, the foreseeable learning gaps and social-emotional needs will require adequate staffing. It is essential that you prioritize funds to expand staffing in NC schools. As a classroom kindergarten teacher, I know that students will return to school with a broad range of experiences and academic exposure during their time away from school. Effective instruction will require differentiated, targeted instruction, family partnerships, and social-emotional support. The staffing model under which we've been operating is not sufficient to meet those needs. I am imploring you to improve the support that current and future student families receive by adequately staffing our schools with a dedicated teacher assistant for each elementary classroom and expanded school-based SEL teams of EC teachers and teacher assistants, social workers, counselors, and psychologists.</p>
03/31/2020 10:34 AM	Education Working Group	Head of School Adam Greer	<p>I'm Head of School of a private school in Greensboro, NC (The Covenant School). We're currently serving some 141 students in grades k - 7th. We would greatly appreciate a waiver of the following:</p> <p>Annual standardized testing Annual testing for our families receiving the Opportunity Scholarships School calendar (although our students are working full-time from home, submitting work, and doing well!).</p> <p>Thanks so much,</p> <p>Adam Greer</p>
03/31/2020 10:36 AM	Education Working Group	Coach Holly Jo Sensenich	<p>I have been engaged in working. But being an elective teacher, Physical Education teacher, or a teacher who sees large numbers of students and does not have a way of direct communication (google classroom) with students, what should we be doing? I have been in touch with other teachers and put out lessons for review through them. Is there anything more?</p>
03/31/2020 10:38 AM	Education Working Group	Teacher Robert Vencill	<p>How to handle student who reject online virtual learning.?</p>

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03/31/2020 11:21 AM	Education Working Group	Mr. Willingham	Concerned about the continued close contact of students/staff at Youth Development Centers without social distancing procedures being utilized.
03/31/2020 12:52 PM	Education Working Group	Mr George Brooks	Justing wonder, how all of my students will be able to keep up with our transition for face-to-face to a new virtual environment. Well, our parents step up to become home-schoolers to help students with these transitions. Most of my students are not coming online to meet during my virtual office hours.
03/31/2020 02:14 PM	Education Working Group	Mr. John Brien	Thank you for all the work you are doing in helping every citizen deal with the Covid-19 outbreak. I am writing to ask you serious consideration of the poor people. The poor have always suffered the most in any economic or public health crisis. It is my firm belief that they must be taken care of first. Please enact legislation that will eliminate evictions, foreclosures and arrests of people who are not able to pay their rent or mortgage and may be living on the street. If they have no home, how are they going to "stay in place"? Epidemics start with poor people but epidemics don't stay with poor people. They spread because disease does not recognize economic status. The working poor clean your office and home. They cook and serve your meals. They cut your grass. They stock the shelves of your stores and malls. Rent subsidies and ban on all evictions is the first place to start to help curb the spread of the virus. Thank you for your time and consideration.