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January 12, 2015

North Carolina General Assembly Legislative Building 16 West Jones Street Raleigh, NC 27601

Dear Members of the Senate Appropriations/Base Budget Committee, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee:

Lenoir County Public Schools seeks to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers who are dedicated to the mission of educating our students with relevant, engaging instruction. In order to accomplish this goal, teachers must constantly focus on professional growth and continuous improvement.

In an effort to recognize and reward teachers, Lenoir County Public Schools will provide differentiated pay, to the extent possible with funding provided from the North Carolina General Assembly. The teachers who will be recognized and rewarded must achieve at least an "accomplished" rating on two standards and a "proficient" rating on all other standards on which a rating is assigned on their most recent summative evaluation. The specific amount of differentiated pay will be determined by the amount of funding provided to Lenoir County Public Schools for this purpose by the North Carolina General Assembly as well as the number of eligible teachers.

Respectfully,

L. Stephen Mazingo, Ed.D. Superintendent

c Robin Roberson, Human Resources Director Lisa Davis, Finance Officer

**Lenoir County Public Schools**