



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent*

WWW.NCPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG

November 2, 2015

Mr. Lee Roberts
State Budget Office Director
Office of State Budget and Management
116 West Jones Street
Raleigh, North Carolina 27603-8001

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Thank you for your ongoing consultation with us regarding the reorganization and reduction of the Department of Public Instruction included in Session Law 2015-241 Section 8.37. In particular, thank you for allowing us to use a negative reserve and extending the deadline for our final budget recommendations to December 31.

Thank you also for your willingness to give us input about how the Department may reorganize itself given the General Assembly's flexibility ("The State Board of Education may allocate this reduction at its discretion", Session Law 2015-241 Conference Committee Report, Public Education, E. 31). The State Board of Education will consider all of its options and make a final decision in its regularly scheduled meeting on December 3. After that point, the Department will provide your office with documentation regarding any decisions that the Board has made.

We anticipate that the information will include details about how the reorganization will make better use of the Excellent Public Schools Act funds within the Department to support the work of the LEAs and charter schools.

We also anticipate that the documentation will demonstrate clearly the rising indirect cost funds generated by an increase in federal receipts. Since indirect cost funds take on the properties of State funds once received, there should be no concern related to the Department becoming more federally funded than it currently is. The timeframe of the Board's decision and the Department's provision of necessary documentation will be sufficient to effect the reduction and reorganization by the December 31 deadline.

Mr. Cobey and I look forward to continuing this conversation with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "June St. Clair Atkinson".

June St. Clair Atkinson

JSA/PWP/jlw

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT

June St. Clair Atkinson, Ed.D., *State Superintendent* | june.atkinson@dpi.nc.gov
6301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-6301 | (919) 807-3430 | Fax (919) 807-3445

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER