

60 NCASA SECOND UPDATE

May 13, 2021

NCASA's 60 Second Update is a weekly brief summary of legislative and policy news affecting public schools in North Carolina.



Legislators Advance Dozens Of Bills Ahead Of 5/13 Crossover Deadline — Members of the NC General Assembly passed dozens of education-related bills ahead of today's bill crossover deadline, or the administrative cutoff date at which all policy bills must have passed at least one chamber to be eligible for additional consideration this legislative session. Since the beginning of the 2021-2022 Session, at least 400 bills relating to K-12 education have been filed, and at least 75 of those bills have met the crossover deadline at the time of this publication. NCASA will be covering key crossover bills in greater depth during a [free webinar](#) available to all members on Monday, May 17, and those interested in that comprehensive update should register today.



Senate Delays Vote On Making NC Police, Teachers, State Employees' Discipline Public — State legislators are pushing for transparency about public-sector workers' personnel records in the wake of shootings by law enforcement. But votes on their bill have been postponed twice this week while the lawmakers work behind the scenes. It's at least the fourth time in three decades that North Carolina lawmakers have considered making employee records more public, including one law that passed in 2010 [and made public whether the workers had been suspended or demoted](#). (via [News & Observer](#))



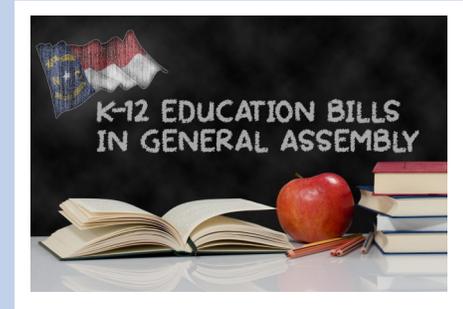
CDC Says Kids As Young As 12 Should Get The Pfizer COVID-19 Vaccine — An independent federal advisory committee on Wednesday recommended that the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine be administered to adolescents aged 12 to 15 — a move expected to be quickly approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Wednesday's decision could open up a new front in the fight against COVID-19 after the Food and Drug Administration's [extension](#) of its emergency use authorization for the Pfizer vaccine to cover adolescents. The vote was 14 in favor with one recusal. (via [NPR](#))



NC Legislation Would Bar Schools From Advocating That The US Is Racist Or Sexist — North Carolina lawmakers could ban public schools from using lessons that advocate that the U.S. is racist or sexist or was created to oppress members of another race or sex. The N.C. House Education Committee backed a new bill unveiled on Tuesday that [prohibits schools from promoting concepts such as](#) the U.S. being racist and that people are inherently racist or sexist, whether consciously or unconsciously. (via [News & Observer](#)).

Bill Action This Week: Raising The Dropout Age,

Charter School Changes & More — Even as many legislators scrambled to push their bills across the crossover week finish line, many bills still had to jump the initial hurdle of gaining approval in various committees. The following education-related bills were passed in committees this week before successfully passing either the House or Senate:



H276: Adjust High School Athletics Conf./Onslow – Permits certain high schools in Onslow County to participate in a single conference.

- **STATUS:** Passed House K-12 Comm. 5/11; passed House Chamber 5/12

H621: Increase Dropout Age/Completion Indicator

- Raises the compulsory school attendance age to 18 years old over a five-year period; establishes a completion rate indicator for school performance grades (at request of NCASA and NCSSA).
- **STATUS:** Passed House K-12 Comm. 5/11; passed House Chamber 5/12

H729: Charter Schools Omnibus

- Allows charter schools to meet instructional time requirements through “in-person or blended instruction”; authorizes, but does not require, counties to lease real property to charter schools, as well as provide funds to charter schools by direct appropriation for capital projects; states the General Assembly’s intent to ensure funding “parity” between charter schools and other public school units; allows charter school teachers to receive residency licenses.
- **STATUS:** Passed House K-12 Comm. 5/11; passed House Chamber 5/12

H825: Charter School Advisory Bd. Member Changes

- Makes changes to the North Carolina Charter Schools Advisory Board (CSAB) to add the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, or designee, as a voting member of the Board; eliminates one of the State Board of Education’s appointees to the Board; and staggers the terms of office for those members appointed by the General Assembly.
- **STATUS:** Passed House K-12 Comm. 5/11; passed House Chamber 5/11

H878: Schools for the Deaf/Administration

- Creates a board of trustees for each of the residential schools for the hearing impaired and provides for the governance of those schools by those boards.
- **STATUS:** Passed House K-12 Comm. 5/11; passed House Chamber 5/11

S265: Bond Referendum Transparency

- Requires local governments to disclose certain information relating to estimated bond interest, effect on property taxes, and other information, to voters after a bond order has been introduced.
- **STATUS:** Passed Senate Finance 5/11; passed Senate Chamber 5/13



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