



## Food For Thought

"An event had happened, upon which it is difficult to speak, and impossible to be silent."

~ Edmund Burke (1730–97)

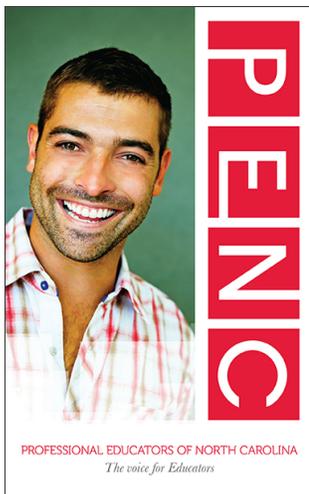
## Our Mission

*Our mission is to promote education reform for the benefit of all North Carolina children while ensuring the recruitment, development and retention of qualified educators.*

## Join or Renew

Click [here](#) to join or renew .

Check out PENC's brochure:



## Membership Form

Click [here](#) for a printable Membership Form.

## Who We Are

To learn more about PENC, click [here](#).

## Contact PENC

For a listing of PENC Staff, click [here](#).

## PENC Legislative Update

### McCrorry Signs Budget

#### Provides NO Salary Increase, Eliminates Tenure, and Implements Ed Reforms

Despite personal pleas from PENC leadership and an overwhelming number of PENC members, Governor McCrorry signed the budget bill **S402, 2013 Appropriations Act**, into law on Friday, July 26. The budget includes major policy changes to education, including:

- **Repeal of teacher tenure** and replacement with a scheme that puts teachers without tenure on annual contracts and teachers who currently have tenure on one, two, or four year contracts.
- **Creation of "Opportunity Scholarships,"** which amount to vouchers that can be used by families at 133 percent of the federal poverty level to send their children to private schools, draining resources and support for North Carolina's public school system.
- **NO Teacher or State Employee Salary increase.**
- **Phase Out of Master's level pay** for anyone not receiving that supplement by the 2014-2015 school year, unless a Master's degree is required by their job.
- **LEA funding cuts for guaranteed classroom teacher positions** by more than \$286 million in FY 13-14 and by more than \$245 million in FY 14-15.
- Inclusion of the House's **School Safety Provisions, which PENC Supports.**

McCrorry defended his decision by citing Medicaid cost overruns. With the changes, he is suggesting a major review of RtT initiatives and a reduction in the number of standardized tests.

**PENC is deeply disappointed by the budget. Many of our members have asked us, "What now?" Please be assured that we are reviewing all of our options at this point. We will be sure to keep you up to date as we chart our course of action.**

[What do you think?](#)

If you have questions or concerns, please share your thoughts and ideas with us.

Contact us at [penc@pencweb.org](mailto:penc@pencweb.org).

Submitted by Evelyn Hawthorne

For more information about the North Carolina General Assembly, [click here](#).

To identify and contact your legislators, [click here](#).

For information about specific issues, please contact PENC government relations consultant Evelyn Hawthorne at [lobbyist@pencweb.org](mailto:lobbyist@pencweb.org).