

- 1 a. The number of program enhancement teachers. For the purposes of  
2 this subdivision, program enhancement teachers are teachers who  
3 teach any of the following:  
4 1. Arts disciplines, including dance, music, theater, and the  
5 visual arts.  
6 2. Physical education and health programs.  
7 3. World languages.  
8 b. The source of funds used to pay each program enhancement teacher.  
9 (3) The average class size for each grade from kindergarten through third grade  
10 in the local school administrative unit.  
11 (3a) Any limitations on the capacity of school facilities for each school in the  
12 local school administrative unit that make it impracticable for the school to  
13 meet individual class size requirements for students in kindergarten through  
14 third grade without a school facility expansion.  
15 (4) Any other information the Superintendent of Public Instruction may require.

16 The Superintendent of Public Instruction shall conduct periodic audits of the information  
17 reported by the local superintendent under this subsection to confirm the accuracy of reporting  
18 at the local school administrative unit and school level of the average and individual class size  
19 for students in kindergarten through third grade. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction  
20 finds that a local board of education is exceeding class size requirements without application to  
21 the State Board for an allotment adjustment or a waiver of those class size requirements, the  
22 State Board may impose the penalty set forth in subsection (j) of this section until such time the  
23 local board of education receives a waiver or the schools in the unit meet the class size  
24 requirements for kindergarten through third grade."  
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## 26 **JOINT LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FINANCE REFORM**

27 **SECTION 7.23D.(a)** There is created the Joint Legislative Task Force on  
28 Education Finance Reform (Task Force).

29 **SECTION 7.23D.(b)** The Task Force shall consist of nine members of the Senate  
30 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and nine members of the House of  
31 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The President Pro  
32 Tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each appoint a  
33 cochair of the Task Force from among its membership. These appointments shall be made no  
34 later than September 1, 2017.

35 It is expected that the makeup of the Task Force reflect geographic and urban/rural  
36 diversity. At least one member of the House of Representatives and at least one member of the  
37 Senate shall be from the minority party of their respective chambers.

38 **SECTION 7.23D.(c)** In consultation with the State Board of Education and the  
39 Department of Public Instruction, the Task Force shall study various weighted student formula  
40 funding models and develop a new funding model for the elementary and secondary public  
41 schools of North Carolina based on a weighted student formula. As a part of this process, the  
42 Task Force shall do all of the following:

- 43 (1) Review the State's current public school allotment system and undertake an  
44 in-depth study of various types of weighted student formula funding models.  
45 In its study, the Task Force is encouraged to consider models used by other  
46 states.  
47 (2) Determine the base amount of funds that must be distributed on a per student  
48 basis to cover the cost of educating a student in the State.  
49 (3) Identify the student characteristics eligible for weighted funding and the  
50 associated weights for each of these characteristics.

- 1 (4) Resolve the extent to which the base amount of funds to be distributed  
2 would be adjusted based on the characteristics of each local school  
3 administrative unit.
- 4 (5) Decide which funding elements, if any, would remain outside the base of  
5 funds to be distributed under a weighted student formula.
- 6 (6) Study other funding models for elementary and secondary public schools,  
7 including public charter schools, in addition to the weighted student funding  
8 formula.
- 9 (7) Study funding models to provide children with disabilities with a free  
10 appropriate public education. This shall include a consideration of  
11 economies of scale, the advisability and practicality of capping additional  
12 funding for children with disabilities, and additional costs associated with  
13 services required for particular disabilities.
- 14 (8) Study any other issue the Task Force considers relevant.

15 **SECTION 7.23D.(d)** The Task Force shall meet upon the call of its cochairs. A  
16 quorum of the Task Force is a majority of its members. No action may be taken except by a  
17 majority vote at a meeting at which a quorum is present. The Task Force, while in the discharge  
18 of its official duties, may exercise all powers provided for under G.S. 120-19 and G.S. 120-19.1  
19 through G.S. 120-19.4. The Task Force may contract for professional, clerical, or consultant  
20 services, as provided by G.S. 120-32.02. If the Task Force hires a consultant, the consultant  
21 shall not be a State employee or a person currently under contract with the State to provide  
22 services. Members of the Task Force shall receive per diem, subsistence, and travel allowance  
23 as provided in G.S. 120-3.1. The expenses of the Task Force shall be considered expenses  
24 incurred for the joint operation of the General Assembly.

25 **SECTION 7.23D.(e)** The Legislative Services Officer shall assign professional and  
26 clerical staff to assist the Task Force in its work. The Director of Legislative Assistants of the  
27 House of Representatives and the Director of Legislative Assistants of the Senate shall assign  
28 clerical support to the Task Force.

29 **SECTION 7.23D.(f)** Meetings of the Task Force shall begin no later than October  
30 1, 2017. The Task Force shall submit a final report on the results of its study and development,  
31 including proposed legislation, to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on or  
32 before October 1, 2018, by filing a copy of the report with the Office of the President Pro  
33 Tempore of the Senate, the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Joint  
34 Legislative Education Oversight Committee, and the Legislative Library. The Task Force shall  
35 terminate on October 1, 2018, or upon the filing of its final report, whichever comes first.

## 36 37 **ELIMINATE ANALYSIS OF STUDENT WORK PROCESS FOR TEACHER** 38 **EVALUATIONS**

39 **SECTION 7.23E.(a)** The State Board of Education shall eliminate the use of the  
40 analysis of student work process and shall prohibit use of an analysis of student work process to  
41 assess teacher performance and professional growth as part of the North Carolina Teacher  
42 Evaluation System.

43 **SECTION 7.23E.(b)** The consolidated State plan to be submitted by the State  
44 Board of Education and the Department of Public Instruction to the U.S. Department of  
45 Education as required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. §  
46 6301, et seq., as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, P.L. 114-95, shall reflect the  
47 requirements of subsection (a) of this section.

48 **SECTION 7.23E.(c)** G.S. 115C-296(e) reads as rewritten:

49 "(e) The State Board of Education shall develop a mentor program to provide ongoing  
50 support for teachers entering the profession. In developing the mentor program, the State Board  
51 shall conduct a comprehensive study of the needs of new teachers and how those needs can be