

Principal's Column

Legislature To Face School Program

With the convening of the Legislature early in January only a few weeks away, school people and patrons should acquaint themselves with the program that will be presented in the interest of the schools. State Supt. Clyde A. Erwin stated his program in the last issue of the North Carolina Public School Bulletin. This program and that of the NCEA are in close agreement. Dr. Erwin adds two suggestions to the NCEA program. Briefly the eight points are:

1. A more adequate school health program.
2. Increased salaries in line with the increased cost of living.
3. An effective system for enforcement of the compulsory attendance law.
4. Increased retirement benefits.
5. A more liberal allotment of teachers.
6. State help in building adequate school plants.
7. State funds for employing supervisors of instruction.
8. A program for the education of exceptional children.

There has been and still is quite a bit of controversy as to just how much salary increase teachers should receive. The State Board of Education and the NCEA have gone on record as favoring a 20 per cent increase with another increase granted if the cost of living continues to rise. Salaries need to be raised. Many arguments

could be given as to why, but the best one in my opinion is that teachers need to be drawn into the schools by an adequate salary schedule. The schools have suffered greatly by the exodus of many good teachers. Higher salaries could get good teachers to replace those in our schools with emergency teaching certificates.

The question has recently come up in our school as to the compulsory school law maximum age. A recent ruling states that all children who have not reached their 16th birthday are required by law to attend school. If your child is not yet sixteen, be sure to have him in school every day that he

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