

# Schools

From 1  
tion's approval of the funds from the state Department of Public Instruction in Raleigh. He added that Bertie County Schools already have a plan in place once the supplement is approved.

"This plan of giving a bonus for all their hard work is just a drop in the bucket for what they really deserve," Smallwood said after the meeting. "We wanted to make sure we treated every-

body equitable, that's why we wanted a straight flat-rate across the board because everybody has worked hard for this and no one harder than the other."

The superintendent stated that full-time employees who were hired from the first 30 days will receive the full amount of \$2,000.

Employees hired after the first 30 days up to April 1 will have their stipend prorated and if they were hired as of April 1 until now, or are no

longer employed within the district, they would not longer be eligible.

"This is totally contingent on DPI approving our federal plan for this money, so once they approve it and get it released then we can make sure everybody gets paid," Smallwood said.

He noted that Bertie County was not alone, in that several other counties in the region were considering a similar plan pending approval by their various Boards of

Education.

"Everybody will receive it," he noted. "Each principal, each teacher, bus driver, cafeteria worker, Central Office employee - everybody from the first 30 days through now."

The board thanked Dr. Smallwood and his staff for their insight.

"We thank everyone for all they did because their work did not go unnoticed," said Board Chair Tarsha Dudley. "This is an excellent oppor-

tunity to give back to everyone who made sure our children were educated."

"We got thrown into a game where there was no play-book," said board member Norman Cherry. "It was just - BAM! - there was no way to decide how to do what. So we wrote the book as we went along, and it appears we're winning the game."

*Gene Motley can be reached via email at bertienews@nc-weeklies.com.*

# Investigation

From 1  
to his injuries.

Sheriff Holley said Watford's case was similar to a shooting death in Kelford earlier this month in that he believes there are those who

know what happened, but won't share the information.

"The community knows, but won't get involved," he said. "It gives criminals the upper hand when people won't say what they saw or know and that gives them

the opportunity to do these kinds of things over and over."

The sheriff said one of the more frustrating parts for him was that he wasn't seeking names of those who provide the information.

"Call and give the information, that's what we need," he said. "I don't care about names."

The sheriff said his office will continue working the leads they have, but again strongly encouraged anyone

with information about Watford's murder to call the Bertie County Sheriff's Office at 252-794-5330.

*Thadd White can be reached via email at twhite@ncweeklies.com.*

# Pedestrian

From 1  
he was treated and released. The driver of the Toyota,

James Hoggard of Bull Hill Road in Windsor, nor the two other occupants of the vehicle were treated for in-

juries. The driver of each vehicle was written a citation, according to Trooper

Mize. Hoggard was cited for parking in a highway while Dempsey was charged with failure to reduce speed.

*Thadd White can be reached via email at twhite@ncweeklies.com.*

# Collision

From 1  
The incident was investi-

gated by N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper J.C. Copeland. The two deaths were the

second and third fatalities in Bertie County in 2021 and the sixth and seventh in

Troop A, District 2.

*Thadd White can be*

*reached via email at twhite@ncweeklies.com.*

**Score a TOUCHDOWN** **Subscribe to Bertie Ledger-Advance**

Bertie Ledger-Advance • 109 South King St, Windsor, NC 27983 • Ph: 252-794-3185 • Fax: 252-794-2835

## A friendly reminder from your health care partner.

It's time to put your health first and schedule important annual screenings like mammograms and colonoscopies with Vidant Health. With COVID-19 protocols in place, it's as safe as ever to partner with us to improve your health and well-being.

Learn more at [VidantHealth.com/Reminder](https://VidantHealth.com/Reminder)

**VIDANT HEALTH**