

ECU Notes
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DPI finance expert speaks on Leandro

A presentation on the Leandro ruling and how it will effect education policy over the next several years is scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Willis Building on First Street.

Philip Price, associate superintendent for finance with Department of Public Instruction, will speak along with Robin Johnson, an education staff person for the General Assembly.

The Leandro case, Hoke County Board of Education vs. North Carolina State Board of Education, involves five school districts that sued the State Board of Education for inadequate state funding to educate at-risk students; they were later joined in their suit by five additional districts.

A court ruling issued in April 2002 said county school boards and the state share the responsibility in funding education for at-risk children. The ruling identified three entitlements every student should receive:

- Every classroom be staffed with a competent, certified, well-trained teacher who is teaching the Standard Course of Study using effective educational methods to provide differentiated, individualized instruction, assessment and remediation.
- Every school be led by a well-trained competent principal with leadership skills and the ability to hire and retain teachers described above.
- Every every school be provided, in the most cost-efficient manner, the resources needed to carry out the effective instructional program within that school.