

# LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



## 2009-2011 SESSION NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The North Carolina Principals and Assistant Principals Association understands the difficulties the current economic environment has placed on the General Assembly.

Our legislative platform reflects our vision for the 2009-2011 session. We appreciate your continued support of K-12 education and placing children first.

- NCPAPA Board of Directors

“UNITED TO SERVE CHILDREN”



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### NORTH CAROLINA PRINCIPALS AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION

In existence since 1976, the North Carolina Principals and Assistant Principals' Association (NCPAPA) is the preeminent organization and state voice for principals, assistant principals and aspiring school leaders.

NCPAPA was established with the firm belief that strong positive administrative leadership is the determining factor in the quality of a child's public education in North Carolina.

Today NCPAPA represents 4,500 members from across the state and serves as the state's principal affiliate for the N.C. Association of School Administrators (NCASA), the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP.)

As one voice we aim to promote excellence in educational leadership for the State of North Carolina.

#### OUR LEADERSHIP

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# NORTH CAROLINA PRINCIPALS & ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION

## 2009-2011 Legislative Priorities

### SUPPORT EXCELLENCE IN SCHOOL

#### ADMINISTRATION

- Approve North Carolina's participation in a new National Board Certification program for principals and assistant principals that will provide salary differential in recognition of their enhanced training and qualifications
- Continue State support for the Principal Fellows Program

#### ENHANCE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF PRINCIPALS AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

- Ensure that all National Board Certified teachers who move into public school administration are paid the higher of the two salaries to reflect their additional responsibilities
- Maintain school-based administrative salaries tied to the teacher salary schedule
- Accept all administrative experience, including time working in central office, in the one step for three years calculation
- Increase the salary differential to at least 6 percent between teachers with master's degrees and assistant principals to reflect the increased responsibilities of the position and to encourage qualified personnel to become administrators

- Provide 12-month funding for assistant principals
- Provide an additional salary step for each 3 years of experience as an assistant principal
- Increase funding for assistant principals to provide a ration of 1:450 ADM
- Increase advanced degree supplements for principals
- Maintain state-paid health care premiums for all employees and retirees, limit increases in costs for family/dependent coverage and prevent erosion of State Health Plan benefits
- Implement a comprehensive "return to work" policy for all retired school-building-level certified staff that will not harm the financial soundness of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System

#### ENSURE NORTH CAROLINA STUDENTS ARE PROVIDED THE HIGHEST QUALITY K-12 PUBLIC EDUCATION

- Fully endorse the recommendations made by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Testing and Accountability
- Grant school systems the flexibility to set the school calendar based on the needs of their students and communities

- Provide additional support for dropout prevention efforts that are sustainable, successful and replicable
- Enhance efforts to raise student achievement and close the gaps
- Continue high school reform efforts, but also focus on elementary and middle school interventions for at-risk students
- Increase funding for student remediation and quality after-school programs
- Support funding for public school technology personnel, training, equipment upgrades and enhanced usages in instruction
- Enhance exceptional children's services by increasing funding for Children with Disabilities and Academically and Intellectually Gifted
- Enhance support for workforce readiness skills through Career-Technical Education by basing ADM funding on Grades 6-12 and increasing months of employment for CTE personnel
- Provide testing coordinator positions for schools based on the Average Daily Membership (ADM) formula

#### ENHANCE TEACHER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- Raise the average teacher's salaries to at least the national average

- Enhance salaries for beginning teachers
- Provide incentives to exemplary teachers who agree to teach in at-risk or hard-to-staff schools

#### ADEQUATELY FUND PUBLIC SCHOOL

##### OPERATIONS

- Restore the \$33.3 million in sales tax refunds that the State designated for redirection from public schools in 2006-07 or make public schools exempt from sales tax
- Restore the \$225 million in LEA discretionary cuts
- Extend the local sales tax earmarking for public school facilities
- Provide public schools the \$748 million collected from fines and forfeitures from the 1996-2005 without supplanting or reducing other public school funding

#### PROTECT PUBLIC SCHOOLS FROM FUNDING EROSION

- Oppose vouchers or tax credits for K-12 education provided outside public schools
- Maintain the current cap of 100 charter schools
- Maintain the limited State funds now provided for traditional public school facilities and do not shift any portion of those funds to charter schools or private entities