



2019

NCAE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA PRIORITIES

Standing Strong for Public Schools

1. INCREASE PER-PUPIL FUNDING TO THE NATIONAL AVERAGE WITHIN THREE YEARS

Currently, NC ranks 39th in per-pupil funding, more than \$2,300 per student behind the national average.

- Restore Funding to At Least Pre-Recession Levels for Textbooks, Digital Learning Tools, and Instructional Supplies for All Educators
- Restore Instructional Assistant Positions to Pre-Recession Levels
- Support Governor Cooper's School Supply Stipend for Educators

2. INVEST IN THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF OUR STUDENTS AND MAKE SCHOOLS SAFER

- Increase the Number of School Nurses, Social Workers, Counselors and School Psychologists, Based on National Average
- Improve the Health and Safety of our Most Vulnerable Students by Expanding Medicaid
- Provide Comprehensive Community Support Services Like Nutrition, Health, and After-School Programs

3. IMPLEMENT A MULTI-YEAR PROFESSIONAL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS PLAN FOR ALL EDUCATORS THAT IS SIGNIFICANT AND LIVABLE AND RESTORE DUE PROCESS:

Currently, NC is projected to rank 37th in average teacher pay, more than \$9,600 behind the national average. In a separate report, the Economic Policy Institute ranks NC 49th in teacher pay competitiveness compared to other professions with the same degree requirements.

- Value Experienced Educators by Ending Pay Inequities
- Increase Average Teacher Pay to National Average in Three Years
- Provide a Livable Raise for ALL Education Support Professionals, including Increasing the Minimum Pay Ranges to be the Same as State Government Employees
- Restore ALL Advanced Degree Pay (Masters, 6 Yr. and Ph.D) for ALL Teachers and Principals and Restore Principal Pay to Include Education and Experience
- Restore Longevity, as a Separate Bonus Check, for ALL Teachers and ALL School-Based Administrators
- Enhance and Protect the State Health Plan, including Full Funding and No Premium Increases
- Provide an Annual Cost-Of-Living (COLA) Increase for ALL Retirees, Fully Fund the Annual Retirement Contribution and Protect All Current Pension Benefits
- Eliminate Pay for Performance Based on Test Scores for Teachers and Principals
- Reinstate Full Due Process (Career Status), or Implement Some Form of Due Process Rights for Educators
- Provide a Dedicated Planning Time and Duty-Free Lunch Time for ALL Teachers Daily

4. FIX OUR CRUMBLING SCHOOLS AND LARGE CLASS SIZES WITH A STATEWIDE SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND

- NCAE is part of a coalition of public education advocates that has been calling for a \$1.9 billion Statewide School Construction Bond for K-12. The last time there was a statewide public school construction bond was 1996. Currently, there is in excess of \$8 billion in construction and repair needs.

5. REPEAL THE RAIDS ON PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING AND OTHER PRIVITIZATION EFFORTS

- Phase Out and Repeal North Carolina’s Private School Voucher Program that Takes Tens of Millions of Dollars Away from Public Schools
- Dedicate Private Voucher Reserves to Low-Performing Schools
- End the Innovative School District Pilot that Turns Over Public Schools to For-Profit Charter Operators

6. SIGNIFICANTLY OVERHAUL OR END THE SCHOOL GRADING SYSTEM IN FAVOR OF MULTIPLE INDICATORS

- Currently, North Carolina’s school grading system only confirms which schools have high segments of poverty and should rely more heavily on growth than performance on standardized test scores. Multiple indicators should be used to measure progress of a school.

7. RESTORE PROGRAMS TO BOOST NC’S TEACHER PIPELINE AND DISTRICT FLEXIBILITY

- Return NC Teaching Fellows to Its Status Before Elimination and Enhance NC’s Teacher Cadet Initiative
- Implement a State Tuition or Loan Forgiveness Program for Teacher Education Graduates Willing to Work In Low-Performing Schools, or In Areas of Critical Need
- Calendar Flexibility for Local School Districts to Enable Mid-Term Exams to Fall Before Holiday Break

8. NO CORPORATE TAX CUTS UNTIL PER-PUPIL FUNDING AND TEACHER PAY REACH THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

- Recent tax cuts have taken more than \$3 billion off the table each year that could be used to enhance public schools, health care, and the infrastructure in our communities.



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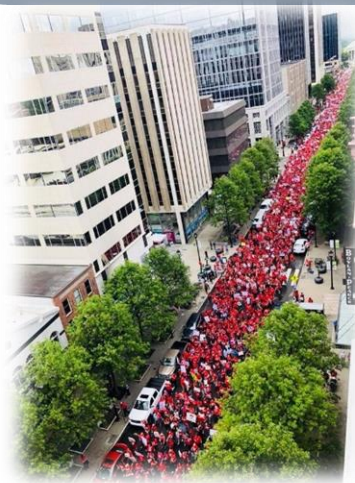
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