

## OUR MISSION

The North Carolina Association of School Administrators (NCASA) is the only professional organization in the state that represents the entire leadership team of North Carolina's school systems and individual schools. Our goal in representing our 7,000 members is to ensure quality learning experiences for all students through visionary and effective leadership. We seek to accomplish this mission by providing all our members an opportunity to grow professionally and to work together to strengthen public education and by providing a unified voice for school administrators on issues affecting the funding and daily operations of North Carolina's public schools.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In the absence of NCASA member feedback on a specific issue affecting North Carolina's public schools, NCASA will use the following principles as guidelines for formulating the association's position:

### Appropriations/Funding

- The General Assembly should provide sufficient resources to ensure that all public school allotments are fully funded.
- All state mandates should be accompanied by a fiscal note and fully funded before implementation.
- New and/or expanded programs should not occur at the expense of existing public school programs and services.

### Public School Policies

- Ensuring the academic growth for every student should be the driving force behind each public policy decision affecting North Carolina's public schools.
- Since one size does not fit all in North Carolina's public schools, local control should be preserved to ensure individual needs in different schools and school districts are met.
- NCASA supports efforts to ensure that public school administrators are well-prepared, highly motivated and strongly supported, since these individuals play a key role in delivering quality educational services to students in Grades K-12.

## UNIFIED VOICE FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

The following organizations are affiliates of NCASA and have endorsed this legislative platform.



The NCASA Affiliate Umbrella

NC School Superintendents' Association	NC Association of Community Educators
NC Principals & Assistant Principals' Association	NC School Public Relations Association
Personnel Administrators of North Carolina	School Nutrition Association of North Carolina
NC Association for Career/Technical Education	NC School Pupil Transportation Association
NC Association of School Business Officials	NC Assoc. for Educational Communications & Technology
NC Council of Administrators of Special Education	NC Association of General Administrators (proposed)
NC Professors of Educational Leadership	NC Retired Administrators Association (proposed)

## NCASA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Ms. Brenda Jones, NCASA President for 2006-07, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Durham Public Schools; Dr. Carl Harris, NCASA Past President, Superintendent, Durham Public Schools; Dr. Jeff McDaris, NCASA President-Elect for 2007-08, Director of Career/Technical Education/Transportation, Transylvania County Schools; Mr. Vann Blake, Principal, Pender County Schools; Mr. Evan Myers, Principal, Davidson County Schools; Dr. Larry Price, NCASA Legislative Chairman, Superintendent, Wilson County Schools; Dr. Jim Watson, Superintendent, Lincoln County Schools; Ms. Peggy Wike, Parent/Community Involvement Coordinator, Jackson County Schools; Ms. Patricia Hester, Executive Director for School Improvement, Johnston County Schools; Ms. Melisa Jessup, Director of Personnel, Stokes County Schools; Ms. Patricia Faulk, Director of Personnel, Bladen County Schools; Mr. Leland Blankenship, Director of Career/Technical Education, Buncombe County Schools; Ms. Emily Behm, Director of Workforce Development, Cabarrus County Schools; Mr. Harvey Gay, Finance Officer, Greene County Schools; Ms. Iris Ginn, Finance Officer, Warren County Schools; Mr. Bill Trant, Executive Director of Special Education/Related Services, New Hanover County Schools; Mr. Robert Sturey, Senior Director of Special Education/Related Services, Wake County Public School System; Dr. Anna McFadden, Associate Professor, Western Carolina University; Dr. Joanne Chesley, Professor, UNC-Greensboro; Ms. Renee Edwards, Director of Public Affairs, Alexander County Schools; Ms. Renee Edwards, Director of Prime Time, Iredell-Statesville Schools; Mr. Doug Hinson, Director of Public Relations, Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools; Ms. Bonnie Reidy, Chief Information Officer, Gaston County Schools; Ms. Kathy Buelin, Director of Child Nutrition, Lincoln County Schools; Ms. Marilyn Moody, Senior Director of Child Nutrition, Wake County Public School System; Mr. Scott Denton, Director of Transportation Services, Durham Public Schools; Mr. Ricky Carter, Assistant Director of Transportation, Wayne County Schools; Ms. Debbie Core, Chief Technology Director, Gaston County Schools; Mr. Mike Ingram, Director of Technology, Thomasville City Schools; Dr. Jim Causby, Executive Director, N.C. School Superintendents' Association; Mr. Lloyd Thrower, Executive Director, N.C. Principals & Assistant Principals' Association; Ms. Melinda Chambers, Executive Liaison, N.C. Council of Administrators of Special Education.*

## CONTACT NCASA

Mr. Bill McNeal  
Executive Director  
[bmcneal@ncasa.net](mailto:bmcneal@ncasa.net)

Ms. Katherine W. Joyce  
Assistant Executive Director  
[kjoyce@ncasa.net](mailto:kjoyce@ncasa.net)

P.O. Box 27711 • Raleigh, NC 27611  
Telephone: 919-828-1426 • Fax: 919-828-6099 • [www.ncasa.net](http://www.ncasa.net)

# LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM



## 2007 SESSION

### NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

# North Carolina Association of School Administrators

## 2007-08 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Based on responses the North Carolina Association of School Administrators received in an online survey of our membership conducted in September 2006, the following objectives have been identified as issues that the organization respectfully requests the North Carolina General Assembly to address during the 2007-2008 biennium.

### 1. Provide Adequate Funding

#### for All Public School Operations

- Maintain operational funding for public schools at levels approved by the 2006 General Assembly and enhance as necessary to accommodate enrollment growth
- 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 taxes
- Expand statewide funding for the Disadvantaged Student Supplemental Fund to address the needs of at-risk students in all school districts
- Enhance funding for public school technology staffing, maintenance and instruction
- Restore cuts that have occurred in central office operations over the last five years

### 2. Provide Salary Increases and Benefit Enhancements

#### for All Public School Personnel

- Make adequate salary increases for all public school personnel a top priority
- Ensure that salary increases are equitable for all groups of public school employees, including those in the central office and non-certified personnel in individual schools whose salary increases have failed to keep pace with inflationary factors during the past decade
- Raise North Carolina teacher salaries to reach and exceed the national average by 2008-2009

### 3. Revise the Public School Calendar Law

- Grant local school systems the flexibility to set the school calendar based on the needs of their students and their communities
- Realign the public school calendar with the calendars of community colleges and universities to facilitate dual enrollment and enhance educational opportunities for students

- Reinstate the five teacher workdays, which were eliminated by law changes in 2004, since those days are essential for professional development of school personnel

### 4. Enhance Teacher Recruitment and Retention

- Provide incentives, such as bonus pay, to exemplary teachers who agree to teach in at-risk or hard-to-staff schools
- Increase the pay for beginning teachers
- Add steps to the salary schedule to encourage exemplary veteran teachers to work more than 30 years
- Increase enrollment in teacher education programs to strengthen the supply of qualified teachers, particularly the pool of minority, males, and specialty subject teachers such as math, science, special education and English as a second language

### 5. Enhance Recruitment and Retention of Principals and Assistant Principals

- Allow individuals who hold National Board of Professional Teaching Standards certification to maintain their 12-percent salary differential after becoming an assistant principal
- Provide 12-month funding for assistant principals
- Set a 6 percent salary differential between school-based administrators and teachers to reflect their increased responsibilities and to encourage qualified personnel to become administrators
- Increase the advanced degree supplement for principals and other administrators

### 6. Maintain Safe Schools for All Public School Students and Personnel

- Prevent limitations on suspensions and other disciplinary procedures that could interfere with public school personnel's ability to maintain safety for other students and themselves

- Oppose any effort to require public school funds to follow a suspended student into an alternative setting outside the school district

### 7. Increase Funding for Public School Facility Construction and Renovations

- Protect lottery proceeds intended for public school construction
- Initiate a statewide bond referendum to help public schools address the more than \$10 billion in estimated school construction and renovation needs statewide
- Provide counties with a local option sales tax to assist with public school facility needs

### 8. Initiate Changes to the State's Accountability System for Public Schools

- Conduct a comprehensive study of testing requirements in North Carolina's public schools to determine needed changes
- Fund an accountability director for each school system
- Fund testing coordinator positions for schools based on an Average Daily Membership (ADM) formula

### 9. Revise the State's Return to Work Policy for Retirees

- Reduce the 6-month break that is required before a retiree may return to work
- Establish less restrictive requirements for retirees who want to work part-time or subject to an earnings cap
- Clarify that retirees may be employed in the private sector and paid with private funds without affecting their pension
- Extend the June 30, 2007 sunset on the law allowing retirees to be re-employed as teachers exempt from the post-retirement earnings cap

### 10. Change the Age 5 Eligibility Date for Kindergarten Enrollment from October 16 to August 31

- Reduce the cognitive differences in individual classrooms, particularly in early grades
- Enhance learning opportunities for all students