

NCASA

Supporting Excellence in Leadership

The North Carolina Association of School Administrators (NCASA), established in 1976 as the only professional organization in the state that represents the entire leadership team of North Carolina's school systems and individual schools, seeks to ensure quality learning experiences for all students through visionary and effective leadership. The goal of our more than 6,000 members is to help every child who enrolls in public schools to reach his or her full potential to become a productive citizen contributing to the well-being of our state and nation. We know that the sound basic education provided in public schools is the lynchpin of the economic engine that has led North Carolina's previous prosperity. Educational excellence will help us bounce back from the current financial crisis we face and will lead our efforts to be strong and viable in the ever-changing global economy. Therefore, the priorities that follow outline the objectives that the majority of our members believe are immediately crucial for providing the adequate resources and appropriate guidelines for assisting our public schools with their mission of providing a quality education for the state's 1.5 million young people.



NCASA Leadership

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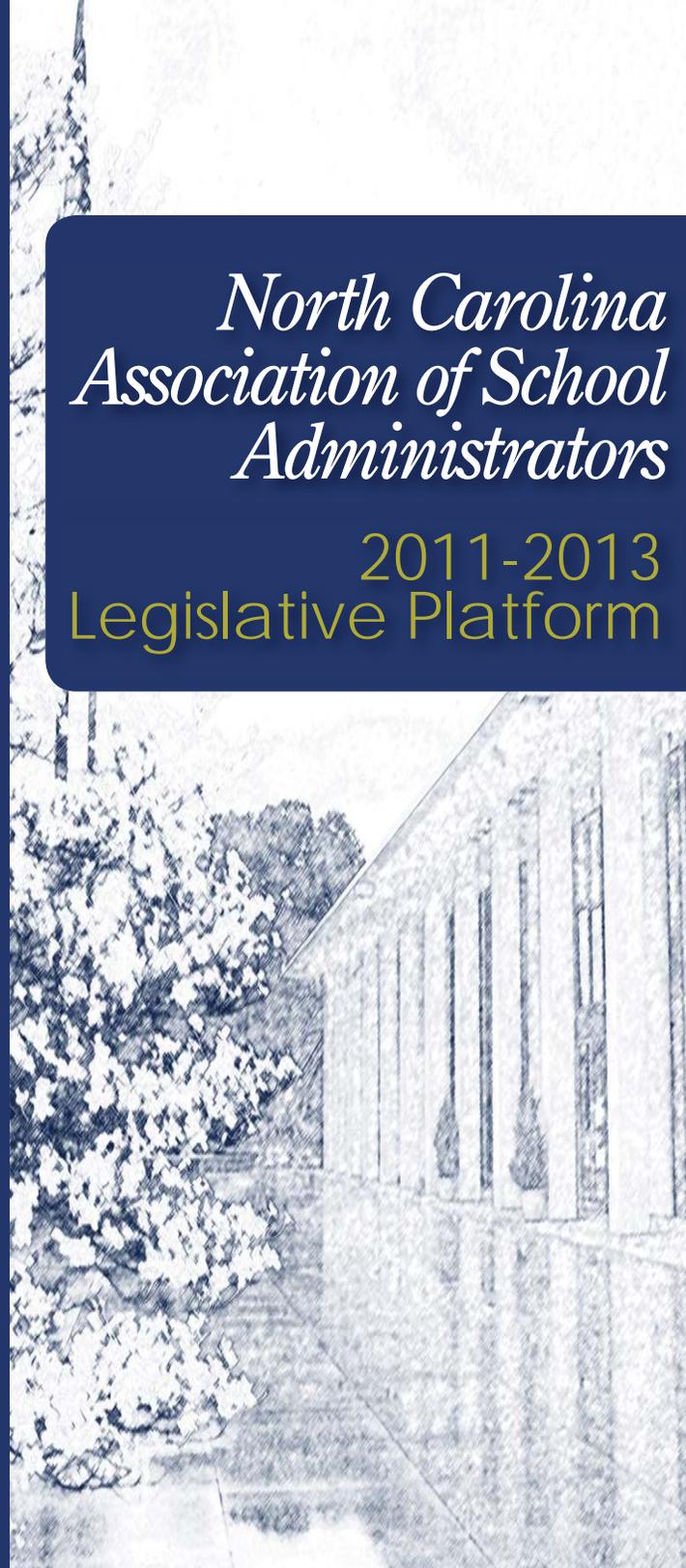
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North Carolina Association of School Administrators

2011-2013 Legislative Platform



North Carolina Association of School Administrators 2011-2013 Legislative Priorities

21ST CENTURY SYSTEMS – ADEQUATE RESOURCES

Public school funding was slashed by 15 percent over the last two years, leaving public schools with recurring cuts of more than \$700 million even as student enrollment continues to grow. The most difficult and ongoing of these cuts is the \$304.8 million LEA Discretionary Reduction that requires local districts to identify additional personnel and program cuts even after the state budget for K-12 schools is finalized, thereby increasing any state-approved cuts by an additional 4 percent. In light of these recent and ongoing cuts and the \$3.7 billion deficit facing our state for 2011-2012, NCASA requests the following regarding the public schools budget:

- ▶ Prevent additional cuts to public school funding that would result in job losses or limit student learning opportunities.
- ▶ Identify new revenue options or temporarily extend current revenue streams to prevent additional cuts that would devastate public schools' ability to serve students.
- ▶ Extend the option for counties to shift lottery capital funds to teachers upon the request from a school district.

GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS

To enable public schools to ensure optimal learning conditions for all students, regardless of where they live in North Carolina, NCASA requests the following law and policy changes affecting school operations:

- ▶ Restore the flexibility for local school boards to set the school calendar that best meets the needs of their students and community.
- ▶ Enhance efforts to increase high school graduation rates and ensure that all students are either career- or college-ready.
- ▶ Ensure that online learning and higher education course offerings are affordable and accessible to all students.
- ▶ Ensure that public school students and personnel have access to current technology compatible with 21st Century learning.
- ▶ Eliminate rules, regulations or laws that do not aid or benefit the education of students.
- ▶ Hold charter schools accountable for the following:
 - 1) Meeting federal Adequate Yearly Progress and state ABC accountability standards;
 - 2) Demonstrating replicable education innovations;
 - 3) Opening enrollment to all students and providing education to special needs students, Limited English Proficient students and economically disadvantaged students;
 - 4) Demonstrating a commitment to serve a student population whose demographics mirror those of the school district in which the charter school is located; and
 - 5) Ensuring that state and local funding that charter schools receive for operating educational programs follow the student.

21ST CENTURY PROFESSIONALS

Public school administrators are responsible for ensuring that classrooms and schools are staffed with caring and competent individuals truly focused on ensuring student achievement. To facilitate employment practices that are conducive to a productive learning environment for students, NCASA requests the following changes regarding school personnel laws and policies:

- ▶ Reconcile the conflicts between the revised state public records law and other state and federal laws regarding confidentiality of student information and due process rights of employees.
- ▶ Clarify the process for school personnel to follow in notifying law enforcement about violations of safe school policies and suspected crimes.
- ▶ Revise the tenure law to make it easier to remove poorly performing teachers from the classroom.
- ▶ Increase professional development time for classroom personnel by easing the restrictions that now exist on protected teacher workdays.