



**2011  
NDEA  
Legislative  
Program**

# 2011 NDEA LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

As approved by the NDEA Representative Assembly

## QUALITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO ENHANCE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

**The North Dakota Education Association advocates for quality public schools to enhance student achievement. Therefore, NDEA supports legislation that will...**

### **Ensure quality public education for students.**

- Provide adequate and equitable funding for schools to offer a diverse and challenging curriculum and the services that will prepare students for global opportunities.
- Invest in public education as economic development.
- Oppose diverting public money for the support of non-public schools.

### **Improve and enhance student learning.**

- Provide fully-prepared, licensed teachers for all students.
- Provide mentoring programs for teachers that will heighten their expertise and confidence earlier in their careers.
- Provide time and resources for education employees to participate in quality professional development designed to impact instruction and learning.
- Align student testing to state content standards and use the best testing methods to improve the quality of education and instruction for students.
- Provide modern, safe buildings and facilities for all students so they can concentrate on learning.
- Provide students and school employees with nutrition and wellness programs that encourage healthful living and a healthful attitude for learning.
- Support programs or initiatives for school readiness.

### **Recruit and retain education employees.**

- Maintain and enhance dedicated funding for significant salary increases for all education employees.
- Maintain high standards for licensure and credentials.
- Fund mentoring programs.
- Provide bargaining and employment rights for all education employees.
- Expand the bargaining rights for licensed education employees.
- Support compensation systems that are fair, equitable, and sustainable.

### **Provide retirement benefits for present and future retirees.**

- Preserve the defined benefit for current and future members.
- Avoid drastic benefit changes.
- Minimize member contribution increases.
- Maintain the current multiplier.