



# Organizations Opposing School Vouchers

School vouchers fuel a system of separate and unequal education, using public dollars to fund schools that cannot serve *all* students in violation of the NC Constitution. Many national groups that advocate for fairness, children, equal opportunity, civil liberties, and separation of church and state have also spoken out against school vouchers. Below is a just a partial list of these groups who are standing up for high quality public education for all.

## **American Association of School Administrators - [www.aasa.org](http://www.aasa.org)**

The AASA, founded in 1865, represents more than 13,000 education administrators across the country. It supports effective leaders dedicated to the highest quality public education for all children.

*See the AASA evaluation of existing voucher programs and their lack of success at: <http://www.aasa.org/content.aspx?id=1582&terms=vouchers>*

## **American Association of University Women - [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)**

The AAUW has worked as a national grassroots organization for over 130 years to improve the lives of millions of women and their families.

*See the AAUW position paper against diverting public funds for vouchers at: <http://www.aauw.org/files/2013/02/position-on-school-vouchers-112.pdf>*

## **American Civil Liberties Union - [www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org)**

Formed in 1920, with offices in 50 states, the ACLU advocates in courts, legislatures, and communities to preserve the individual rights and liberties that the US Constitution and laws guarantee everyone in the United States.

*See the ACLU position paper on why school vouchers harm public education at: <http://www.aclu.org/blog/religion-belief/school-vouchers-inflict-more-harm-good>*

## **American Federation of Labor and Congress of International Organizations (AFL-CIO) - [www.aflcio.org](http://www.aflcio.org)**

The AFL-CIO is the largest federation of trade unions in the country, representing over 12 million workers and advocating for a variety of issues affecting workers and their families.

*See the AFL-CIO web site on education at: <http://www.aflcio.org/Issues/education>*

## **American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees - [www.afscme.org](http://www.afscme.org)**

The largest public employee union in the US, including professions from nurses to sanitation workers, AFSCME advocates for work place fairness, excellent public services, and opportunity for working families.

*See one of the many AFSCME resolutions opposing school vouchers at: <http://www.afscme.org/members/conventions/resolutions-and-amendments/2000/resolutions/11-school-vouchers>*

## **American Federation of Teachers - [www.aft.org](http://www.aft.org)**

Founded in 1915, the AFT represents 1.5 million teachers and other professionals. It champions fairness, democracy, economic opportunity, and high quality public education



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for all students, and their families and communities.

*See AFT resources on vouchers, including their track record, myths, and studies of their impact at:*

*<http://www.aft.org/issues/schoolchoice/vouchers/>*

## **American Jewish Committee - [www.ajc.org](http://www.ajc.org)**

AJC advocates for the well-being of the Jewish people and Israel, and for the advancement of democratic values for all.

*See the AJC position opposing vouchers and their position on other issues regarding church-state relations at:*

*[http://www.ajc.org/site/c.7oJILSPwFfJSG/b.8510923/k.6105/ChurchState\\_Relations.htm](http://www.ajc.org/site/c.7oJILSPwFfJSG/b.8510923/k.6105/ChurchState_Relations.htm)*

## **Americans United for Separation of Church and State - [www.au.org](http://www.au.org)**

Americans United for Separation of Church and State is dedicated to preserving the constitutional principle of church-state separation as the only way to ensure religious freedom for all.

*See an AU viewpoint article detailing the many problems with vouchers at:*

*<https://au.org/church-state/april-2013-church-state/viewpoint/choice-competition-and-children-school-vouchers>*

*See the AU web resource on voucher activity around the country at:*

*<https://au.org/issues/school-vouchers-government-subsidies-religious>*

## **Anti-Defamation League - [www.adl.org](http://www.adl.org)**

Founded in 1913, the Anti-Defamation League fights anti-Semitism and all forms of bigotry, defends democratic ideals, and protects civil rights for all.

*See the ADL paper, "School Vouchers: The Wrong Choice for Public Education at:*

*<http://www.adl.org/assets/pdf/civil-rights/religiousfreedom/religfreeres/School-Vouchers-docx.pdf>*

## **Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty - [www.bjconline.org](http://www.bjconline.org)**

The Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty has existed since the 1930s, advocating strongly for the principle of separation of church and state as the best means of safeguarding religious liberty and independence.

*See the BJP position against school vouchers at:*

*[http://www.bjconline.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=category&sectionid=4&id=20&Itemid=107](http://www.bjconline.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=category&sectionid=4&id=20&Itemid=107)*

## **Council for Exceptional Children - [www.cec.sped.org](http://www.cec.sped.org)**

The CEC is a premier education organization of professionals working to improve the educational success of children and youth with disabilities and/or gifts and talents.

*See the CEC position against school vouchers at:*

*<http://www.cec.sped.org/~media/Files/Policy/CEC%20Professional%20Policies%20and%20Positions/CECschoolvouchersposition.pdf>*



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**Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) Eta State (NC) –  
[www.deltakappagamma.org/nc](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/nc)**

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. NC Eta State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International approved a motion that opposes school vouchers in any form.

**First Focus – [www.firstfocus.net](http://www.firstfocus.net)**

First Focus is a bipartisan national advocacy organization dedicated to making children and families the priority in federal policy and budget decisions. We work on a number of issues that affect children, including education. They are strongly opposed to school vouchers because they are a primary means of privatizing one of this country's greatest assets, its public school system.

**National Alliance of Black School Educators - [www.nabse.org](http://www.nabse.org)**

The NABSE has worked for over 40 years to promote educational opportunities for the nation's school children, in particular African-American children.

*See the NABSE position against school vouchers at:  
[http://www.nabse.org/leg\\_110thCongress.html](http://www.nabse.org/leg_110thCongress.html)*

**National Association of Elementary School Principals - [www.naesp.org](http://www.naesp.org)**

The NAESP, founded in 1921, is a professional organization serving elementary and middle school principals and other education leaders throughout the country.

*See the coalition statement NAESP endorsed opposing vouchers for military children with special needs at:*

*[www.nassp.org/Content.aspx?topic=NASSP and Coalition Letter on Private School Vouchers for Military Dependent Children with Special Needs](http://www.nassp.org/Content.aspx?topic=NASSP%20and%20Coalition%20Letter%20on%20Private%20School%20Vouchers%20for%20Military%20Dependent%20Children%20with%20Special%20Needs)*

**National Association of Secondary School Principals - [www.nassp.org](http://www.nassp.org)**

NASSP promotes excellence in middle level and high school leadership through research-based professional development, resources, and advocacy so that every student can be successful in school and later in life.

*See the coalition statement NAESP endorsed opposing vouchers for military children with special needs at:*

*[www.nassp.org/Content.aspx?topic=NASSP and Coalition Letter on Private School Vouchers for Military Dependent Children with Special Needs](http://www.nassp.org/Content.aspx?topic=NASSP%20and%20Coalition%20Letter%20on%20Private%20School%20Vouchers%20for%20Military%20Dependent%20Children%20with%20Special%20Needs)*

**National Association for the Advancement of Colored People - [www.naacp.org](http://www.naacp.org)**

Over 100 years old, the NAACP is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its mission is to fight for social justice for all Americans.

*See press release summarizing NAACP's long-standing opposition to vouchers and the Wash DC program at: <http://www.naacp.org/action-alerts/entry/u.s.-house-of-representatives-to-vote-on-naacp-opposed-school-voucher-progr>*

**National Council of Jewish Women - [www.ncjw.org](http://www.ncjw.org)**

Founded in Chicago in 1893 in connection with the Chicago World's Fair, and inspired



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by Jewish values, NCJW works to improve the quality of life for women, children, and families and to safeguard individual rights and freedoms.

*See NCJW's position against funding private schools through vouchers at:*  
[http://www.ncjw.org/public\\_policy.cfm?PPID=54&navID=217](http://www.ncjw.org/public_policy.cfm?PPID=54&navID=217)

## **National Education Association - [www.nea.org](http://www.nea.org)**

The NEA, with 3 million members and affiliates in every state, is the nation's largest professional employee organization. Its goal is to advance the cause of public education.

*See the NEA's position against vouchers at:*

<http://www.nea.org/home/19267.htm>

*See an assessment of the track record of vouchers and their failure to improve student choice or performance at:*

<http://www.nea.org/home/16970.htm>

*See NEA web site on vouchers with links to research and talking points at:*

<http://www.nea.org/home/19133.htm>

## **National Parent Teacher Association - [www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)**

The national PTA, founded in 1897, has over 5 million members and is the national voice of state and local PTAs around the country. It has worked throughout the years to make every child's potential a reality.

See one of the press releases the PTA has issued against school vouchers at:

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/national-pta-vows-to-continue-fighting-private-school-vouchers-77995952.html>

## **National School Boards Association - [www.nsba.org](http://www.nsba.org)**

The NSBA represents state school board associations as well as local school boards and their member districts. The NSBA has vigorously led opposition to vouchers around the country.

*See the collection of resources for use in opposing school vouchers at:*

<http://www.nsba.org/Advocacy/Key-Issues/SchoolVouchers>

See additional resources, including research showing that vouchers do not improve performance, at:

<http://www.nsba.org/Advocacy/Key-Issues/SchoolVouchers/VoucherStrategyCenter>

## **ADDITIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT OPPOSE SCHOOL VOUCHERS**

African American Ministers In Action  
American Federation of School Administrators (AFSA)  
American Humanist Association  
Americans for Democratic Action  
Americans for Religious Liberty  
ASPIRA Association, Inc.  
Association of Educational Service Agencies

Center for Inquiry  
Clearinghouse on Women's Issues  
Council of the Great City Schools  
Disciples Justice Action Network  
Equal Partners in Faith  
Family and Children's Ministries,  
Disciples Home Missions, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Feminist Majority



## *Organizations Opposing School Vouchers*

Hindu American Foundation  
Institute for Science and Human Values  
Interfaith Alliance  
International Reading Association  
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights  
Under Law  
NA'AMAT USA  
National Association for Bilingual  
Education  
National Association of Federally  
Impacted Schools  
National Association of State Directors  
of Special Education  
National Center for Lesbian Rights  
National Organization for Women

National Rural Education Advocacy  
Coalition  
National Rural Education Association  
People For the American Way  
Public Education Network  
Secular Coalition for America School  
Social Work Association of America  
Southern Poverty Law Center  
Union for Reform Judaism  
Unitarian Universalist Association of  
Congregations  
United Church of Christ, Justice and  
Witness Ministries  
Women of Reform Judaism