



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**October 31, 2013**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Speak Out for North Carolina's Teachers Press Conference**

**Who:** Public Schools First NC and the NC Justice Center, along with parent and teacher representatives

**What:** We're joining in the **walk-in** by **speaking out** in a show of support and gratitude for North Carolina's 95,000 public school teachers. We'll also be sharing important new polling information.

**Where:** NC State Capitol (south side of grounds), One East Edenton Street, Raleigh

**When:** Monday, November 4, 2013 from NOON to 1:00pm

This year, North Carolina's public school teachers are doing more with even less than before. The 2013-15 biennial budget eliminates 9,306 education positions. Class sizes are growing while support is decreasing. The budget allocation for textbooks, technology, and classroom supplies is inadequate to give teachers the resources necessary to provide students with the education they deserve.

For all of their hard work, teachers have only seen one negligible raise in the past five years and now, many will not receive salary increases for advanced degrees. Worst of all, teachers will lose career status (protection from retaliatory or arbitrary firings) and job security (all teachers will be placed on temporary, year-to-year contracts).

Join Yevonne Brannon (Public Schools First NC), Matt Ellinwood (Education and Law Project, NC Justice Center), teachers Vivian Connell and Stacy Eleczko and parent Ilina Ewen who will speak out on behalf of teachers who work tirelessly to ensure that our children are successful—in school and in life. All speakers will be available to talk with the media at the end of the conference.

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**About Public Schools First NC:**

Public Schools First NC is a group of citizens, parents, teachers, businesses and organizations joining together to advocate for a first-rate public education system for all North Carolinians. To learn more or to join our organization, please visit:

[publicschoolsfirstnc.org](http://publicschoolsfirstnc.org)

**The North Carolina Justice Center** is a voice for economic, social and political justice. As a leading progressive research and advocacy organization, the Justice Center's mission is to eliminate poverty in North Carolina by ensuring that every household in the state has access to the resources, services and fair treatment it needs to achieve economic security.