
MEDIA ALERT - Open Letter
IMMEDIATE RELEASE 1-26-12

**JOHN TEDESCO will run for State
Superintendent of Public Instruction**

Tedesco
4kids
State Superintendent

Friends,

After careful consideration and prayer I have decided to launch a campaign for the office of State Superintendent. I am honored to have had an outpouring of encouragement from across this great state and from within my circle of family and friends. In my heart I know our children can no longer wait for a champion who will advocate for them over the education bureaucrats. I launch this campaign with the belief that together we can strengthen educational opportunities for all of North Carolina's children. We can help each and every child reach their full potential.

From the coast to the mountains, in our urban centers and rural communities, we recognize that the state of education throughout much of NC remains significantly challenged. In North Carolina we have had a proud historic commitment to education, however, over the past 10 years we have struggled to keep pace as the digital age unfolds. This reduces opportunities for our children and impacts the strength of our educated workforce. Too many of our NC children still cannot read and nearly 30% are not graduating on time. We rank 4th in the nation in suspensions while we continue to exacerbate a serious school-to-prison pipeline costing our state hundreds of millions of dollars annually. The Perdue/Atkinson administration has failed our children.

During Perdue's first two years in office, with a Democrat controlled General Assembly by her side, we lost more teacher jobs in this state than we had in the previous quarter century. Short of lotteries and repeated calls for tax increases, where our children are used as shields for political gamesmanship, we have seen no real leadership or solutions on these critical issues. In an announcement last week to seek a third term, Ms. Atkinson claimed she cannot stop now because "we are winning." I quite frankly do not see a state burdened by an educational bureaucracy, firing thousands of teachers over the past 4 years and producing a 50% reading proficiency for our minority children as winning. The future of our children and our state is too important for gambling and games. More than ever we need real leadership and our teachers need our support. It is critical that we expand upon our educated workforce, expand vocational opportunities and reduce wasteful spending that does not support our teachers and our classrooms. Our children deserve better and our state depends on it.



This campaign is for those who believe we can and must produce significant measurable results for our students, support parents, empower teachers, reduce bureaucracy, and increase local controls in education. If you believe that together we can solve the complex problems that have hindered our education system from providing all children with the opportunity to reach their full potential than this campaign is for you.

I am certain this state-wide campaign to champion a better education for the children of North Carolina will come with obstacles and opposition from the status quo. **Join our team today with your time, talent and treasure** at www.Tedesco4Kids.com. Our children can no longer wait as a failed education system robs them of the promise of tomorrow with each passing day. As I run for State Superintendent I ask that you keep me and my family in your prayers .

Humbly yours,

John Tedesco
Wake County Public School System

Visit and learn more at: www.Tedesco4Kids.com

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Contact: Phone: 919-701-9253 E-Mail: Tedesco4Kids@gmail.com