

The church at large has allowed a raging river of controversy to separate it from public schools. Misunderstanding and misrepresentation have occurred on both sides of the growing chasm between congregations and classrooms. This polarization has negatively impacted teachers, students and communities.

Public school morale, academic achievement and student behavior have reached a critical stage. What can your congregation do about this seemingly overwhelming situation? You can:

- Facilitate a greater understanding and cooperation between churches, homes and schools
- Encourage, equip and empower administrators, teachers, students and parents
- Convey the love of God to students and educators through humble, compassionate service
- Elevate the quality of public education by active support. Respect the boundaries between church and state while promoting the common cause of healthy intellectual and moral development
- Fulfill the mission of the church as salt and light by providing practical avenues for outreach to schools
- Strengthen, encourage and support educators through prayer, interaction and assistance

Support A School/District

Churches can:

Encourage

- Host a Back to School Prayer Rally
- Write notes of appreciation and/or send treats to the school staff
- Build relationships with your superintendent, school board members and administrators
- Place ads in the sports, drama and music programs

Equip

- Raise funds to provide equipment
- Supply volunteers to meet specific needs
- Provide skills and talents the district cannot otherwise afford
- Offer scholarships to fund special programs
- Sponsor after-school activities

Empower

- Organize a prayer walk around your schools
- Start a [Christian Released Time*](#) Education program or [Good News Club*](#)

*website url's listed on back

Encourage An Educator

Congregation members can:

Encourage

- Befriend an educator
- Write encouraging and/or inspirational notes
- Offer reassurance that they are not alone in pursuing excellence in education
- Treat them to a meal or send flowers

Equip

- Meet individual needs by helping in or out of the classroom
- Provide them with resources about religious freedoms in the public schools

Empower

- Pray daily for their needs
- Affirm that their work is important to future generations and society as a whole.

Teachers are the primary targets of the **Encourage an Educator** program, however any school employee or school board member may be adopted.

● ● ● ● ● *Questions? Contact CEAI 888.798.1124*