



Parents Alliance for Catholic Education

P A C E

Help Restore Funding to Catholic School Students!

PACE E-Alert

April 28, 2008

Your Voice Counts!

Your calls and emails to legislators determine how they vote on issues.

Please take a moment to make state government responsive to the needs of our school children and urge support of our amendments.

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State budget deliberations are underway and there is unprecedented pressure in these tough fiscal times to make severe cuts in programs critical to Catholic school students and families. Several budget amendments have been filed to restore after school, school health and nursing, and transportation programs to ensure our students' education and health remain strong.

An increasing number of our schools are eligible for and are benefitting from this funding. PACE is asking Catholic school parents and leaders to contact their legislators right away and urge them to support these amendments.

In addition, we're still fighting for the right of Catholic school students to voluntarily take the MCAS exam as a means of qualifying for the Adams Scholarship, which affords high-scoring students a tuition-free education at a Massachusetts state college.

Contact Your Legislator Right Now!

Ask him/her to support the following Amendments to strengthen the education and health of all Massachusetts students:

Amendment #1377 - Funding for school nurses and school health, our most significant priorities.

Amendment # 883 - Creating the opportunity for non-public school students to voluntarily take the MCAS exam to qualify for the Adams Scholarship.

Amendment # 1478 - Increases universal pre-Kindergarten spending by \$5 million.

Amendment # 1502 - Increases the after-school program line item

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Amendment # 1502 - Increases the after-school program line item from \$2.5 to \$8 million.

Amendment # 779 and # 1355 - Enhancing scholarship and professional development opportunities for pre-Kindergarten educators, which raises the quality of classroom instruction.

Amendment #783 - Funding dual-enrollment opportunities for qualified high school students to enroll in public higher education institutions.

Call the State House at (617) 722-2000 or use the Quick Links (above/left) to get the name and contact information of your state representative. If you don't know his/her name, the State House operator can connect you by simply providing your address.

If you prefer to send an e-mail, urge your state representative to support the education and health of our students by voting in favor of the above amendments. You can get his/her e-mail at www.mass.gov/legis and click on House.

As always, please call us or visit our Website for more information. Thank you for your advocacy on behalf of our students!

Sincerely,

Fred Kalisz, Jr.
Executive Director

Parents Alliance for Catholic Education