

Introduction

This 2001 Legislative Program is the inaugural edition for Florida's 120,000 school employees who are members of the Florida Education Association. This is the first legislative blueprint for an organization that has been reunified after more than 25 years of existence as two distinct organizations. The Florida Education Association and its national affiliations with the National Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers and the AFL-CIO give our members an opportunity to share their expertise about issues important to our students, and public education.

The **BLUEPRINT...for EXCELLENCE in PUBLIC EDUCATION** outlines a broad number of issues important to teachers, higher education faculty, and support staff in Florida. The blueprint pinpoints issues ranging from salaries that continue to fall behind national and southeastern averages to learning and teaching conditions crucial to success. We also define concerns teachers have with the A-Plus Plan and propose ways to make accountability meaningful for students, parents and teachers.

The information contained in this program comes from our state's teachers, school staff, parents and students — those who are closest to our schools. We need for the Legislature to review this blueprint plan and begin enacting these proposals because education professionals know what it takes to provide high-quality public education that helps all of our students succeed.

We urge our elected leaders to enact this **BLUEPRINT** and help us construct a foundation for **EXCELLENCE in PUBLIC EDUCATION** in our state.

Sincerely,

Maureen S. Dinnen

Maureen Dinnen
President, FEA



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BLUEPRINT

...for Excellence in Public Education

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