

Dear Editor:

I agree with the Michigan Education Association's plan for reforming public education by calling for action, accountability and achievement. The "MEA A+ Agenda" is a five-point plan that will: 1. Realign Michigan's PreK-12 system to support students so they can graduate high school ready to succeed in college or the workplace; 2. Increase accountability for teachers, administrators, support staff, parents and others; 3. Increase efficiency for all school districts to get the best return on investment for taxpayers; 4. Protect taxpayer dollars by increasing school district stability and accountability; and 5. Fix Michigan's antiquated tax structure, which has led to our state's continuous budget crisis. I urge Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature to take a good look at the MEA's plan, because it will go a long way toward moving Michigan forward.

Dear Editor:

Michigan teachers and school employees like me are looking forward to working with Governor Rick Snyder and lawmakers to tackle the myriad of problems facing Michigan. Although we all have some differences, it's critical that we come together and make sure that ensure our local schools fulfill their mission of preparing students for college, the workplace and beyond. That's why I support the Michigan Education Association's "A+ Agenda," which can be found at www.mea.org. We're all in this together, and we all have a stake in getting our state back on track.

Dear Editor:

Michigan educators, teachers and school staff deserve credit for proposing solutions that will benefit the entire state. Their proposal to increase accountability, including holding teachers accountable, deserves praise. It tackles a real issue affecting our schools, and it will help all teachers become even better ones. Teachers should be held responsible, and they should have the resources and tools they need to ensure our kids learn, succeed and get the jobs of the future.

Dear Editor:

The Michigan Education Association's A+ Agenda is a refreshing step in the right direction. By shining a light on Michigan's outdated budget structure, the proposal provides us with a roadmap to ensure we can generate the revenue we need to educate our kids and prepare them for good-paying jobs. Michigan's budget is a relic of the 20th century – something we must change if Michigan is to compete in a 21st century economy.

Dear Editor:

Kudos to the Michigan Education Association for bringing attention to something that needs fixing: making our schools more efficient. For too long, entrenched bureaucrats have resisted efforts to streamline our schools, protecting one redundancy after another, resulting in wasted tax dollars. Now, the MEA itself is calling for schools to become more efficient. We must ensure

that all school districts get the best return on investment, stretch the value of every dollar and become more financially stable and accountable.

Dear Editor:

It's no secret that we need school reforms here in Michigan, but we should also base those reforms on facts, not ideology. The Michigan Education Association's A+ Agenda calls for using "rigorous academic research prior to and after implementation of 'school reform' concepts to ensure they meet stated goals." The MEA hit the nail right on the head. All too often, politicians are quick to implement trendy band-aid solutions that don't address the real challenges facing our schools. It makes perfect sense that we use academic research to guide us as we look to reform education.

Dear Editor:

The Michigan Education Association recently highlighted five bold reforms that it will be advocating in 2011 in order to improve local schools and rebuild Michigan's economy. The "MEA A+ Agenda" is a sweeping plan that will bring action, accountability and achievement to our schools. It will realign our state's K-12 system, increase accountability for everyone with a stake in public education, make school districts more efficient, protect taxpayers' investments and fix our outdated tax structure. As a teacher, I urge lawmakers to take a close look at the MEA's bold plan for fixing our state. It can be found online at www.mea.org/press.

Dear Editor:

It's time we increase accountability for everyone involved in educating our kids, and the MEA's new "A+ Agenda" does just that. The MEA wants to streamline the process for discharging ineffective tenured teachers, in order to reduce the amount of time and money it takes to go through the dismissal process. At the same time, we must ensure that a teacher's "ineffectiveness" is proven through a fair and impartial process. Teachers, administrators, school support staff, parents and students all play a role in public education, and the MEA recognizes that we must all be held accountable to ensure our kids can succeed.

Dear Editor:

As a teacher, I am glad to see that the Michigan Education Association is taking a pro-active approach to solving many of the problems facing public education in our state. All too often, politicians and others looking to score political points waste their time bickering instead of working together to find real solutions. The MEA's A+ Agenda, found at www.mea.org, contains detailed proposals that will help reform education and ensure our public schools fulfill their mission of preparing students for the workplace. The MEA's bold proposals strengthen action, accountability and achievement to public education. It's my hope that local and state policymakers will look to the MEA's A+ Agenda for guidance as they make important decisions about our state's future.

Dear Editor:

Michigan needs real reforms to restart our economy and real reform means sharing in the sacrifice. Unfortunately, too many Michigan politicians overlook the fact that teacher school employees have made tremendous sacrifices to help schools and taxpayers save money. Since 2006, teachers and school employees have helped districts save taxpayers more than \$1 billion. We are doing more with less in the classrooms, without sacrificing our commitment and our energy to our mission of preparing students to succeed and get jobs. Now, teachers and school employees represented by the Michigan Education Association are proposing a bold new plan — the A+ Agenda — that reforms education without simply balancing the budget on the backs of our kids. The A+ Agenda includes proposals to increase financial transparency, consolidate some school districts and streamline the dismissal process for underperforming teachers. This will all save taxpayers money without further punishing the middle class.

Dear Editor:

I would like to commend the Michigan Education Association for taking a step in the right direction toward school reform with their A+ Agenda. The fundamental principles of this new plan – action, accountability and achievement – are things that all Michigan teachers, school support staff and parents must continue to strive for when it comes to our children’s education. This new, bold plan will allow educators to take the necessary steps needed to reform public education and ensure a bright future for all of Michigan’s schoolchildren.

Dear Editor:

The Michigan Education Association recently unveiled a new five-point educational reform plan that is focused on preparing Michigan students for the workplace and moving our state forward. The MEA’s A+ Agenda highlights the need for a new curriculum structure, one which emphasizes the importance of comprehensive early childhood programs, as well as successful high school completion for every single student in Michigan. It’s important that we all work together to implement these reforms and make sure every child in our schools can achieve their full potential.

Dear Editor:

I urge Gov. Snyder and the Michigan Legislature to make education reform a top priority in the years ahead. It’s time we take steps toward closing Michigan’s achievement gap and ensure that all students have the capability and tools needed to reach their full potential. That’s why I support the MEA’s new A+ Agenda. This five-point plan will serve as a guide to help Michigan teachers, administrators and public officials work together to get Michigan’s schools back on track. It’s time for everyone to be held accountable, share in the sacrifice and work toward long-term solutions. The future of Michigan’s students and our state’s economic recovery depends on it.

Dear Editor:

As a teacher, I applaud the Michigan Education Association for taking steps toward reform with their A+ Agenda. This five-point plan works to realign Michigan's current K-12 curriculum, increases accountability for everyone in public education, increases school district efficiency, focuses on financial stability and accountability, and urges the need to fix Michigan's antiquated tax structure. It's time that teachers and the Michigan Legislature work together to find common ground and reform Michigan's school system. Every child deserves the right to a solid educational foundation, a chance to graduate from high school and the ability to be prepared for college and beyond. The MEA's A+ Agenda has provided the foundation for real reforms, ones that benefit students, educators, taxpayers and our state as a whole.