

# *StudentsFirstNS*

## Statement of Principles

**Better schools begin with you.** To truly transform education in Nova Scotia, to create a system that puts students' needs first, we need parents, teachers, administrators, politicians, and citizens from across the province to come together, recognize the problems in our system, and work together to overcome them.

**We believe:**

- Great teachers can make a tremendous difference for students of every background; all children deserve great teachers.
- Students should not need luck to get a good education; every family should be able to choose an excellent school.
- Public dollars belong where they can make the biggest difference; we must fight ineffective programs and bureaucracy.
- Parental involvement is key to improved student outcomes, but the entire community must be engaged in the effort to improve our schools

**IF YOU AGREE, THEN JOIN US and SIGN ON IN SUPPORT OF THESE FIVE PRINCIPLES:**

### **PUT STUDENTS FIRST**

Education should be first and foremost about the student. No two students are the same and so our system must be flexible and adaptive to the needs of every child.

### **EMPOWER PARENTS**

Every family should have the information and access to choose among quality schools. No student should be forced to attend a low-performing school or be taught by a low-performing teacher.

### **ELEVATE TEACHING**

Great teachers make a difference for children of all backgrounds. All children deserve great teachers.

### **RAISE STANDARDS**

The surest road to mediocrity is lowered expectations. Standards and expectations should be at the highest level for everyone: students, teachers, administrators, parents and the community.

### **SPEND WISELY**

Administrators should use resources efficiently to ensure sustainable spending that puts students first. Schools should be managed through structures that ensure a focus on student outcomes rather than adult interests.

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**I AGREE. Contact me to become a founding member of *StudentsFirstNS*.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**I AM INTERESTED. Keep me informed as *StudentsFirstNS* takes shape.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

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