

# Reclaiming the Promise

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**It's time to reclaim the promise of public education**—not as it is today or as it was in the past, but as it can be—to fulfill our collective obligation to help *all* children succeed.

Reclaiming the promise is about fighting for **neighborhood public schools that are safe, welcoming places for teaching and learning**.

Reclaiming the promise is about ensuring that **teachers and school staff are well-prepared, are supported, have manageable class sizes and have time to collaborate** so they can meet the individual needs of every child.

Reclaiming the promise is about making sure our **children have an engaging curriculum** that focuses on teaching and learning, not testing, and includes art, music and the sciences.

Reclaiming the promise is about ensuring that **children and their families have access to wraparound services** to meet their social, emotional and health needs.

The promise is under attack by those who demand and pursue austerity, polarization, privatization and deprofessionalization.

By uniting our voices—parents, students, teachers, school staff and the community—we can reclaim the promise.

Together, we will ensure that all children have the opportunity to dream their dreams and achieve them. We will put the public back into public education. We will help our public schools become centers of their communities, secure a voice and respect for those closest to the classroom, and fulfill public education's purpose as a propeller of our economy, an anchor of democracy and a gateway to racial, social and economic justice.