Mark Jewell Facebook Post
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04-10-2019 at 7:04 AM

Senator Berger,

May 1 is NOT a march for Democrats, it is NOT a march for Republicans. It IS a march FOR North Carolina. FOR our students. FOR our schools. FOR our communities. FOR our future. We wait no more.

But since you brought it up, Senator, you were the architect in 2013 of legislation that dismantled decades of progress in public education.

It was the 2013 budget that slashed student funding by giving corporate and millionaire tax breaks, leaving 3 billion dollars on the table every year that should be going to our schools.

It was the 2013 budget that eliminated 5,000 teaching positions, 3,000 assists, and 300 school support specialists.

It was the 2013 budget that eliminated the NC Teaching Fellows.

It was the 2013 budget that cut textbook funding by 77 million dollars.

It was the 2013 budget that cut classroom supply funding by 45 billion dollars.

You supported the broken teacher salary schedule, which begins at $35k and caps out at $52k.

You supported the removal of Master/Advanced Degree pay and longevity.

You supported the NC voucher program, diverting millions of dollars to private schools from our starving school districts.

You have rejected attempts to provide living wages to our classified employees.

You have prevented expanding health insurance to our poorest students and families.

The policies enacted by the 2013 General Assembly have been devastating to public school children, particularly our most vulnerable students.

We make no apologies for advocating for our students, schools, and communities. The policies of 2013 have taken their toll.

We wait no more.

See you May 1.

Sincerely,

NCAE