



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**

*Serving All Elementary and Middle Level Principals*

---

April 29, 2008

The Honorable George Miller  
Chairman  
Committee on Education and Labor  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the nearly 30,000 elementary and middle level principals who make up the National Association of Elementary School Principals, I am writing to offer our support for H.R. 3021, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century High-Performing Public School Facilities Act, introduced by Representative Ben Chandler, and the Loeb sack-Kildee committee substitute.

H.R. 3021 would establish a formula grant program to award funds to local school districts for school construction and modernization. Many of our nation's schools are at or rapidly approaching the half-century mark, and they are in need not only of repairs but also of renovations that will allow for the use of updated education technology. Communities coping with increased enrollment also need funds for construction of new schools.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century High-Performing Public School Facilities Act would authorize \$6.4 billion in grants, with individual grants to be matched by local districts in the form of funds or in-kind contributions. Districts would also be allowed to use grant funds for asbestos abatement and removal, as well as other repairs that would make the school environment safer for students and school staff. This program could make a huge difference for districts unable to update their schools or build new ones on their own.

For additional information about NAESP's interest in this issue, please have your staff contact Sally McConnell, Associate Executive Director for Government Relations, at (703) 518-6263. Thank you for your consideration of these remarks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gail Connelly'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gail Connelly  
Executive Director



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**

*Serving All Elementary and Middle Level Principals*

---