

# **Statements of Principle**

## **Commitment to Members**

Education Minnesota Retired is responsive to the will of its members and is committed to promoting the welfare of each member by pursuing all political, legal, economic and professional support necessary. Education Minnesota Retired will pursue this support through the development and enforcement of collective bargaining agreements, the promotion of local, state and federal policies and legislative initiatives that ensure equitable compensation and retirement benefits, comprehensive health care, due process protection, continuing professional development and appropriate working conditions to ensure a successful career in education.

## **Commitment to the Profession**

Education Minnesota Retired believes in promoting professional excellence in education. Professional excellence includes recruitment, effective training and retention of diverse education professionals as well as ongoing support for retired educators. Education Minnesota Retired believes that all teachers should have robust pedagogical and content-specific training and meaningful and relevant ongoing professional development; that all education support professionals should have relevant, ongoing professional development; and that all higher education faculty should have proper credentials. Further, Education Minnesota Retired believes that all school-related personnel must be trained and governed under internal mentoring and self-discipline procedures.

## **Commitment to the Learners**

Education Minnesota Retired believes in enhancing all areas of education for the learner as well as access to affordable life-long education. Education Minnesota Retired is committed to promoting the successful development of each learner. Learning environments should be safe, welcoming, comfortable, aesthetically pleasing and technologically current for all levels of learners. Within these environments, Education Minnesota Retired is committed to promoting practices and policies that recognize different learners' needs and provide opportunities for family involvement.

## **Commitment to Public Education and the Community**

Education Minnesota Retired believes public education, early childhood through higher education, is the cornerstone of our social, economic and political structure. The involvement of families and the entire community is essential for the future of public education.

## **Commitment to Partner Organizations**

Education Minnesota Retired believes members have the responsibility to work together to advocate fairly and equitably, as well as collaboratively, with local, state and national partner organizations for the benefit of retirees.

## **Commitment to the Labor Movement**

Education Minnesota Retired believes individuals are strengthened when they work together for the common good. As educational professionals and retirees, we improve both our professional status and the quality of public education when we unite and advocate collectively. As part of the larger labor movement, Education Minnesota Retired supports workers' rights to bargain collectively and extend the benefits of unionization to the unorganized.

## **Commitment to Racial Equity and Social Justice**

Education Minnesota Retired believes that all Minnesotans have a responsibility to make our state better for everyone by helping alleviate the racism, discrimination and poverty that prevent many Minnesota students from reaching their full potential. Education Minnesota Retired supports a statewide social justice and racial equity agenda, including opportunity for stable and secure retirement for all.