

FairTest

National Center for Fair & Open Testing

Eight Ways to Work for NCLB Overhaul

- 1) **Hold a public forum in your community to discuss NCLB.**
 - 2) **Build local alliances that link testing reform from your school/community to state and federal issues.** Reach out to teacher unions and other education organizations; parent, community, civil rights and faith-based groups; labor unions; civic associations; business groups when you can.
 - 3) **Persuade your organizations to pass resolutions calling for reform of NCLB.** (Such resolutions are often issued by unions, religious groups, professional associations, and parents groups.) Ask them to:
 - a) **Endorse the *Joint Organizational Statement*** signed by more than 150 national organizations.
 - b) **Support the NCLB overhaul recommendations of Forum on Educational Accountability.**
 - See material on both at <http://www.edaccountability.org>.
 - 4) **Write letters-to-the-editor and op-ed pieces for your local and regional newspapers.**
 - See *How to Work With Your Local Media*, http://www.fairtest.org/get_involved/media.
 - 5) **Get your local school board to pass a resolution or hold a community forum about NCLB.**
 - 6) **Contact your U.S. senators and representatives about changing NCLB:**
 - a) **send them letters** with copies of news clips, resolutions, and/or signed petitions
 - b) **call them** with your concerns
 - c) **set up small group meetings with them in your district;** bring other parents, teachers, and/or local elected officials to the meeting.
 - **To contact your members of Congress,** go to <http://www.contactingthecongress.org/>.
 - 7) **Contact your state legislators to enlist them in the effort to reform NCLB.**
 - a) **send them letters, call, and/or set up meetings**
 - b) **seek their commitment to pass resolutions** in the State Legislature about NCLB reform and **to work with your state's Congressional delegation** to change the federal law.
 - 8) **Parents: Join the NCLB-mandated Parents Advisory Board at your child's school.**
 - a) **make sure it is an independent voice for parents**
 - b) **work to minimize the damage caused by NCLB at the school.**
- See www.fairtest.org for fact sheets, reports, and other materials on NCLB.

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