

# National Black Church Initiative

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**For Immediate Release**

## **THE NATIONAL BLACK CHURCH INITIATIVE DISAGREES WITH THE NAACP IN KEEPING FAILED SCHOOLS OPEN**

*The Church Must Support The Future Of The Students Not The Employment  
Of The Teachers*

**Washington DC** – The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI), coalition of 34,000 churches comprised of 15 denominations and 15.7 million African Americans, believes the NAACP is wrong in protecting failed schools at the expense of African American students. We have reached a new era and the Church must protect the educational future of our children. We will no longer go along with the traditional formula of allowing the NAACP to consolidate their political relationship with the United Federation of Teachers over and above the interests of African American families and African American children.

The Church is sending a clear message to the NAACP – get out of the way of our students, and stop using our children as political pawns to sustain an economic relationship. Unions are becoming a devil in disguise for the Black community and the Church is declaring that it will not support traditional ties that purport to help African Americans protect their gain. Failed teachers and failed schools have become a burden and albatross around the next generations of African Americans.

The NAACP defended its involvement in a lawsuit last Friday to halt the process of closing 22 schools for poor performance, saying they were trying to stop the city from creating a two-tiered educational system – not true. The lawsuit was initially filed in State Supreme Court in Manhattan in May 2011 by the United Federation of Teachers, a long-time and close political ally of the NAACP.

The City of New York, in addition to over 2,500 parents and students, have blasted the NAACP for their lawsuit, saying that quality schools across the city that are in danger of not being able to serve their students, and that the organization's efforts run the risk of disrupting education for nearly 7,000 students around the city. NBCI stands with these stakeholders in agreeing that the NAACP continues to protect the jobs of a few over the success of thousands of students.

Rev Anthony Evans, President of NBCI, said "Here is another example of the NAACP working against the interests of the Black community. In this case, they are countering the interests of black kids and black parents who are a part of NBCI's congregations. The schools have failed, so let them fail. Jesus said let dead bury the dead. NBCI will never support failing schools or the teachers who have failed our children. That is why we have unveiled the most comprehensive education initiative ever directed at the African American community."

NBCI is currently running one of the most innovative [educational initiatives](#) in the country, in collaboration with Vice Admiral David L. Brewer III entitled Breaking the Cycle of Ignorance, Poverty and Crime - A Marshall Plan for the Public Education of Disadvantaged Youth. NBCI's Education Initiative advocates a proven community-based, holistic, full-day, 50 week Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K), starting at two years old to post-secondary college graduation or degreed career technical training model, and a comprehensive prisoner education program. Holistic entails a whole family approach, wherein we also account for all of the adverse socio-economic factors impacting student achievement and family structure.

### **About NBCI**

The National Black Church Initiative (NBCI) is a coalition of 34,000 African American and Latino churches working to eradicate racial disparities in healthcare, technology, education, housing, and the environment. NBCI's mission is to provide critical wellness information to all of its members, congregants, churches and the public. The National Black Church Initiative's methodology is utilizing faith and sound health science. The National Black Church Initiative's purpose is to partner with major organizations and officials whose main mission is to reduce racial disparities in the variety of areas cited above. NBCI offers faith-based, out-of-the-box and cutting edge solutions to stubborn economic and social issues. NBCI's programs are governed by credible statistical analysis, science based strategies and techniques, and methods that work.

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