**Note:** Do not send the candidate pledge request to a government email address (.gov) Instead, make sure to use the contact info from their campaign website.

\*This is just a template. You may want to adapt your message to the candidate or elected official.

Email Subject: Please sign the ICPE Candidate Pledge

Dear [Candidate Name].

My name is [Your Name]. I'm writing to you as a concerned community member on behalf of the Indiana Coalition for Public Education (ICPE). ICPE is a nonpartisan organization seeking to inform our communities about the attack on our public schools and then empower them to act on their behalf—particularly in the voting booth.

Elite out-of-state donors, special interest groups, and the extremists in our Statehouse are recklessly dismantling, destabilizing, and privatizing public education here in Indiana. This is an urgent matter. We need elected officials at the state level who will prioritize our public schools—the heart of our communities.

As a candidate running for elected office, I encourage you to sign the <u>ICPE Candidate</u> <u>Pledge</u> in the 2024 election cycle.

The ICPE Candidate Pledge will let Hoosier voters know and understand where you stand when it comes to supporting our public schools.

Here a just a few reasons to sign the pledge:

- The vast majority of Hoosier families choose traditional public schools for their kids. It is where all children are accepted and educated. With this pledge, you stand with Hoosiers who love and support their local public schools.
- Private voucher schools, microschools, and charter schools can take public tax money but they don't have to adhere to the same laws of transparency and accountability. Hoosier kids deserve better. Your pledge demonstrates your understanding that the best use of taxpayer money is supporting schools that serve all children, that are accountable to their communities through elected school boards.
- You will receive a celebratory graphic highlighting your pledge, showing constituents that you stand with public schools, not special interest privatizers.

It is time to put Hoosier children before entitlements for the wealthy and fully fund the schools which accept, serve and nurture all Hoosier children. It's time to call for strong support for public schools, fiscal responsibility, and a moratorium on the further siphoning of precious tax dollars to unaccountable private hands.

## I'm asking you to sign the ICPE Candidate Pledge and send a clear message to voters that you stand with them on this urgent issue.

Thank you for your time.

[your name] [Your address or town] [your phone number]