

April 29, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Dr. Joshua P. Starr, <u>jstarr@pdkintl.org</u>

Educators Rising Announce Support for President Biden's Plan To Invest in Grow Your Own Programs

American Families Plan aims to dedicate funding to address teacher shortages and grow diverse teacher pipelines

(Washington, D.C.) — PDK International and Educators Rising support President Joe Biden's plan to invest in Grow Your Own teacher pipeline programs as part of the American Families Plan released Wednesday.

The plan would invest <u>\$2.8 billion in Grow Your Own programs</u> and teacher residency programs. The plan also specifies the administration's aim to "address teacher shortages, improve teacher preparation, and strengthen pipelines for teachers of color."

As the premier nationwide Grow Your Own CTE program that inspires High School student to pursue education as a career, Educators Rising strongly supports this initiative. Educators Rising recognizes the need for serious funding to curb the teacher shortage by investing in the next generation of educators. We believe that, by supporting local districts, we can build a diverse and sustainable pipeline of teachers who reflect the community in which they teach.

American schools face a crisis in both teacher shortage and a lack of diversity in education. The <u>majority</u> <u>of states</u> have had declines in teacher enrollment since 2013, according to a 2019 report from the Center for American Progress, and the Department of Education notes that more than 50% of students nationally are students of color, but less than 20% of educators are educators of color. Educators Rising is dedicated to bringing in more teachers and fostering diversity, and 52% of our members are students of color.

The American Families Plan would do critical work to support more aspiring educators and inspire more people of color to enter the education workforce. Educators Rising looks forward to working with the administration to meet these goals.

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