



# REBUILD AMERICA'S SCHOOLS

*A National Coalition*

## SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Akron, OH  
Aldine, TX  
Birmingham City, AL  
Birmingham Public, AL  
Boston, MA  
Broward County, FL  
Brownsville, TX  
Chicago, IL  
Cincinnati, OH  
Clark County, NV  
Compton, CA  
Corpus Christi, TX  
Dayton, OH  
Detroit, MI  
Escambia, FL  
Houston, TX  
Jefferson Parish, LA  
Jersey City, NJ  
McAllen, TX  
Memphis, TN  
Miami-Dade, FL  
Milwaukee, WI  
Minneapolis, MN  
Montgomery, AL  
Nashville, TN  
Newark, NJ  
New Orleans, LA  
New York, NY  
Norfolk, VA  
Oklahoma City, OK  
Omaha, NE  
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo, TX  
Philadelphia, PA  
Providence, RI  
Richmond, VA  
Rochester, NY  
Savannah-Chatham, GA  
St. Louis, MO  
St. Paul, MN  
Toledo, OH  
Tulsa, OK  
Ysleta, TX

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National Parent Teacher Association □ Council of The Great City Schools □ National Education Association  
American Federation of Teachers □ American Association of School Administrators □ National School Boards Association  
National Association of Elementary School Principals □ National Association of Secondary School Principals  
NAACP □ National Association of Federally Impacted Schools □ American Institute of Architects  
Organizations Concerned About Rural Education □ National Rural Education Association  
Californians for School Facilities

March 28, 2011

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
Washington D.C.

Dear President Obama:

Rebuild America's Schools is writing to express our appreciation for Secretary Duncan's recent letter to the Chief State School Officers concerning the Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) and Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) programs. The information about the additional availability of the Qualified Zone Academy Bonds for 2011 is valuable. Equally important is the information highlighted about the continued availability of the Qualified School Construction Bond program.

Rebuild America's Schools is working for the successful implementation of the Qualified School Construction Bond program established in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) program is providing federal financing for the construction, rehabilitation, and repair of public school facilities. School districts in Illinois, Michigan, Massachusetts, Washington, Texas, Georgia, New York, California, Tennessee, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Montana, Alabama, Florida, and many other states are using QSCBs to build and renovate more technologically and energy efficient 21<sup>st</sup> Century schools. The financing options for the QSCBs are successfully generating much greater use for these bonds. In 2010 Qualified School Construction Bonds financed over \$6.7 billion in school construction and modernization projects, generating jobs in states and communities across the country.

QSCBs, QZABs and Build America Bonds are helping school districts provide modern, more energy efficient, greener and better schools, improving the learning environment for students, and enhancing the workplace for students, teachers and staff. Jobs are being generated as modern schools advance student achievement in urban, rural and suburban communities in almost every state.

Resources to repair, renovate and modernize America's schools are stimulating and creating thousands of jobs. These jobs are generated in the construction industry among suppliers, ranging from architects and engineers to roofing contractors and other construction workers who modernize, renovate and repair schools.

Teachers can better assist students learn, achieve and succeed in high performing, healthy, sustainable, and technologically advanced school facilities. Modern energy efficient schools are helping local communities increase opportunities for all students to develop the educational skills necessary to achieve and succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce.

Rebuild America's Schools appreciates your leadership and support for the Qualified School Construction Bonds and Qualified Zone Academy Bonds supporting school modernization efforts in every state. We are including information about the successful state and local school district use of the Qualified School Construction Bond and Qualified Zone Academy Bond programs.

Rebuild America's Schools looks forward to working with you, The Treasury Department and The Department of Education in assisting the efforts of states and local communities to provide the high performing, healthy, sustainable and technologically advanced schools our students need to succeed in the 21st Century.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Canavan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the "n".

Robert P. Canavan  
Chair  
Rebuild America's Schools