



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, October 27th, 2011

Contact: Joaquin McPeck
Phone: 916-808-5440

Educator, Author Dr. Steve Perry Joins Mayor Johnson to Discuss Effective Policy

Sacramento, CA- At today's 'STAND UP' meeting, Mayor Kevin Johnson was joined by Dr. Steve Perry, renowned CNN Education Contributor, author, and educator, to discuss the need for excellent schools and putting education policy into practice.

Dr. Steve Perry is the author of the recently released book, "Push Has Come to Shove: Getting Our Kids the Education They Deserve—Even if it Means Picking a Fight." In his book, Dr. Perry discusses all the issues that are holding back our students. More importantly he provides the needed solutions.

Dr. Perry makes weekly appearances on CNN to discuss "Perry's Principals," a segment where he advises viewers how they can be involved in educating America's youth.

In 1998, Dr. Perry founded ConnCAP, the Connecticut Collegiate Awareness Program, at Capital Community College. For a period of six years, the program sent 100% of its low-income first-generation graduates to four-year colleges. Then in 2004 Capital Preparatory Magnet School was established in Hartford, Connecticut's lowest performing district, and since its inception that school, too, has sent 100% of its graduates to four-year colleges.

Dr. Perry stated, "As I've gotten to know Mayor Kevin Johnson, he's continuously impressed me with his values and positive actions as a man and as a leader. It takes a lot to get me out to California but his commitment to education and his determination to put students first has brought me to Sacramento to shake things up and create sustainable change. Push has definitely come to shove. Our kids deserve better and Mayor Johnson is working to make sure all children in Sacramento have access to quality schools... and that is something I made sure I came out to support!"

Dr. Perry was joined by Eric Lerum, the Vice President of National Policy for StudentsFirst, and Nik Howard, the Sacramento Reads! Campaign Director, to discuss effective policy.

'STAND UP' is an education initiative started by Mayor Johnson in 2009 with five core beliefs- kids come first, great teachers matter, parents deserve choices, invest in what works, and measure and reward results. The third core belief – parents deserve choices was the highlight of today's meeting.

For more information about 'STAND UP' visit www.standup.org.

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