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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

From Briefing Book for
National Education Association

6/10/76

NEA QUESTIONNAIRE

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Q. What budgetary priority do you place on public education in relation to the many other concerns of the Federal government?

A. As I said, I place the highest possible priority on provision of high quality education for all American children. The Federal, state, and local governments all have their roles to play in achieving this goal. I have described to you the role that I think is appropriate for the Federal government.

*One of my few
moments*

NEA QUESTIONNAIRE

12.

Q. If you are chosen as your party's nominee, why should teachers support you for President?

A. First of all, because teachers, like all Americans, have a large stake in our Nation's future. Teachers aim for a peaceful world, a prospering economy, and a society that gives a fair chance to all -- and those are the goals that I believe my Administration has the best chance to achieve. But teachers have a special interest in the kinds of programs that I am setting forth, particularly in the field of education. Nothing is more precious to a teacher than the right to teach the subject in which he has been trained in the way that meets the needs of his particular students. If our government becomes more centralized -- as inevitably will happen under the programs proposed by the opposition party -- teachers are going to find this precious freedom eaten away. Our schools need help and support from the Federal government. The programs that I have proposed will give this help, while leaving the control of education in the hands of those who are intimately aware of the needs of local communities and individual students.

*Teacher teach -
Students learn -
Local school.*