TO: NAESP Qualified Voters

FROM: Ernest L. Bentley, Jr.
TPA Executive Director

RE: Brian Partin Candidacy Support Statement

DATE: January 12, 2015

This is a statement of support for Brian Partin, candidate for the 2015 Vice-President position in NAESP. His set of abilities, knowledge, and interpersonal skills are well matched to the challenges facing professional associations at this time. His experiences in leading school faculties, students, communities, and professional groups such as the Tennessee Principals’ Association are well known among principals and school leaders.

Brian has served in every office for our association, sometimes serving consecutive years to make up for an elected officer who failed to complete their commitment. His thoughtful preparation prior to meetings and contributions during decision sessions demonstrate qualities which will be critical to a leader at the national level. Not only does Brian do his homework, his collaborative style sets a strong model for productive inclusion of the persons and groups important to consensus building before and during deliberations.

He has a strong belief that NAESP has much to contribute to the public debate. He believes all children deserve the educational opportunities to assure their futures. His conviction that the principal is the difference where schools excel at teaching and learning serves as an excellent reference to his promise as a leader on the national stage.

Brian demonstrates calmness in interpersonal interactions when facing potentially divisive issues. He reveals values and standards important to him and, at the same time, encourages others to do the same. The importance of this set of abilities when dealing with the egos of individuals involved in every decision at the national level will be immense. I have never seen him lose his composure, regardless of the issue.

His service as Zone IV Director has been acknowledged as exceptional by leaders in the states he serves. Without reservation, Brian Partin is prepared to serve as NAESP’s first Vice-President.