

# EDUCATION NEWS UPDATE

Compiled by Judy Wadsworth, Alpha Alpha, for the Monroe County School Boards Association and shared by permission. Send comments to [judithw@frontiernet.net](mailto:judithw@frontiernet.net)

## January 20, 2023 Education News Update

### TEACHING & LEARNING

#### HS students counter college enrollment drop

Although college enrollment declined during the pandemic, the number of HS students enrolling in college classes surged. For instance, HS students account for a third of the student body at one Community College in Alabama. Elissa Nadworthy. "During the pandemic many Americans chose not to go to college, but high schoolers did." *All Things Considered/National Public Radio* January 11, 2023 [During the pandemic many Americans chose not to go to college, but high schoolers did : NPR](#)

#### Strategies to teach students to be open-minded

There are several lessons students can learn when faced with political divisiveness, suggests a veteran principal in East Brunswick, N.J. He shares guidance from psychological scientist Adam Grant that helps teach students to keep an open mind and learn skills such as self-management and compromise.

Michael Gaskell. "How to teach kids in the midst of political divisiveness." *Smart Brief/Education*. January 17, 2023  
[How to teach kids in the midst of political divisiveness - SmartBrief](#)

#### Telehealth clinics curb student absences

Students missed an average of 10% fewer days of school after their school adopted a telehealth clinic, according to a study of three rural school districts by researchers at Duke University and the University of North Carolina. The study found students in g. 3-8 also were 29% less likely to become chronically absent after the clinics were in place. Sarah D. Sparks. "Telemedicine Could Help Keep Kids in Class." *Education Week*. January 13, 2023  
<https://www.edweek.org/leadership/telemedicine-could-help-keep-kids-in-class/2023/01>

#### A Training Hub for Teaching Students in Poverty

As director of the Center of Excellence to Prepare Teachers of Children of Poverty, Tammy Pawloski works with teachers in South Carolina and across the nation to better serve students living in poverty. Tara Laskowski. "A Training Hub for Teaching Students in Poverty." *Educational Leadership*. December 2022  
[A Training Hub for Teaching Students in Poverty \(ascd.org\)](#)

#### Incorporating new tech tools into lessons

It may be tempting to ban tools such as ChatGPT and Photomath in the classroom, but to remain relevant, teachers should consider embracing them, writes a curriculum designer. Activities such as having students ask ChatGPT to rewrite their essays and explain why the changes are better, or allowing a maths app to solve a problem halfway, can help students become 21st-century learners, he writes.

Heidreich Nichols. "Making New Tech Tools Work for Your Classroom." *Edutopia*. January 13, 2023  
[Making New Digital Tools Work for Your Classroom | Edutopia](#)

#### 8<sup>th</sup> grade science lesson helps climate researchers

MS science students in Brooklyn, N.Y., measure the temperature of various items in and around their school playground using infrared surface thermometers and their teacher enters the data in a NASA climate database. The data helps scientists better understand climate change, and hopefully will inspire students to be more climate conscious in their own communities.

Anil Oza. "Can a middle school class help scientists create a cooler place to play?" *National Public Radio*. January 13, 2023  
[Using the school playground to study urban heat islands : NPR](#)

#### Finnish teachers prioritize media literacy

Teachers across Finland are taking steps to help students learn to identify misinformation and propaganda, including on social media platforms like TikTok. Media literacy is part of the country's core curriculum, and teachers have discretion over how to teach, with one teacher having students edit their own videos and photos to show how images can be manipulated and another demonstrating how internet searches can deliver misleading results.

"How Finland Is Teaching a Generation to Spot Misinformation." *NY Times*. January 10, 2023  
[How Finland Is Teaching a Generation to Spot Misinformation - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](#)

### FEDERAL/NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

## **Fewer U.S. kindergartners vaccinated**

A study published in the CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* found that the percentage of kindergartners who had received certain routine childhood immunizations declined again during the 2021-22 school year, highlighting that coverage decreased to about 93% for all state-required vaccines, compared with two previous school years. Researchers noted that COVID-19-related disruptions continued to affect vaccination coverage. Amanda D'Ambrosia. "Routine Vaccinations Continue to Decline Among Kindergartners — But toddler immunizations remain stable, CDC reports." *MedPage Today*. January 12, 2023 [Routine Vaccinations Continue to Decline Among Kindergartners | MedPage Today](#)

## **How leaders can show appreciation of teachers**

School administrators can show how much they value teachers by using respectful language in any communications about or with teachers, writes Melissa Anne Brevetti, Ph.D. She explains how education leaders can support teachers' professional growth and decisions as well as ensure that teachers have safe spaces.

*Melissa Anne Brevetti, Ph.D., is Coordinator, Teacher Education Programs, Oklahoma Teacher Connection, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education*  
Melissa Anne Brevetti. "3 innovative ways to help teachers feel engaged and valued." *eSchool News*. January 17, 2023  
[3 innovative ways to help teachers feel engaged and valued \(eschoolnews.com\)](#)

## **To confront poverty, think abundance**

Educators that serve students from low-income backgrounds must be intentional about avoiding reinforcing a "scarcity mindset," write education consultants and classroom management experts Megan Kizer and Jesse Hinueber in the new issue of *EL*. By honoring their students' intrinsic strengths actively and verbally, teachers can better support every learner, including those living in poverty.

Full Story: *Educational Leadership* (12/2022)

Megan Kizer & Jesse Hinueber. "When Confronting Poverty, Think Abundance, Not Scarcity." *Educational Leadership*. December 2022  
[When Confronting Poverty, Think Abundance, Not Scarcity \(ascd.org\)](#)

## **NEW YORK STATE**

### **STEAM program prepares students for the future**

A STEAM program in the Edgemont Union Free School District in Scarsdale involves hands-on projects in areas such as robotics and automation. Adding an art component to the STEM curriculum also encourages creativity and innovation. The district's STEAM curriculum spans g.4-9, and plans are underway to expand offerings to cover grades K-12 through a partnership with Project Lead the Way.

Todd Sliss. "STEAM leads the way at Edgemont." *Scarsdale Inquirer*. January 15, 2023  
[STEAM leads the way at Edgemont | Edgemont | scarsdalenews.com](#)