

# EDUCATION NEWS UPDATE

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## November 4, 2022 Education News Update

### TEACHING & LEARNING

#### Colorado pilot program offers jump on kindergarten

Prekindergartners from some of Colorado's underserved families will be participating in a pilot program to help them prepare for kindergarten. A partnership between a nonprofit and a philanthropic organization is providing families with a laptop, internet access, teaching tips and STEM project kits to help students engage in reading, math

O'Dell Isaac. "Pilot program seeks to help Colorado preschoolers get ready for kindergarten." *Colorado Springs Gazette*. October 26, 2022 [https://gazette.com/news/education/pilot-program-seeks-to-help-colorado-preschoolers-get-ready-for-kindergarten/article\\_6166c84e-54a1-11ed-9431-634bc025ccf3.html](https://gazette.com/news/education/pilot-program-seeks-to-help-colorado-preschoolers-get-ready-for-kindergarten/article_6166c84e-54a1-11ed-9431-634bc025ccf3.html)

#### Principal: Importance of student voices

Ted McCarthy, principal of Sutton HS in Massachusetts, explains in this Q&A how he has been intentional in seeking input from students and staffers about the operations of the school during his 10 years leading his school. An internship program and service trips, along with the school's Connections group, are among the ways this strategy is put into practice at the school, he says.

Roger Riddle. "Lessons In Leadership: How a principal raised student voice to build 'Connections' across New England." *K-12 Dive*. October 26, 2022 <https://www.k12dive.com/news/lessons-in-leadership-how-a-principal-raised-student-voice-to-build-conne/634994/>

#### Data: School closures not key driver of learning loss

School closures, and remote instruction, were not the primary drivers of learning loss, an analysis of testing data shows, according to research co-led by Thomas Kane of Harvard. Researchers plan further analyses to consider the effect that parent job losses, coronavirus death rates, and internet access may have had on students' scores.

Kalyn Belsha. "Remote learning not 'primary' driver of academic losses, new analysis suggests." *Chalkbeat*. October 28, 2022 <https://www.chalkbeat.org/2022/10/28/23429271/learning-loss-remote-learning-high-poverty-schools-harvard-stanford-research>

#### Microcredentials seen as boosting grads' employability

A majority of students in the US and seven other countries participating in a survey by Coursera think professional certificates or microcredentials provide advantages for employability. Many of the respondents also said their college isn't offering classes that help them prepare for the workforce. By adopting skills-based learning, higher education institutions can fill gaps in their curricula and directly connect their degree programs to the labor market.

Laura Ascione. "Students say microcredentials help them stand out in the workforce." *eCampus News*. October 26, 2022 <https://www.ecampusnews.com/2022/10/26/students-microcredentials-workforce/>

#### 3 pressing tech trends that higher ed must address

Technology experts at Educause recently identified three major trends that will influence college programs and offerings. These trends include increasing demand for microcredential programs, the necessity of technology to reach underserved populations, and the continued development of hybrid learning models.

Natalie Schwartz. "These 3 trends are shaping the future of ed tech." *Higher Ed Dive*. November 1, 2022

Ed tech companies and college leaders shared their predictions for higher education's future during Educause's conference in late October. <https://www.highereddive.com/news/trends-shaping-future-edtech-microcredentials-online-learning-equity-gaps/635405/>

#### Using ed tech in early-childhood education

Technology and media should be used sparingly in early-childhood education, but when teachers are supported by a curriculum that uses videos, online games and apps in specific contexts, students learn more and teachers feel more confident, writes a senior research associate at the Center for Children and Technology at the Education Development Center. Education technology can't replace teacher-student interaction, but it can enhance learning, exploration and problem-solving.

Deborah Rosenfeld. "Using Technology to Enhance Early Childhood Education." *Edutopia*. October 31, 2022 <https://www.edutopia.org/article/using-technology-to-enhance-early-childhood-education>

#### Teaching students to identify hidden ads

Students should be taught to identify "stealth advertising" as part of media literacy instruction, according to Girard Kelly, the director of Common Sense Media's privacy program. He describes how this type of advertising -- sometimes presented by influencers -- can be harmful to children and teens.

Arianna Prothero. "Why Media Literacy Programs Need to Put a Spotlight on 'Stealth Advertising'." *Education Week*. November 3, 2022 <https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/why-media-literacy-programs-need-to-put-a-spotlight-on-stealth-advertising/2022/10>

## Examining the evidence on later school starts

Research shows teenagers have a biological need to go to sleep later and sleep for longer, but this does not necessarily mean that later school start times will improve academic performance, according to a review of 21 international studies. The review found mixed evidence on the benefits of later start times for academic progress, but researchers noted that educators should still take into account that later start times benefit teens' health and limit student absences.

Kate Parker. "Do later starts improve attainment?" *London (UK) Times TES (Times Education Supplement)*. 26 October 2022.  
<https://www.tes.com/magazine/teaching-learning/secondary/school-start-time-later-improve-attainment>

## Study: Unrecovered math could have lifetime effects

Researchers found that gains in 8<sup>th</sup> grade math are closely correlated with outcomes like HS graduation, college enrollment, and earnings. If students cannot rebound from the pandemic-related learning loss in math, the 48 million students in public schools could see negative later-in-life outcomes, from more arrests to a lifetime earnings plunge of \$900 billion, new research shows. The analysis of decades of National Assessment of Educational Progress scores, as well as data from the US Census, FBI and other sources, indicates that student progress in math over the past 30 years has been "astounding," but current unfinished learning in math could set that progress back.

Kevin Mahnken. "Study: Damage from NAEP Math Losses Could Total Nearly \$1 Trillion." *The 74*. November 1, 2022  
<https://www.the74million.org/article/study-damage-from-naep-math-losses-could-total-nearly-1-trillion/>

## FEDERAL/NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL

### Moms for Liberty pays more than \$21,000 to company owned by husband of co-founder

The conservative news site "The74 Million" reports that Moms for Liberty, a parental rights group run by media-savvy leaders, that supports conservative school board candidates in multiple states, paid \$21,357 to Microtargeted Media, a company owned by the husband of one of its founding members, campaign finance records show. Moms for Liberty is known for its advocacy against "critical race theory," teaching about gender, and masking. The group paid Microtargeted Media, founded by Christian Ziegler, a current Sarasota County commissioner and vice chairman of the Florida GOP, in late August. His wife, Bridget Ziegler, served as Moms for Liberty director through February 2021. *Microtargeted Media*, which specializes in targeted text messaging and digital advertising, has made hundreds of thousands of dollars from right-wing political campaigns.

Jo Napolitano. "Exclusive: Moms for Liberty Pays \$21,000 to Company Owned by Founding Member's Husband." *The 74*. October 20, 2022  
<https://www.the74million.org/article/exclusive-moms-for-liberty-pays-21k-to-co-owned-by-founding-members-husband/>

### Curriculum fight may lead to new segregation

Education policy experts warn that efforts to keep certain books out of the classroom or ban the teaching of sensitive topics risk turning back the clock to a time when segregated schools meant separate and vastly unequal forums for learning. These experts see the dawning of a new era of school segregation, one in which what students learn will be determined by what their schools are allowed to teach. Many states have passed or are considering legislation to ban or limit the examination of racism and LGBTQ issues. Efforts to remove books in schools, universities and public libraries also are on the rise. Critics accuse conservatives of exploiting complex questions for political gain. Beyond political gain, they fear, lurks a long-term goal: to influence a generation of young Americans that, according to recent polls, are approaching adulthood with a liberal set of attitudes and an open mind on social issues. Others dismiss the notion that fights over curriculum are tied to a long-term political agenda. Parents have the right to raise questions about what their child is learning and opt them out of classes they find objectionable; but it's another matter to dictate what other students study, according to one expert.

Michael Collins. "Curriculum fight may spur new segregation." *USA TODAY*. October 31, 2022  
<https://rochesterdemocrat-nv.newsmemory.com/?selDate=20221031&goTo=A01&artid=0>

### Bills take aim at ransomware attacks in education

Lawmakers increasingly are introducing legislation aimed at helping prevent ransomware attacks on schools and school districts, yet it's unclear how much the bills will help. Analysis from the Data Quality Campaign found that of the 131 bills introduced this year, 42 were signed into law.

Daniel Mollenkamp. "School Districts Are Being Held For Ransom Over Data. Are Solutions On The Way?" *Ed Surge*. October 27, 2022  
<https://www.edsurge.com/news/2022-10-27-school-districts-are-being-held-for-ransom-over-data-are-solutions-on-the-way>

### Metaverse creating a new set of privacy issues

The metaverse, which by one estimate will multiply data usage 20-fold by 2032, is creating a unique set of privacy challenges, writes an executive at Infosys. "Privacy must be ensured by leveraging the power of technology while securing it through a strong regulatory framework incorporating best practices," he notes.

Sunil Senan. "Thrills! Perils! Data Privacy in the Metaverse." *RT (Real Time) Insights*. October 25, 2022  
<https://www.rtinsights.com/thrills-perils-data-privacy-in-the-metaverse/>

## How Charter Schools May Be Exacerbating the Teacher Shortage

Students are less likely to graduate from traditional teacher preparation programs when they attend colleges in areas with higher enrollments of charter school students, according to research by NEPC Fellow Douglas Harris and Mary Penn, both of Tulane University. Drawing upon nearly three decades of federal data, the authors found that an increase of 10% in a district's charter school enrollment is associated with a 13.5 - 15.2% decrease in the number of graduates of traditional, university-based teacher preparation programs in the community. They also find that these college-enrollment patterns are "most apparent in elementary, special education, and math education degrees."

Charter schools tend to hire more teachers prepared through alternative paths to certification and therefore relatively fewer graduates of traditional teacher preparation programs. Larger charter school enrollments were also associated with bigger decreases in the number of Black (versus White) graduates of traditional teacher preparation programs. "How Charter Schools May Be Exacerbating the Teacher Shortage." *National Education Policy Center*. U.Colorado/Boulder. November 1, 2022 <http://www.icontact-archive.com/archive?c=1748247&f=3100&s=3172&m=267072&t=683ff6e55fceb8d669aa5ea6b8253ac84d14528c98c4873195440427f0ff88d5>

## Coalition pushing back against 'divisive' parents' rights groups

Twenty education advocacy and family support organizations are hoping to redefine "family engagement" and redefine what constitutes parental rights at a time when conservative politicians and groups push for parents' rights policies that the new coalition says polarize America's schools.

Libby Stanford. "These Groups Are Pushing Back Against 'Divisive' Parents' Rights Policies." *Education Week*. November 1, 2022 [https://www.edweek.org/leadership/these-groups-are-pushing-back-against-divisive-parents-rights-policies/2022/11?utm\\_source=nl&utm\\_medium=eml&utm\\_campaign=eu&M=5447959&UID=dcf379af08119fa8d853cdc6f688bfca&T=7366586](https://www.edweek.org/leadership/these-groups-are-pushing-back-against-divisive-parents-rights-policies/2022/11?utm_source=nl&utm_medium=eml&utm_campaign=eu&M=5447959&UID=dcf379af08119fa8d853cdc6f688bfca&T=7366586)

## Report: School Facebook posts raise privacy concerns

Some Facebook posts from schools raise concerns over privacy because they include student information, including photos and names, according to a report by the American Educational Research Association. The report offers guidance to help school leaders balance students' privacy with using social media to engage with their community.

Kara Arundel. "Study: Schools' Facebook posts may violate student privacy." *K-12 Dive*. November 2, 2022 <https://www.k12dive.com/news/facebook-posts-may-violate-student-privacy/635525/>

## NEW YORK STATE

### New law requires public colleges to carry medications to counteract opioids

Governor Hochul has signed legislation that will require public college campuses in NYS to carry medications like naloxone, which are meant to counteract the effects of opioids, as state officials seek to reduce the number of overdoses that have sharply risen in the last year.

Nick Reisman. "New law could help prevent opioid overdoses at New York colleges." *State of Politics/NY*. October 28, 2022 [https://nystateofpolitics.com/state-of-politics/new-york/ny-state-of-politics/2022/10/28/new-law-could-help-prevent-opioid-overdoses-at-new-york-colleges?oref=csnv\\_firstreadtonight\\_nj](https://nystateofpolitics.com/state-of-politics/new-york/ny-state-of-politics/2022/10/28/new-law-could-help-prevent-opioid-overdoses-at-new-york-colleges?oref=csnv_firstreadtonight_nj)

### Lawmakers seeking reforms to some discipline methods

Lawmakers around the country pledged to seek reforms in response to a sweeping Hearst Newspapers investigation into the use of restraint and seclusion in schools, including crafting new state legislation, pushing for federal standards and boosting training and mental health resources. In NYS, five state lawmakers, including the Senate Education Committee chair, are working on legislation to prevent misuse of restraint and seclusion in schools.

Emilie Munson & Matt Rocheleau. "Unacceptable': Lawmakers pursue reforms around restraint and seclusion in schools." *Albany Times Union*. November 3, 2022 [https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Unacceptable-lawmakers-pursue-reforms-around-17553529.php?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=headlines&utm\\_campaign=altu%20%7C%20capitol%20confidential&sid=5931844424c17c09a3f115af](https://www.timesunion.com/news/article/Unacceptable-lawmakers-pursue-reforms-around-17553529.php?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=headlines&utm_campaign=altu%20%7C%20capitol%20confidential&sid=5931844424c17c09a3f115af)