

Teacher's Unions and the Fight Against School Choice in Texas

LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH (WITH SOME PERSONAL COMMENTS HIGHLIGHTED)
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School Choice Focuses on the Child and the Parent¹

What is the Focus of School Choice Opponents Like the National Education Association, (NEA), the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the Human Rights Committee (HRC)?

At a NEA convention, Beth Brelje, an investigative reporter attended and reported on the priorities of the NEA. She also reported that teachers are leaving the NEA, perhaps because the teachers want to teach students not support the NEA's radical agenda.

https://www.theepochtimes.com/teachers-leave-national-education-association-say-union-pushes-politics-with-member-dues_4772195.html

Below are some of their proposals.



- “The NEA will ensure recruitment of diverse school board candidates, including “queer and people of color.”
- “The NEA will inform states and local unions of what it calls ‘LGBTQIA+ inclusive language’ that may appear in contracts, including ‘parental leave’ instead of ‘maternity leave,’ ‘parent’ instead of ‘mother or father,’ ‘birthing parent’ instead of ‘mother,’ and ‘non-birthing parent’ instead of ‘father.’”
- “The NEA shall acknowledge the existence in our country of institutional homophobia and transphobia.”
- “The NEA will publicly stand in defense of abortion and reproductive rights and encourage members to participate in activities including rallies and demonstrations, lobbying and political campaigns, educational events, and other actions to support the right to abortion and contraception...”
- “The NEA will use all means at our disposal to defend reproductive freedom. The NEA will defend its members and students who need access to abortions and birth control.”
- “The NEA will encourage members and others to wear orange every Tuesday during September and October to show support for common-sense gun safety laws.”
- “The NEA shall create fact sheets ‘about the largest 25 organizations that are actively working to diminish a student’s right to honesty in education, freedom of sexual and gender identity, and teacher autonomy.’ Fact sheets should include funding sources, leaders, ‘and connections to known entities that are seeking to dismantle public education.’ Fact sheets will be used by state affiliates “as they mobilize members to stand up against these attacks.”
- “The NEA will issue a press release calling on the Biden administration to increase the number of Supreme Court justices.”
- “The NEA will educate members and the public about the history, culture, and struggles of Palestinians, including the detention, abuse, and displacement of children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory”[meaning Israel.]
- The NEA advocates for Climate Change Education in every subject.
<https://www.nea.org/advocating-for-change/new-from-nea/climate-change-education-every-subject>

The NEA is the largest teacher union in the United States and lists their Partners on their website: <https://www.nea.org/resource-library/nea-lgbtq-resources>

NEA PARTNERS



[HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN](https://www.hrc.org/) [HTTPS://WWW.HRC.ORG/](https://www.hrc.org/)

- [Get the Facts on Gender-Affirming Care](#): As attacks on the LGBTQ+ community continue to gain steam, it is important to get the facts about gender-affirming care.
- [HRC Welcoming Schools Program](#): HRC Foundation's Welcoming Schools is the most comprehensive bias-based bullying prevention program in the nation to provide LGBTQ+ and gender-inclusive professional development training, lesson plans, booklist, and resources specifically designed for educators and youth-serving professionals.
- [Latinx LGBTQ+ Youth Report](#): This resource presents data collected from these youth, shedding light on their challenges and triumphs encountered while navigating multiple, intersecting identities.
- [LGBTQ+ Asian and Pacific Islander Youth Report](#): This resource presents data collected from Asian and Pacific Islander LGBTQ+ youth, shedding light on their challenges and triumphs encountered while navigating multiple, intersecting identities.
- [LGBTQ+ Inclusive Position Statements and Resolutions](#): To empower and guide more youth-serving professionals to take action around the safety, health, and well-being of LGBTQ+ youth, we have compiled a list of resolutions and position statements from major health, education, and child welfare organizations.
- [Pride Resources](#): Show PRIDE with HRC!
- [Why Say Gay? K-3 Lesson Plans and Resources](#): Check out these Welcoming Schools lesson plans and resources from HRC.

[GLSEN](#) formerly the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network

- **GLSEN** will be sending LGBTQ+ affirming text sets to over 2,200 schools in 30 states in spring 2023. There are four grade-range options: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, or 9-12. LGBTQ+ students at schools with an LGBTQ+ inclusive curriculum, which includes LGBTQ+ affirming books, have

higher GPAs, are less likely to hear anti-LGBTQ remarks at school, and are less likely to report missing school due to feeling unsafe. **Students also have a constitutional right to read these books.**

Founded in 2019, GLSEN's Rainbow Library Program has been featured in *School Library Journal*, *District Administration Magazine*, and has won a commendation award from the American Association of School Librarians. Over 4,600 elementary, middle, and high schools have already received Rainbow Library sets. Rainbow Library books are selected by a committee of experienced educators, librarians, and students. These texts are award-winning, grade-aligned, and all received positive reviews from major literary journals. Resources are limited and will be prioritized in part on a first come, first served basis. Head to rainbowlibrary.org today!

- [Pronoun Guide](#): This guide is created to help anyone learn how to use people's correct pronouns. Everyone in your school community should engage in learning, educating, and advocating for the inclusive use of pronouns for all.
- [Erasure and Resilience: The Experiences of LGBTQ+ Students of Color](#): Erasure and Resilience: The Experiences of LGBTQ+ Students of Color is a series of four research reports that examines the school experiences of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI), Black, Latinx, and Native and Indigenous LGBTQ youth.
- [Webinars on Hosting a Virtual GSA and Supporting Students](#): In Oct 2020 GLSEN and the NEA (National Education Association) held a virtual GSA Advisors Summit. These webinars cover topics for elementary, middle, and high school GSAs such as starting a virtual GSA, activities for virtual GSA meetings, organizing platforms, discussions on supporting Black LGBTQ+ students, and supporting LGBTQ+ students during the pandemic.
- [Research and Education Webinars](#): GLSEN's education webinars share real-life stories, relevant data, and effective practices around LGBTQ+ inclusion in schools. GLSEN's resources are full of tips and tools to help you create a safe and affirming learning environment for all of your students.

NATIONAL BLACK JUSTICE COALITION

The National Black Justice is America's leading national civil rights organization dedicated to the empowerment of Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer+, and same gender loving (LGBTQ+/SGL) people, including people living with HIV/AIDS through coalition building, federal policy change, research, and education.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR LESBIAN RIGHTS

The National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) is a national legal organization committed to advancing the civil and human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their families through litigation, legislation, policy, and public education.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSGENDER EQUALITY

The National Center for Transgender Equality advocates to change policies and society to increase understanding and acceptance of transgender people. In the nation's capital and throughout the country, NCTE works to replace disrespect, discrimination, and violence with empathy, opportunity, and justice.

NATIONAL QUEER ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER ALLIANCE

The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (NQAPIA) is a federation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Asian American, South Asian, Southeast Asian, and Pacific Islander (AAPI) organizations. We seek to build the organizational capacity of local LGBT AAPI groups, develop leadership, promote visibility, educate our community, enhance grassroots organizing, expand collaborations, and challenge anti-LGBTQ bias and racism.

THE TREVOR PROJECT

The Trevor Project is the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & questioning youth.

TRANSLASH

TransLash Media is a nonprofit organization and digital community made up of conversation starters, documentarians, artists, technologists, activists, and allies who are committed to supporting trans/non-binary/intersex/two-spirit people through trans stories to save trans lives. We do so without censorship and erasure from mainstream media.

TransLash launched a new investigative, limited-series podcast today called *The Anti-Trans Hate Machine: A Plot Against Equality*. *The Anti-Trans Hate Machine* examines—over the course of four episodes—the organizations, people, money, and radical ideology behind the anti-trans, legislative backlash currently underway in over 30 states. A year in the making, TransLash started work on *The Anti-Trans Hate Machine* in 2020 with a simple question: "who's behind these bills?" To answer it, TransLash put together a team of twelve producers, researchers and fact checkers to find out. This series is the result of their work.

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The Second Largest Teacher Union is the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) <https://www.aft.org/column/school-choice-past-and-present>



07/23/17

Randi Weingarten, President, American Federation of Teachers, charges opponents of school choice with false intentions to “privatize and defund public schools.” She charges opponents with “racism and support for segregation.” AFT misreports the excellent outcomes for reading, math and wellbeing of students who have been given a choice in education.

Every honest analysis including the Black voucher program in Washington, D.C., which the White House opposed, but the Congress reinstated, reports improvements in math, reading and outlook by parents and children given a choice.

Weingarten does what opponents of school choice do when they don't have success data for public school students. They use race and personal attacks.

The obvious difference in proponents of school choice is the child vs false charges of racism.

But the fact of the matter reveals that more Black parents support school choice than white parents do.

Public Opinion Tracker Deep Dive: Perspectives of Black K-12 Parents (April 2021)

<https://www.edchoice.org/engage/public-opinion-tracker-deep-dive-perspectives-of-black-k-12-parents-april-2021/> <https://www.edchoice.org/engage/public-opinion-tracker-deep-dive-perspectives-of-black-k-12-parents-april-2021/> Who Opposes School Choice

“Black parents support three major school choice policies more than white parents. While school choice policies are overwhelmingly popular across all major demographics, Black parents were particularly supportive. When given a description, Black parents are more likely to say they support a school choice policy than white parents. For charter schools, 74 percent of Black parents are supportive compared to 73 percent of white parents. Support for vouchers is substantially higher, at 81 percent among Black parents, ten percentage points higher than the supportive share of white parents. Notably,

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there was essentially no difference in support between low-income Black parents and high-income Black parents. 80 percent of Black parents support education savings accounts (ESAs), compared to 76 percent of white parents.”

July 11 and 12
Select Committee