

ABCFT YOUnionews



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HOTLINKS- Contact ABCFT at ABC Federation of Teachers abcft@abcusd.us

- For confidential emails - use your non-work email to write to us at: abcft2317@gmail.com
- Find us on **Twitter** @ #ABCTeachernews or **Facebook**
- [ABCFT 2020-2023 Strategic Plan Summary](#)
- [ABCFT 2020-2023 Strategic Plan Details](#)
- [Who are the officers for the ABC Federation of Teachers?](#) **NEW!**

KEEPING YOU INFORMED - Negotiations Update By Ruben Mancillas



The ABCFT negotiating team has a new [calendar survey for the 2024-2025 school year](#).

This next school year, 2023-2024, will be our first with the new earlier start date. The first day for students will be August 14, the first semester will end at the beginning of winter break, and the last day for students will be May 30, 2024.

It will no doubt feel different throughout the year as we adjust to this new schedule. Some members expressed to me that they felt they were “losing” their summer this year. Having our voluntary paid PL days on August 8 and 9 and our first two days back at work on August 10 and 11 will be a significant shift in terms of coming back so soon after summer school. The balance will occur with our year ending before the start of June. The window of summer break will thus become more of the months of June and July as opposed to the months of July and August as it has in the past.

One factor to consider with an earlier start date and a concomitant earlier end date is the impact of spring break and the number of days that remain between spring break and the end of school. Next year our spring break is “early,” beginning on March 29, 2024. This leaves approximately nine weeks until the end of school to accommodate testing.

**KEEPING YOU
Informed**

If we maintain our current practice of linking spring break with Easter vacation, then in 2025, spring break would be “late,” beginning on April 18. This would leave approximately five weeks until the end of the school year to complete testing and other end-of-the-year activities.

One of the options on the 2024-2025 calendar survey is the idea of decoupling spring break from Easter and having it occur in March. There would still be an extended weekend around the Easter holiday in April, but a spring break in late March would allow for approximately ten weeks until the end of the school year.

The survey includes an opportunity to offer comments or suggestions. Please include any proposals that you may have while keeping in mind that we need to meet a total of 184 duty days. The negotiating team values your input and ideas; thank you in advance for participating in this survey.

To review some previous timelines: the off-schedule payment from our recent salary agreement should come in a check before the end of the school year. The retro portion of our raise is scheduled to occur later in the summer.

In Unity,

[Click here for the ABCFT Calendar Survey for the 2024-2025 school year.](#)

ABCFT-RETIREE BOARD REPORT

The following report was shared by ABCFT-R President, Silvia Rodriguez at the April 4th ABCUSD School Board meeting.

Good evening President Beach, Vice President Tse, Interim Superintendent Nguyen and school board members and community. My name is Silvia Rodriguez. I am the proud president of ABCFT-Retiree Chapter 2317. I am here once again to introduce our chapter to you and to the public.

I have nicknamed this group The Mighty Group. We are a group of retired teachers and nurses from ABCUSD. Approximately 30 percent of the members live in the cities of Artesia, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens, and Lakewood. Although others do not live in these areas, their hearts are still in the district where they served for many years.

Why the mighty group? I am always in awe how hard our group works to improve the lives of our retirees and to also service the ABCUSD Community. These are our main goals.

Let me summarize very quickly what our chapter does.

We have an E-board with a President, Vice President. Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian. We also have



chairpeople for our committees which consists of six. We meet once a month via Zoom.

Community Outreach Committee: Between 18 to 24 families from ABC Unified School District who need some assistance are helped yearly. The members of this committee visit most schools and with the input of the schools' personnel, families who need help are identified. The contribution that each family receives is 175 dollars in gift cards from Target and various grocery stores. And I might add, we are able to do this because of the generosity of our members who dig deep into their pockets to help. Also many fundraising events are held throughout the year.



Membership Committee: This committee invites newly retired teachers to join our chapter and communicate with all the members about pertinent information once a month.

Scholarship Committee: Once a year, our chairperson and the members go through a process of inviting high school seniors who plan to enter the field of education or nursing to apply for our 2,500 dollar scholarship. This coming June we will present to the board the recipient and the honoree who is honored for their work in the union and as a teacher.

Social Committee. This committee plans four general meetings a year for the members at various locations. We present important information to our members and of course we have food, laughter, socialization, and we also connect with one another.

Social Justice and Legislative Committee. This committee keeps our members abreast of legislation that could impact retirees' lives. It also develops legislative goals and action plans. I am very delighted to say that some members of this committee have met with three board members in the past two months....thank you. They hope to meet with all of you.

Lastly, the **Ad hoc Election Committee.** This committee conducts elections every two years in order to elect the officers. Also elections are held to choose an alternate delegate to the AFT and CFT conventions

Here you have it in a nutshell who we are. Thank you so much.



ACADEMIC SERVICES UPDATE

This month's academic service update is vital for all teachers. We hope you will take a moment to look at this monthly report which discusses changes in academic services. This document provides the union with a means of giving the District feedback on the many programs or changes they are proposing at any time.

Without your feedback or questions on these changes, it is harder for ABCFT to slow down and modify the district's neverending rollout of new projects. Please submit your comments and questions to the appropriate ABCFT liaison.

For Elementary curricular issues, please email Kelley at Kelley.Forsythe@abcusd.us if you have any questions or concerns. For Secondary curricular issues, please email Catherine at Catherine.Pascual@abcusd.us if you have any questions or concerns.

[Click Here For This Month's Full Report](#)

ABCFT PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Ray Gaer



Consistent and regular communication is a union's most important tool for advocating for its members at the bargaining table. Every conversation with members is focused on the end result of negotiating for the future prosperity and well-being of ALL ABCFT members. The goal of this weekly report is to keep members informed about issues that impact their working/learning conditions and their mental well-being. Our work as a Union is a larger conversation, and together we make the YOUNion.

"You don't know what trust you've built until the crisis strikes." AFT Presidents Randi Weingarten

As you all know ABCUSD (pending board approval) now has a permanent superintendent, as the press release hit our inboxes yesterday. Dr. Zietlow's career of leadership started in the classroom as a teacher but she has taken on many other roles within ABC. She's also been an activities director. Cheer advisor, an assistant principal, a principal, a classified human resources director, an assistant superintendent of human resources and now a superintendent. More importantly she is ABC home grown talent. Someone asked me in a text if she was a good person? In part my response was that she was a "good person but also principled and focused on the classroom. She's a hard worker and a good listener. Quiet, tough but will provide boundaries. She understands union voice, power, and function." I feel like this is a good choice for ABC. It's very common to have a rogue superintendent from outside come into a district and destroy the culture overnight. Thank you to the school board for deciding to hire a homegrown ABC employee.

I am thankful for interim superintendent Mr. Toan Nguyen and the work he has done over the past year. He helped stabilize a school district after a rough pandemic and a "work to rule" job action that clearly illustrated that ABCUSD needed leadership. I am thankful the ABCUSD School Board took action to temporarily promote Mr. Nguyen so that he could renew our faith in our mission and strengths. His tenure was not without a little drama over principal movement but for the most part he brought stability, listened to what was needed in our schools, in the community and worked collaboratively with our school board members. As a district, we needed a year to reassess so that we could be ready for the next permanent superintendent. Mission accomplished in my opinion. Very soon I hope to sit down with the new superintendent to have a conversation with Dr. Zietlow about her guiding beliefs, her vision and her future plans for ABC.

In other big news, I'm sure many of you saw that UTLA in Los Angeles settled both their classified and certificated contracts with their labor unions. Classified employees are woefully underpaid throughout the country and this new agreement for a 30% increase will set a bar for what is needed in other areas of the country. The certificated agreement calls for a 21% increase over the next three years with employees netting

a 7% increase by June 2023. The next two years certificated employees will get 7% increases for each year. This TA also includes a significant win for nurses with an increase to their annual base salary of \$20,000. This large increase is primarily due to the agreement LAUSD and UTLA reached in 2019 resulting in a nurse at every site. Here at ABC, we are hoping for an increase in compensation for the much in demand and needed nurses.

Because of the overhead of having lifetime health benefits, UTLA teachers are not as highly paid as ABC teachers and started this school year with a top salary of \$98,176 in comparison to ABC's top salary last August at \$114,372. Over the next three years the UTLA top salary will increase to \$122,000 which is ABC's current top salary. This means, ABC teachers and nurses have two more additional years to add to our current top salary. Salary increases are negotiated each year (unless you have a multiyear compensation plan) so I anticipate that the ABC salary schedule will continue to be higher than Los Angeles. [Here is an additional article I found interesting about the politics and financial situation in Los Angeles.](#) As the second biggest district in the country it is important to note what gains are had and what direction UTLA is going. We are not UTLA but it is good to use their experiences as a rule of thumb for our own negotiations going forward.

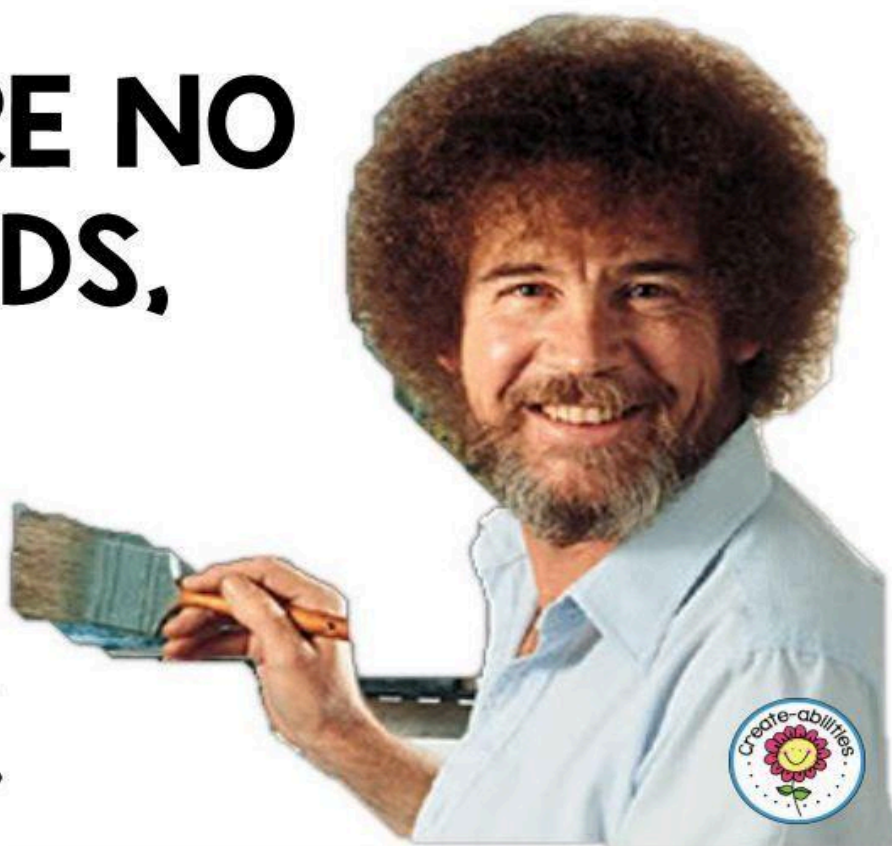
Have a good weekend. More to come...

In YOUunity,

Ray Gaer
President, ABCFT

THERE ARE NO BAD KIDS,

ONLY HAPPY LITTLE CLASSROOM CHALLENGES.





*A Union of Educators
& Classified Professionals*

CALIFORNIA FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

The latest CFT articles and news stories can be found here on the PreK12 news feed on the CFT.org website.

[View current issues here](#)



AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS

[Find the latest AFT news here](#)

Follow AFT President Randi Weingarten: <http://twitter.com/rweingarten>



----- NEWS STORY HIGHLIGHT-----

Increased scrutiny shadows school shootings

Criminal investigations of parents - as well as schools - appear to be gaining traction as communities demand accountability and new ways to prevent gun violence. While national statistics are hard to come by, at least seven criminal cases against parents have been filed in the last eight years after a child brought a gun to school and it was fired, intentionally or not. Michael Dorn, executive director of Safe Havens International, which works to make schools safer, says he knows of only a few criminal probes involving school employees after a shooting and they're recent. "I suspect a lot of it is that everybody is just desperate for solutions," he suggests. Eve Brensike Primus, who teaches criminal procedure at University of Michigan law school, agrees prosecutors have faced mounting political pressure to hold people accountable. Guns came from the home of a

parent or close relative in 76% of school attacks where firearms were used, according to a 2019 assessment by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Twenty-nine states have now enacted child-access prevention laws that allow for criminal charges against adults who intentionally or negligently allow children unsupervised access to guns, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

[AP News](#)

----- ANTI-UNION LEGISLATION -----

Lawmakers appraising how teachers' unions collect dues

Several states are pursuing legislation to eliminate payroll deduction services, which could significantly impact how teachers' unions collect dues. Legislators say that it's not necessary for public school districts to be involved in financial transactions on behalf of unions. A bill that would prohibit school districts from deducting dues for unions or other professional organizations from school employee's paychecks has passed the Arkansas legislature and is headed to Republican Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders' desk. Similar bills have passed one chamber of the legislature in Florida and Tennessee. Oklahoma lawmakers are also considering a bill that would make it so payroll deductions cannot be authorized for longer than one year at a time. "It's a roadblock they're trying to throw up," says Eddie Campbell, the president of the Kentucky Education Association. "It's an unsubtle attempt to try to silence the political opposition that we have as an association." Education Week News

----- NATIONAL NEWS -----

House passes bill banning transgender students from girls' teams

Legislation that would only allow students in K-12 and higher education to play on sports teams that match their biological genders has cleared its first hurdle, passing by a 219-203 vote along party lines in the U.S. House Thursday. Specifically, it would bar federally funded school and college athletic programs from allowing transgender women or girls to join women's or girls' sports teams. The bill has several more steps before becoming law however and President Joe Biden has already indicated that he would veto the measure if it reaches his desk.

[K12 Dive](#)

UCLA study finds sharp decline in violence at California schools

A new **UCLA** study has found that day-to-day violence at California's middle and high schools is sharply lower than it was around the turn of the century. Researchers analyzed 18 years of data from the California Healthy Kids Survey, a confidential, anonymous questionnaire given to fifth, seventh, ninth and 11th graders each year; they found a 56% reduction in school fights between 2001 and 2019, a 70% reduction in reports of guns on campus, a 68% reduction in other weapons, such as knives, and a 59% reduction in students being threatened by weapons on school grounds. The study, which included responses from more than 6m middle and high school students, also found larger declines among Black and Latino students compared to white students. UCLA scholar Ron Avi Astor, who co-authored the study, said the declines were found in more than 95% of California schools in every county.

[Fox 5 San Diego](#)

----- STATE NEWS -----

California legislator proposes raising teacher pay by 50% over seven years

Al Muratsuchi, a Democrat from Torrance and the new chairman of the Assembly Education Committee, is seeking to raise pay statewide for teachers and other school workers by 50% over the next seven years. To pay for it, he's proposing to increase base funding under the Local Control Funding Formula, also by 50%, in legislation he introduced last week. Muratsuchi has authored other bills over the past five years calling for big increases in per student funding to align California with the top 10 funded states. Although they haven't passed, Gov. Gavin Newsom and lawmakers have capitalized on rising state revenues to approve record increases to the funding formula. Assembly Bill 938, however, would take a very different tack, by making higher employee pay the explicit driver of multiyear increases in TK-12 funding. The bill assumes that school districts and charter schools would agree with the explicitly stated purpose of AB 938 and would commit the bulk of their yearly base funding increases to higher pay for employees. It wouldn't impose a mandate. Claudia Briggs, a spokesperson for the California Teachers Association, which supports the bill, said, "We would hope that districts would act in the best interest of students and follow the intent of the law."

[EdSource](#)

California educators champion diversity in push to tackle workforce challenges

California, the second-most diverse state in the U.S. after Hawaii, is struggling to retain its educators, especially teachers of color. According to a 2022 survey by the National Education Association, Black and Latino educators were likely to quit the profession earlier than expected due to lack of career support and poor working conditions. According to a 2022 survey of more than 4,600 teachers by the UCLA Center for the Transformation of Schools, educators reported experiencing high levels of work-related stress, with 40% saying they've considered leaving the profession and 20% saying they will probably leave within three years. Advocates and education policy experts met in Sacramento last week for the #CABuildingBridges Summit to discuss how to better recruit and retain teachers of color. At the all-day gathering of about 100 educators, leaders called on state policy makers not just to pass legislation, but to create structures that reinforce new policies. "To see a structural shift, we need greater support and oversight by the state. At a minimum, who at the state level is assessing the impact of all these programs?" said Sarah Lillis, the California director of Teach Plus, a nonprofit education leadership organization co-organizing the event. "Our hope is that this group of folks coming together can set that vision."

Los Angeles Times

CA lawmakers won't hear bill requiring school staff to out trans students to parents

A California bill that would require school employees to out transgender students to their parents will not get a committee hearing, meaning the legislation is effectively dead. Assembly Bill AB 1314, by Assemblyman Bill Essayli (R-Riverside) was assigned to the Assembly Education Committee, which is chaired by Assemblyman Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance). On Monday, Muratsuchi announced that he is holding the bill without a hearing. "As Chair of the Education Committee, I will not be setting AB 1314 for a hearing, not only because the bill is proposing bad policy, but also because a hearing would potentially provide a forum for increasingly hateful rhetoric targeting LGBTQ youth," he said in a statement. "To allow it to die without a hearing is very cowardly and a way to avoid the issue, and the issue is not going away," said Mr. Essayli. "This bill does not out anyone. We're just saying if everyone at school knows, then parents need to know as well. Trans kids are at a higher risk for suicide, depression and anxiety, and parents need to know those risks, and they need to intervene."

----- DISTRICTS -----

LAUSD reaches tentative labor deal with teacher union (CERTIFICATED)

Los Angeles USD and the United Teachers Los Angeles union have reached a tentative agreement that provides a 21% wage increase over about three years, raising the average teacher salary to \$106,000 while averting the potential of a second strike this school year. If approved by members of United Teachers Los Angeles, the salary for teachers would range from about \$69,000 to \$122,000, with more for teachers who take on extra responsibilities. "With this tentative agreement, LAUSD now has an opportunity to become one of the most successful school districts in the country," United Teachers Los Angeles President Cecily Myart-Cruz said in a statement. "We held the line during bargaining on a number of initiatives because educators are the experts on what has the ability to transform LAUSD into a more equitable environment that not only improves students' learning, but also the quality of life for L.A. families." Superintendent Alberto Carvalho said the agreement "is a necessary step not only to make Los Angeles Unified the district of choice for families but also the district of choice for teachers and employees."

[Los Angeles Daily News](#)

L.A. schools workers approve labor deal (CLASSIFIED)

Following the three-day strike over wages and staffing that halted education for students in one of the nation's largest school systems, Los Angeles Unified School District workers have now formally approved a labor deal. The agreement, which was voted on this week, would increase wages by 30% for workers who are paid an average of \$25,000 a year, the Local 99 chapter of the Service Employees International Union said Saturday. It also includes a \$1,000 bonus for employees who worked during the COVID-19 pandemic and expanded family health care benefits. The contract still needs to be approved by the school district's Board of Education, which could take it up as soon as April 18th.

[NPR / National Public Radio](#)

Placentia-Yorba Linda introduces plan for elected trustees to vet books

Trustees at **Placentia-Yorba Linda USD** in Orange County have voted 3-2 to introduce a revision to their book selection and evaluation policy that requires them to vote on books before they get tested with students. They rejected a literature review committee that would have been made up of educators and parents. Trustee Todd Frazier, who called for the policy revision, and trustee Leandra Blades have said the change will bring more transparency and accountability to the book selection process. However Carrie Buck, a fellow trustee, said the elected trustees are not qualified to make decisions about what books should be taught, adding: "We're not experts in this field. We should not be the five that are determining this."

[EdSource](#)

----- WORKFORCE -----

SF public school principals call for better working conditions

San Francisco USD public school principals are joining teachers at the bargaining table to ask the district for competitive pay and better working conditions. Members of the United Administrators of San Francisco announced their intention to renegotiate contracts last month. A public hearing was held at a Board of Education meeting on Tuesday that allowed members to comment on their proposal, beginning a bargaining process between the two parties. About a dozen principals spoke in favor of increased pay and a decreased

workload. Members said they are working well above 40 hours per week and into the weekend, adding that this year there is a “daily need” to cover classes that lack full-time teachers. Staffing shortages and resignations are afflicting school leader positions as well. Throughout the pandemic, principals have resigned mid-academic year, or have taken positions in better-paying districts such as **Palo Alto USD**.

[San Francisco Examiner](#)

Recruitment and retention challenges undermine teacher diversity push

A virtual panel held this week by FutureEd and nonprofit alternative teacher preparation program TNTP, discussing the strategies to increase educator diversity, heard that the lack of representation for teachers of color in the classroom is due to both recruitment and retention issues. State teacher certification exams also create another unhelpful barrier to recruiting teachers of color, panelists agreed. Panelist Tequilla Brownie, CEO of TNTP, said: “Looking at this as a true job from a workforce perspective, that’s how you unlock other dollars through apprenticeship, through Department of Labor. Instead of just K-12 on its own, by itself, trying to tackle this problem.” Panelist Mayme Hostetter, president of Relay Graduate School of Education, suggested: “The return on investment for educators also needs to change. Strategies like raising salaries, forgiving student loans for teachers, or reducing teacher taxes are crucial in addressing this and diversifying the teacher workforce.” Relatedly, a 2021 report produced by Teach Plus in partnership with the Center for Black Educator Development found that fostering an inclusive school culture through recruiting and retaining diverse staff alongside school leaders who encourage inclusion and culturally responsive curriculum will help create culturally affirming schools.

[K12 Dive](#)

----- CLASSROOM -----

Survey reveals dissatisfaction with K-12 math instruction

A new survey of parents of school-age children, teachers and adults indicates that Americans are largely unsatisfied with the way math is taught across the nation's classrooms. The study, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, concludes that the public generally considers math the subject most in need of updating as most people agree that children who excel at math “are more likely to succeed later in life.” Parents and teachers surveyed described their views of “ideal K-12 math education” as relevant to the real world (64%), useful (54%), focused on creative problem-solving (52%) and engaging (50%). The top three subjects that parents said need updating and improving are math, career and technical education and social studies.

[USA Today](#)

Soaring numbers of book bans happening nationwide

Free speech organization PEN America has warned that book bans are rising at a rapid pace in school districts around the country. From July to December 2022, PEN found 1,477 cases of books being removed, up from 1,149 during the previous six months. Since the organization began tracking bans in July 2021, it has counted more than 4,000 instances of book removals using news reports, public records requests and publicly available data. Of the nearly 1,500 book removals that PEN tracked in the last six months of 2022, the majority (nearly 75%) were driven by organized efforts or because of new legislation. Seven states, including Florida, Tennessee, Oklahoma and Utah, passed laws last year that impose limits on material in libraries, according to analysis done by EveryLibrary, a political action committee for libraries. This year, the group is tracking 113 bills across the country that it says would negatively impact libraries or curtail people’s freedom to read.

PEN's Jonathan Friedman comments: "People need to understand that it's not a single book being removed in a single school district, it's a set of ideas that are under threat just about everywhere."

[New York Times](#)

Ventura County schools continue to lose students

Ventura County's public school system has fewer students for the ninth school year in a row, following the county population's downward trajectory. New data released by the state education department last week showed just under 127,000 K-12 students enrolled in the county's 20 school districts for the 2022-23 school year, the lowest number since 1995. The roughly 1,300-student drop, 1% of last year's total enrollment, is smaller than the nearly 7,000-student loss across the two prior years, and track with the state's overall 0.7% enrollment dip and with similar declines across the state. The enrollment shifts hit differently across the county. Five K-8 school districts — **Rio Elementary, Pleasant Valley, Ocean View, Mupu Elementary and Briggs Elementary** — saw minor increases, along with the K-12 **Simi Valley Unified, Moorpark Unified and Fillmore Unified** school districts. Hani Youssef, Simi Valley's superintendent, said his district's second year of increase since 2003 was due to a "concerted effort to rebrand the district and become more competitive."

[Ventura County Star](#)

----- SECURITY -----

Black and Latino students more likely to experience policing in schools

A new analysis by the Urban Institute indicates that predominantly Black and Latino schools are more likely to have on-site law enforcement than those with largely white enrollment. The disparity holds true in both high- and low-poverty schools, asserts the report, which combined data from the U.S. Department of Education's 2017-18 federal Civil Rights Data Collection, which is the most recent data available on school policing, with a separate school-level poverty estimate model developed by Urban Institute researchers. Among predominantly Black schools, 36% defined as lower income had a school resource officer, compared to 37% of those defined as higher income. Among predominantly Latino schools, 34% of lower-income schools had a school resource officer, compared to 36% of higher-income schools. Among predominantly white schools, 5% of lower-income schools had an SRO, compared to 11% of higher-income schools. "Other factors could explain differences in the presence of SROs, including urbanicity, state policy, and income differences beyond the above-and-below-median measure we use," the analysis says. "But these differences are unlikely to explain the starkly unequal exposure that Black and Latinx students have to SROs. Exposure is particularly troubling for those attending low-income schools, which often have fewer resources and higher discipline rates."

[Education Week](#)

----- LEGAL -----

Federal judge rules against teachers' mandatory diversity training case

A federal judge has ruled against two teachers in Missouri who challenged Springfield Public Schools' [SPS] mandatory anti-racist training. The two educators, Brooke Henderson and Jennifer Lumley, filed the first-in-the-nation lawsuit in August 2021 against a mandatory district-wide "anti-racism" training that occurred the prior year, alleging that the school district compelled their speech and acted out viewpoint discrimination. Henderson and Lumley also alleged that district employees were required to complete the training or lose pay and that they were required to commit to equity and being "anti-racist educators" as a result of the training. In the lawsuit, backed by the Southeastern Legal Foundation [SLF], a nonprofit that has

filed numerous lawsuits involving school training, critical race theory, and COVID-19 policies, the teachers claimed that the district discriminated against them because of their views that America should be "colorblind." The teachers have appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

[Fox News](#)

----- HEALTH & WELLBEING -----

Student access to teletherapy soars

The number of U.S. students with access to virtual mental health support has skyrocketed over the last year. School leaders say the wait time to see a therapist virtually is often days, instead of weeks or months. Thirteen of the nation's 20 largest districts have added teletherapy since the pandemic began, expanding access to hundreds of thousands of students. They are Los Angeles Unified, Chicago, Miami-Dade, Duval County, Orange County and Broward County in Florida, Clark County in Nevada, Houston and Dallas in Texas, Fairfax County in Virginia, the Hawaii Department of Education, Charlotte-Mecklenburg in North Carolina and Prince George's County in Maryland. Two more big school districts - New York City and Hillsborough County in Florida - plan to add the service later this year. "This does eliminate barriers," asserts Nirmita Panchal, who's written about the growth of tele-mental health in schools for the nonprofit KFF, which conducts health policy research. "There are definitely some challenges, but big picture, we do see the advantages in linking students who otherwise wouldn't have care into care."

[USA Today](#)

BRACE YOURSELF

**STATE TESTING IS
COMING**



NTA Life Insurance - An ABCFT Sponsor



Years ago ABCFT started a working relationship with [National Teachers Associates Life Insurance Company](#). Throughout our partnership, NTA has been supportive of ABCFT activities by sponsorship and prizes for our various events. This organization specializes in providing insurance for educators across the nation. We have been provided both data and member testimonials about how pleased they have been with the NTA products and the opportunity to look at alternatives to the district insurance choice.

To All Members of the ABC Federation of Teachers,

National Teacher Associates (NTA) is committed in our efforts to helping educators through tough times. It's what we do. After all...in our eyes, you are the heart and soul of our communities.

Protecting you and your families has been our goal for over 45 years. Despite the current global pandemic, we are not about to slow down now. We know that many of you have had our programs for years and sometimes forget the intricacies of how they work. NTA wants to help facilitate any possible claims for now and in the future. Fortunately, all claims and reviews can be done by phone and online. I personally want to offer my services to guide you in the right direction with your NTA benefits.

We also apologize for not being able to finish the open enrollment for those of you who wanted to get our protection. We are still able to help by extending our enrollment window for the near future. Again, this can be done over the phone, email, or online.

Please contact **Leann Blaisdell** at any time either by phone or email.



562-822-5004

Leann.Blaisdell@horacemann.com

[Click here to schedule an appointment](#)