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School status quo needs to go

Across the nation, the outcry for reform of our public education system is getting louder. Even leaders of the Democratic Party, like President Barack Obama and the Rev. Al Sharpton, have joined Republicans in calling for fundamental changes in the way we teach our children.

However, our nation's two largest teachers unions - the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers - are moving in the opposite direction. They've become increasingly militant in their defense of the status quo. They fear that any type of reform, particularly school choice, will threaten their guaranteed clientele of students, job security and lucrative benefits.

The teachers' unions are using their political influence - mostly through the huge political contributions they make to candidates - to shoot down every type of suggested reform. Sadly, their efforts have been successful in many cities and states.

It's time for the American people to take notice of this cynical effort to sabotage needed improvements to our educational system. After all, the schools belong to the taxpayers, not the unions.

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