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Two new websites to track agenda, tactics of national teachers' unions

NEA and AFT come under scrutiny for their role in stiff-arming reform

Across the nation, the cry for reform in K-12 public education is reaching a feverish pitch.

Leaders of the Democratic Party, including President Barack Obama and Education Secretary Arne Duncan, are joining Republicans in calling for fundamental changes in the way we teach our children.

Just last week, the very odd couple of Newt Gingrich and the Rev. Al Sharpton appeared together in Washington, D.C. to promote public school reform.

But the nation's two largest teachers unions – the National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers - are moving in the opposite direction, militantly defending the status quo as a means of self-preservation.

That's why the [Education Action Group Foundation](#), a nonprofit organization based in Muskegon, Michigan, has established two new national websites – [NEAExposed.com](#) and [AFTExposed.com](#).

Nearly every education reform proposal on the table – expansion of the number of charter schools, increased teacher accountability, merit pay for outstanding teachers, teacher certification reform, tuition vouchers for kids attending failed schools and tenure reform – has been targeted by the unions for defeat at the legislative level.

And far too often the unions are successful in their sabotage of reform, mostly through the millions of dollars they channel to friendly political candidates each election cycle.

Why do the unions oppose change? Because they fear that school choice and increased accountability will take away their guaranteed clientele of students and threaten their seniority-based job security and lucrative benefits.

"The unions would rather trap students in subpar schools than acknowledge the obvious need for change that will help our children keep pace with their peers in other nations," said Kyle Olson, vice president of EAGF. "The public has been in the dark about this trend for too long, we plan to use our new national websites to greatly increase awareness."

[NEAExposed.com](#) and [AFTExposed.com](#) will feature frequent updates about union efforts to impede education reform.

We're already tracking both unions' efforts to organize charter school teachers and steal away the unique qualities that make charters so attractive to many families.

We've informed our readers about a recent letter sent by the NEA to every U.S. senator, threatening political retribution if they vote to extend a successful voucher program in Washington, D.C., which helps kids escape failing urban schools.

We've informed our readers about the NEA's successful effort to block legislation in Wisconsin that would tie teacher evaluations to student performance.

We at the Education Action Group Foundation invite everyone to check out the new websites and develop a full appreciation of the unions' efforts to buck the growing consensus in favor of education reform.

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