

NEWSLETTER

Local 1075

November 2024

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Membership Meeting Dates:

January 9th
March 13th
May 8th

ASFMS @ 4PM



sharemy lesson

By now you may have heard or seen the AFT's educator resource: [Share My Lesson](#). Share My Lesson has a wide variety of educator resources, sample lesson materials for all grades and content areas, webinars, topic communities, blogs and more! Recently, Share My Lesson launched a [Welcome-to-Teaching Conversation Series](#). This series features AFT members and is designed to provide a more interactive platform where new and experienced educators can have valuable conversations in order to address some of the challenges they face as educators. Currently two episodes are available to view on demand. Below are each episode's description and the links to view the recording(s).

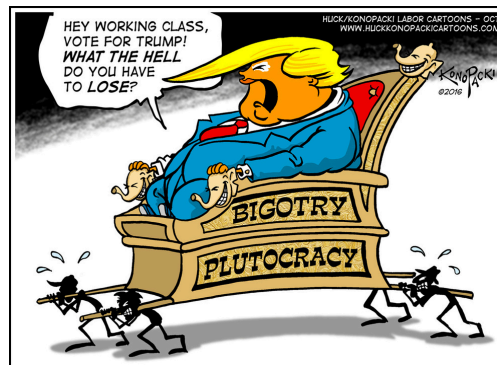
Episode 1: Classroom Management

In this episode, you'll learn practical tips for new teachers on effective classroom management, emphasizing relationship-building, clear procedures and classroom mobility. Key strategies include setting expectations, modeling routines, using reward systems and being a "warm demander" who balances support with high standards. You'll also learn about using attention-getting techniques, collaborating with colleagues, and staying flexible to adjust management strategies as needed throughout the school year. These approaches aim to help you create a structured, positive learning environment that fosters student success. [Listen now.](#)

Episode 2: Children's Well-Being

In this episode, educators discuss trauma-informed practices and strategies for supporting student well-being. They emphasize building trusting relationships, using emotional check-ins, meditation and breathing exercises to help students regulate emotions. Teachers share personal experiences on balancing high expectations with compassion and modeling vulnerability to inspire students. The episode also highlights the importance of collaborative efforts with support staff, creating a safe learning environment, and prioritizing self-care for teachers to manage the emotional demands of the job. [Listen now.](#)

In the coming months, additional topics to be discussed include: collaboration and communication, educator health and well-being, union leadership and PD opportunities, and more! To view all available episodes, future topics, resources, related blogs and more, visit AFT's [SML Welcome to Teaching Conversation Series](#)



Tell Your Senators to Support the Social Security Fairness Act

The Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) reduce Social Security benefits for individuals who also receive a public pension from jobs not covered by Social Security. The WEP lowers Social Security benefits for people, such as educators, who work in non-Social Security-covered positions but contribute to Social Security through other jobs. The GPO reduces spousal benefits for individuals, including government workers like police officers and teachers, who receive a government pension but not Social Security. The reduction can be substantial, with the GPO potentially cutting spousal benefits by two-thirds.

A recent report from the Congressional Research Service indicates that over 2.1 million Social Security beneficiaries are affected by the WEP, and nearly 750,000 retirees are impacted by the GPO. More than 300,000 retirees are affected by both provisions.

[Contact Your Senators Here](#)

CTA Newsletter



Webinar

Jason Reynolds - Recharging Educators

Join Share My Lesson, the AFT, and StoryCorps for an inspiring webinar with celebrated author Jason Reynolds, AFT President Randi Weingarten and StoryCorps founder Dave Isay. Together, they will explore the transformative power of storytelling to foster understanding, empathy and resilience.

In this webinar, you'll discover:

- Engaging ways to bring storytelling into the classroom, creating a supportive environment for students to share and listen.
- Practical tools for using stories to build empathy and understanding among students, while fostering a sense of community.
- Strategies for incorporating "The Great Thanksgiving Listen" into lessons, inviting students to capture and honor family narratives and develop meaningful connections with elders in their communities.
- A live Q&A with Jason Reynolds, Randi Weingarten and Dave Isay on the impact of storytelling in education, including how it supports classroom resilience and offers a path to connection and hope.

For more information about this special event and the link to register for FREE, go to [Jason Reynolds on Stories of Hope/AFT SML](#)

Susan Toohey Kaye
CTA Education Issues Chair
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President Trump's Version of History

1776 Report is back and it looks to promote a unified love of country by focusing on the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. That, by itself, is not a bad goal. But, it also seeks to counter recent historical perspectives, particularly those addressing the role of slavery in shaping U.S. history (a counter to the 1619 Project). The report advocates for what critics view as a form of government-sponsored indoctrination in schools and ignores our nation's complex past as a civic virtue.

The report has two primary themes: an idealized portrayal of the Founding Fathers and a harsh critique of modern historical scholarship. It paints the Founders as near-mythical figures who established "universal and eternal principles," while ignoring the exclusion of enslaved people, Indigenous communities, and women from political participation.

Additionally, the report takes aim at Progressive reformers of the early 20th century, wrongly equating them with fascists like Mussolini, and criticizes social reforms such as workplace health and safety laws, child labor regulations, and other progressive gains that unions have fought so hard to gain in our past. It also condemns American universities for producing what it calls "deliberately destructive scholarship" that fuels social unrest, including the criticism of national statues associated with slavery and white supremacy.

Written hastily without consultation or the endorsement of professional historians, the 1776 Report ignores decades of scholarship and public history, including museum exhibits and documentaries that have shaped Americans' understanding of their past. The report emphasizes the importance of family, faith, and the rule of law, yet fails to acknowledge contemporary movements that threaten the very institutions it claims to uphold.

"Fascist politics invokes a pure mythic past tragically destroyed. Depending on how the nation is defined, the mythic past may be religiously pure, racially pure, culturally pure, or all of the above." - Jason Stanley



The Future of the Department of Education?

Some things to know about Linda McMahon:

- She lied about having a degree in education.
- She was Chair of the America First Policy Institute which advocates eliminating diversity, equity, and inclusion programs.
- Most of her career was spent as the co-founder of the WWE.
- She served as the Administrator of the Small Business Administration for Trump's first term.
- She is a firm advocate of vouchers - the privatization of public education and a proponent of charter schools (no unions).
- She's likely to push Career & Technical Education over all other programs.
- Ending Title IX compliance.
- She was recently named as a defendant in a lawsuit related to sexual abuse of young boys by a WWE ringside announcer.



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AMERICA'S UNIONS