



Educating Our Community About
Critical Theory in Nevada County Schools

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Finally a School Board Conference that affirms American Values for American Children - November 29, 2023

Parents across the nation are stepping up to run for school board in their local districts to improve the state of our public education system and fight to put students first. The Pacific Research Institute created its [School Board Member Training Program](#) in November of 2022 to educate and empower school board members by providing them with the tools and resources they need to make meaningful change in their local school districts.

Apology to Pleasant Ridge USD Superintendent Rusty Clark

In the October 2023 issue of "Inside Nevada County Schools", in the article entitled [The Schools Are Replacing the Parents](#), we misquoted Superintendent Clark. Our article reads "...Superintendent Clark stated that one of our teachers saw the parental notification on the agenda and said "...if we..adopt such a policy that teacher would resign." In both cases, Clark used the word "employee", not teacher. We apologize for the misquote and we thank him for reading our newsletter.

WHAT'S IN YOUR NEVADA COUNTY LIBRARY

Terry McLaughlin
Grass Valley, California

Local libraries have become a fierce battleground in the cultural revolution sweeping America. "Drag Queen Story Hour", such as the one that took place in the Madelyn Helling Library in recent years, and the promotion of pornographic materials in children and teens sections have prompted parents around the nation to push back.

In response to parents objecting to the state-sponsored sexualization of our children in public schools, the American Library Association (ALA) hosted "Banned Books Week" in October. This event was likely designed to distract Americans from the reality that the taxpayer funded American Library Association is trying to place pornography into the hands of our children.

The ALA's current president is Emily Drabinski, a self-described "Marxist lesbian". In campaigning for the position of ALA president, Drabinski made no secret of her Marxist platform in a piece which she has since removed from the internet: "So many of us find ourselves at the ends of our worlds. The consequences of decades of unchecked climate change, class war, white supremacy, and imperialism have led us here. If we want a world that includes public goods like the library, we must organize our collective power and wield it."

And when she won the coveted position, she boasted on twitter: "I just cannot believe that a Marxist lesbian who believes that collective power is possible to build and can be wielded for a better world is the president-elect of @ALALibrary. I am so excited for what we will do together. Solidarity!"

In a recently released video Drabinski claims that her "queerness" subverts "normal family types" and avows that sexually explicit LGBT books are needed in children's libraries in order to show "gay people doing gay things." She then continues on to make racist statements against concerned parents who disagree with her, describing them as "far right, white supremacist, fascist" and "an angry white mob."

Drabinski has openly promoted pornographic books, including "Gender Queer" and "Lawn Boy". The book "Lawn Boy" includes at least 216 individual words that cannot be printed in this newsletter, as well as a graphic description of gay sex between a young boy and an adult male. And few people can forget listening to Senator John Kennedy, R-LA, on September 12 during the Senate Judiciary Committee hearing titled "Book Bans: Examining How Censorship Limits Liberty and Literature," reading an excerpt from "Gender Queer" – which I am prohibited from quoting here in this newsletter due to its obscene and pornographic nature.

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Career and Technical Education (CTE) Hits a Home Run in Nevada County

Diana Garbin
Nevada City, California

Good news for many high school students of the Nevada Joint Union High School District. The program, Career Technical Education (CTE) has grown in its' second year at Nevada Union and Bear River High Schools with approximately 350 interested students who desire skills and certification credits for careers in automotive, construction, landscaping, excavating, design, engineering, plumbing, public works, welding, electrical, roofing, culinary arts, hospital careers, and eventually: EMTs, firefighters, and law enforcement.



Noah Levison is heading up the program with approximately 20 teachers split between both high schools to implement the program. His efforts are being supported by many businesses as evident at a gathering on Wed. Oct. 11, 2023 at the Fairgrounds. Partnered with The Nevada County Contractors' Association, Tom Last, Bob Zucca, Elizabeth Poston and Jeff Hanson were instrumental in securing businesses to participate. Mr. Levison and Cindy Olson coordinated groups of students who toured the booths and displays of the many jobs/careers available in Nevada County. There were approximately 36 businesses who presented their offerings, answered student questions, demonstrated skills and some lucky students were able to get behind the wheel of a bobcat and to maneuver logs from one point to another. Some were offered a chance to nail a shingle on part of a roof. The atmosphere was exciting and informative for both students and business reps. This long overdue experience for students will continue to expand and I believe it will become a model for the State and nation to follow.

Businesses are eager to provide on the job training, essential skills and real work experience for students to pursue their career while working toward a high school diploma. The goal for students will be to secure skills toward certification to be fully employable upon graduation. While many students may still pursue a college degree, others who complete this program will be equipped with technical skills for a job immediately after graduation. Not all students want or are able to go to college and this program offers them an exposure to the technical world. It is a win-win for students and businesses.

Some of the Nevada County companies I personally spoke with:

Bobcat of Grass Valley, Craig Johnson Plumbing, Division of Apprenticeship Standards, Elliott's Blue Collar Plumbing, Hanson Brothers, Jackson & Sands Engineering, Inc., MEC Roofing, NC Public Works, NC Dept. of Human Resources, NID, Rental Guys, Sierra Pacific, Universal Technical Institute (power

plant tech, industrial maintenance, CNC machining, automotive, diesel, robotics, collision repair/refinish, motorcycle, marine, aviation maintenance, wind power tech) Sierra College Applied Technology, State of CA Apprenticeship Consultant, Wallis Design Studio Architects, Weiss Landscaping, Young's Carpet One, Byers and New Life Landscapes.



Years ago, California schools had what was called Vocational and Industrial Arts Education: courses in drafting, woodshop, metal shop, automotive and home economics were offered elective but these programs fell by the wayside with the notion all students should go to college. Well folks, we need plumbers, electricians, carpenters, construction workers, chefs, landscapers, public works techs, etc. and people with entrepreneur skills to keep this country moving. This is not a program to encourage students not to attend college, but it is an opportunity for them to explore careers in the technical fields and perhaps later add college coursework to further their interest in business ownership. I believe Career Technical Education is a big step in the right direction giving many students the opportunity to have an enormous impact in our economy. Kudos to Nevada Joint Union High School District.

If you own a business or know someone who does, pass on this information and get in touch with Noah Levison at Bear River High School 530-268-3700. To help Career Technical Education grow, it will need interested business members and the support of the parents and community to share this information everywhere.

Additional resources:

Association for Career and Technical Education, [What is CTE?](#)

Advance CTE, [CTE 101](#) (Video)

Advance CTE, [Career Technical Education Through the Century](#) (Infographic)



The Republican Party at a Crossroad

This class will explore the Republican Party which has changed dramatically over this past decade. We will read scholarly pieces about the GOP and discuss the political philosophy from Christian Nationalists like Marjorie Taylor-Greene to "old fashioned" fiscal conservatives such as Paul Ryan. Reading is required for this discussion-based class.

Terence McAteer

Club OLLI Activity—Membership Required

Roseville Center	259	\$22
#FalCGOVP271	11/29-12/13 W	10:00am–12:00pm
Sessions: Three		
Nevada County Campus	N11-101	\$22
#FalCGOVP272	11/29-12/13 W	2:00–4:00pm
Sessions: Three		

Sierra College OLLI course listing

As first appeared in [Sierra Thread](#):

Why is Sierra College's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) Becoming Politicized?

Susan Walsh
Grass Valley, CA

Ah, Terry McAteer. He's heavily involved in partisan politics. He's the spokesman for the failed Yes on Measure V campaign, which is [being investigated by the Fair Political Practices Commission](#) (FPPC) for possible fraudulent use of funds. And now, he's using taxpayer-funded public school Sierra College to bash his political opponents and further his political goals.

(The FPPC is a five-member independent, non-partisan commission that has primary responsibility for the impartial and effective administration of the Political Reform Act. The Act regulates campaign financing, conflicts of interest, lobbying, and governmental ethics.)

Note: Enrollment in this class is now closed with a waiting list.

[View the OLLI catalog](#)

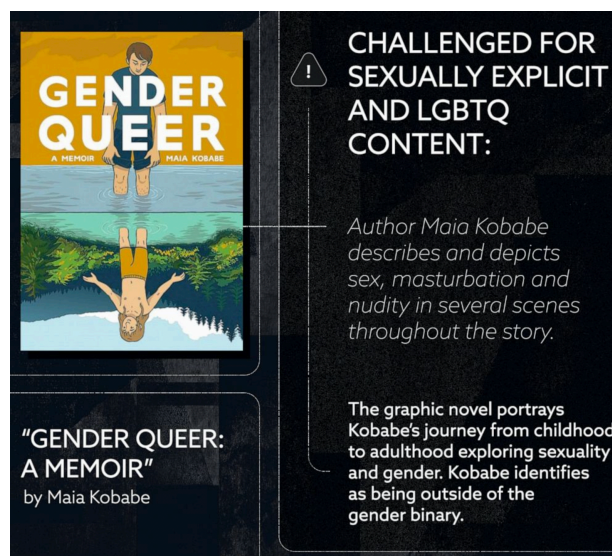
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Others, however, seem to feel that 11-year-olds in middle school need access to these books. Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., for example, stated "Every student deserves access to books that reflect their experiences and help them better understand who they are." It is unclear the children to whom the senator is referring, but if these passages reflect their experiences as children, then they are victims in need of serious legal and emotional help.

A witness in favor of providing access to these books to children argued that the passages read by Senator Kennedy were "disturbing — especially coming out of your mouth," appearing to be more concerned that an adult would dare read this pornographic material in public, than the fact that it is available to our children in their public schools.

In 2022 ALA tracked 1,269 challenges to library, school and university materials and services. Of the 2,571 unique titles that were challenged or banned, #1 was "Gender Queer" and the next 12 were all similar to "Gender Queer" and "Lawn Boy", with explicit and graphic sexual content intended for minors. By the ALA's own data, parents and taxpaying community members are the majority of those objecting to public and school libraries exposing minor children to these obscene and pornographic books.

At the same time that Emily Drabinski is complaining about the "injustice" of banning explicit materials, she is advocating for banning library story hours on faith, family and patriotism. While activists like Drabinski have claimed they are victims of a nationwide conservative "book banning" campaign, the ALA has had no qualms in trying to prevent [book readings at its libraries by faith-based or conservative children's authors](#). Drabinski actually provides tips to librarians about how to thwart these story hours, advising that "You can limit access to meeting rooms to persons eligible to hold a library card in your community. You could make a priority for library-sponsored programs."



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While using the ALA’s \$250 million budget to restrict conservatives’ free speech, Drabinski is spending these resources to promote pornography in middle school libraries. Not only does she support books like “Gender Queer” in public libraries for children, but she also hosts conferences to brainstorm how to get more of those types of books in the hands of more children.

The ALA’s June 2023 conference included a session entitled “Beyond the Middle School Rainbow: Intersectionality in LGBTQIA+ Middle Grade Books.”



In July of this year the Montana State Library Commission voted to cut all ties with the American Library Association. The commission approved a letter sent to the ALA that states, “Our oath of office and resulting duty to the Constitution forbids association with an organization led by a Marxist.”

Montana may be the first state to quit the ALA but it was not the first association to jump ship. Last October, the Campbell County Public Library Board in Wyoming became the first district in America to officially cut ties with the ALA, and more have begun leaving. Which state will be next to leave the library association is anyone’s guess, but in July, Florida U.S. Senator Marco Rubio, along with fellow U.S. Senators Kevin Cramer and Mike Braun called for

federal funds to the American Library Association be halted and demanded the government investigate the organization for advising libraries to discriminate against Christian book publisher Brave Books, which publishes author Kirk Cameron’s children’s books. This got the attention of Citrus County, who is now the first library district in Florida to publicly vote to leave the ALA.

On Sept. 2, despite the growing number of withdrawals from the ALA, Drabinski doubled down on her position, claiming that American libraries should be places for socialist activism. At a conference panel titled, “Freedom To Learn: Black and Asian American Solidarity Against Attacks on Antiracist Education,” where she was publicly referred to as “comrade,” Drabinski stated, to “your point that public education needs to be a site of socialist organizing, I think libraries really do too. ... I think we need to be on the agenda for socialist organizing.”

Shockingly, more than 40 states currently have laws on the books that guarantee “educational obscenity exemptions” in public schools, meaning that superintendents, principals, teachers, and school librarians can provide and promote sexually explicit programs and materials for K-12 students without fear of facing prosecution.

If another adult or a sexual predator offered these same materials to students on the sidewalk next to the schools, they would be arrested, but somehow when these obscene books are presented within the school setting and labeled “educational”, they miraculously become harmless in the eyes of the law.

There is a grand irony in this debate. The left is trying to gaslight us into believing we are only imagining that pornography is in our public schools and libraries, and that only white supremacists and homophobes take issue with any book. Yet when proof is provided and others are alerted to the pornographic materials, as with Senator Kennedy’s public reading, the same activists suggest we are inappropriate and disturbing.

The American Library Association is clearly not the “nonpartisan, nonprofit organization” it describes itself to be. Tax dollars should not be funding partisan, socialist, and pornography-peddling associations, and, more importantly, children should not be subjected to graphically age-inappropriate sexual material of any kind.

Additional Resources:

Samantha Sullivan, The Union, [Drag Queen Story Time At The Madelyn Helling Library](#) (Video)

Take Back the Classroom, [Your School Library Is Proudly Displaying Obscenity](#)

Arjun Singh, The Daily Signal, [At Hearing, Senator Reads Pornographic Excerpts From LGBT Books Targeted at Kids](#)

