



Educating Our Community About
Critical Theory in Nevada County Schools

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We Need to Hear From YOU!

Our local schools are our own, to be guarded and protected by our community. We need engaged parents and brave students on the watchtower. If you have experiences from the local schools to share with the community of concerned citizens, we ask that you send them to:

protecting_american_ideals@reagan.com.

NEVADA COUNTY IS HOMESCHOOLING

Amy Young, Penn Valley

Parents are making the decision more and more to protect their kids from the public school system, a movement called “de-schooling”. While I homeschool my own kids, I have also had the opportunity to tutor many home-schooled students who went on to excel in college or professional careers.

Some parents left the public school system due to masking, while others have been out of it for a long time due to compulsory vaccination. Some parents wishing to protect their children’s innocence take issue with the nature of the discussion of sexuality at the elementary grade level. Other parents have a problem with the content of the curriculum in social sciences and the ever-changing acronyms used to obfuscate the ideology known as CRT. I homeschool due to all of the above, and I am not alone.

I was born and raised in this county and received an excellent education in its public school system. We learned about the sins of our country’s past with regards to slavery numerous times throughout the years, all the way through high school. Never once was I made to feel guilty for being white. I felt compassion for the victims of this crime and disbelief at the cruelty of the perpetrators. Looking back, I can see that I was processing this on a human level, my God-given conscience was enough to help me discern right from wrong. No racial identity nor guilt trip needed.

We also learned from our studies of Dr. Martin Luther King that we are to judge people not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character, a lesson I pass on to my children.

My kids are of mixed race. I often wonder, if they were exposed to CRT, would they be taught that their mom is bad, or worse, that they are half-bad? Conversely, would they be taught to espouse a victim mentality? Perhaps they would be left feeling that they don’t fit in at all. Any agenda instilling self-loathing or a victim mentality is unacceptable. As a devoted follower of Christ, I teach my kids that God loves ALL His children – the ultimate lesson in inclusion!

I am open to sending my kids to high school here when the time comes, but not under the current state of things. I urge local school boards to shun any curriculum that fosters self-loathing, segregation, or division among students. School boards must protect children from any curriculum that does not teach the values of Dr. King’s admonition to judge people by the content of their character and not by the color of their skin. Educators don’t need to reinvent the wheel! What worked once will work again. Kids need a strong academic preparation and mentoring to help them realize their unique potentials, coupled with a resilient mindset often known as “grit”.

I will raise my boys to be strong, good men. Believe me, I am not looking forward to homeschooling teenagers! Hopefully, things take a drastic change for the better at Nevada Union in time for their high school years.

Additional Resources:

Jordan Alexander: [Parents are 100 Percent Qualified to Homeschool Their Children](#)

Public School Exit: [A website resource for homeschooling](#)

Homeschool Legal Defense Association: [Making Homeschool Possible](#)

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) INDOCTRINATION

Address to the County Board of Education January 11, 2023

Judy Wood, Grass Valley, CA

My name is Judy Wood and 1 ½ years ago we formed a group called Protecting American Ideals (PAI). Our mission is to educate citizens about Critical Theory, the umbrella term that encompasses all ideologies that wage war on stability—critical race theory, critical feminist theory, critical gender theory. SEL is such an ideology.

In the monthly county education newsletter called “The Nugget” (October 2022, p.2 *) SEL is prominently displayed and obviously [practiced throughout our districts](#). So what is it?

Ten years ago SEL was a method used to help a troubled *individual* child with issues on character development—empathy, building relationships, managing emotions, etc.

Today it is a comprehensive system focusing on *all* children, attempting to mold their morals and values into the collectivist belief system and, in so doing, distance them from their parents, family and country.

The largest and most influential company supporting this doctrine is CASEL—Collaborative for SEL—as highlighted in the December 2022 Nugget, p.6. Founded in 1994, CASEL, in 2019, changed their focus to Transformative SEL –TSEL—and in their own literature announce that:

1. The purpose of TSEL is “to promote equity” (equal outcomes)
2. Further... “to promote justice oriented civic engagement and to dismantle and transform inequitable systems”.

In other words, the systems in the U.S. are oppressive and inequitable and children must be trained as Social Justice Warriors to dismantle them.

In the meantime, test scores in the County: 48% proficient in reading; 28% proficient in math. It’s quite obvious that TSEL cares nothing about academic excellence. We ask that you suspend all TSEL activities and trainings and, instead, teach children how to read, write and do math. And honor their parents and their country.

Additional Resources:

James Lindsey: [Social-Emotional Learning Explained](#) (12 minute video)

Jennifer McWilliams: [PRIMER: SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING–THE DELIVERY MECHANISM FOR CRITICAL RACE THEORY](#)

Alvin Lui: [How Schools Are Weaponizing 'Social Emotional Learning' to Indoctrinate Children](#) (9 minute video interview)

* From the Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Newsletter: “The Nugget” (October 2022, p.2):

Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice

On September 7, 49 members of the Social Emotional Learning Community of Practice represented 11 Nevada County district and charter teams at the launch of NCSOS’s “Designing for Equity and Inclusion” series with facilitator Nicole Tucker-Smith. The 2022-23 focus is to create environments “where all students feel valued and able to pursue learning options with agency.”

At September’s session,

team members collaborated around planning brave spaces with CARE:

- Cultivate the Environment
- Anchor with Protocols
- Relate with Scaffolds
- Exit Purposefully

As part of “cultivating the environment,” teams explored [tips for maintaining health and well-being](#) and reflected on learner variability; strategies that

work for one student (or adult) may not work for another. Providing time and space for exploration helps learners determine what strategies are most helpful and when.

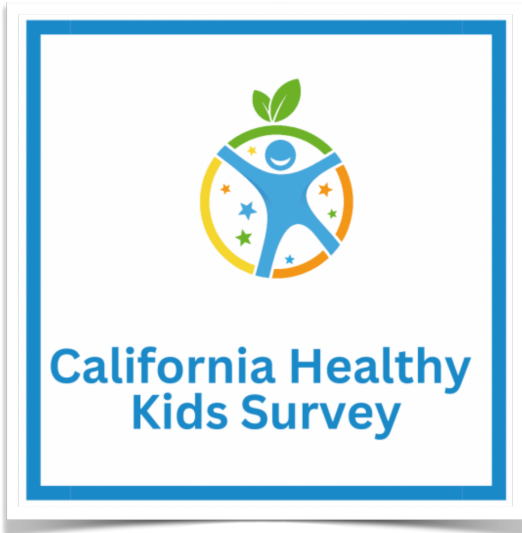
During the year, SEL teams will attend five sessions and will meet during action periods to further develop tools that support all students.



NEVADA COUNTY SCHOOLS “HEALTHY KIDS SURVEY”

Opt-Out or Opt-In?

Diana Garbin, Nevada City, CA



In all of Nevada County schools, children are filling out Healthy Kids Survey in grades 5, 7, 9 and 11, during valuable instructional time. Nevada Union High School even has a Parent version of the survey on their website. Although touted as voluntary, do parents actually think about opting their child out of such surveys? The Healthy Kids survey gathers information on school climate, safety and student engagement but what purpose does it serve to ask students to divulge personal and family information?

The California Healthy Kids Survey for the middle and high school students has 139 questions ranging from what is the highest educational level of your parents, your home atmosphere, your ethnicity, your alcohol and drug use, sexual encounters, your suicidal thoughts, your emotions, witness to bullying, your racial or religious biases and whether you think you are transgender, lesbian, gay, or bisexual. This survey comes from the CA Department of Education which takes direction from the Federal Department of Education.

Under the guise of the title, “Healthy Kids Survey” you might think surveys are used to gauge the health of students or to create school policies to promote healthy types of behavior, or improve academic success? Yet, personal questions

are asked throughout the survey. Everyone should question what is the purpose of the survey and who is in charge of the data collected, who will be able to view this data and what will the data be used for?

Surveys are used to gather information to provide programs that may be deemed necessary for students. Some surveys are used to get the general pulse of a group of people as to what is important to them as well as personal information about their lives. Surveys have been around a long time, but recently, our school children have been subjected to taking surveys in the classroom and you have to wonder why? What happened to getting parents’ permission to administer any survey to their students? If a field trip is planned, parents need to give their written permission for their child to participate. School personnel cannot administer even an aspirin to the child without written permission from the parent. Filling out surveys should be handled in the same manner. Schools should provide parents with a copy of the survey and let them decide if they want their child to participate via a written permission slip. Why should parents need to request an Opt-Out for their child if they haven’t even seen the survey? Any activity that takes away from instructional time should have parental consent. Parental objections, after the survey has been taken, seems ludicrous.

Students in a classroom are a captive audience and most will go along with taking a survey so as not to stand out and bring attention to themselves. Most young children wouldn’t even know they have the opportunity to opt out. They have been taught to do what the teacher requires of them. These survey questions also give the students cause to ponder the entire survey, thinking they may be the only one not participating in drug use, sexual acts or questioning their gender, mental health or witnessing violence. Some may not be truthful in their responses. The bottom line-- parents beware of surveys and demand that your child’s school require written consent for any survey to be administered.

There is a Federal Law passed in 1978 to protect students from overly intrusive and personal data collection. Parents may use this to demand schools follow parental consent:

Federal Law (PPRA Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment) *that provides certain rights for parents of students regarding among other things, student participation in surveys; the inspection of instructional material; certain physical exams; and the collection, disclosure, and use of personal information for marketing purposes.* If the school receives funding for an applicable program by the U.S. Dept. of Education, the parents must provide consent before the student is required to take the survey if the questions pertain to the eight protected areas.

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Diana Garbin: NEVADA COUNTY SCHOOLS “HEALTHY KIDS SURVEY”

The eight protected areas:

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of parents or student.
2. Psychological or mental problems of student or family.
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes.
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships.
6. Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers.
7. Religious practices, affiliation or beliefs of the student or student’s parents.
8. Income other than required by law to determine program eligibility or for receiving financial assistance under such program.

If a student survey is distributed that addresses one or more of the 8 protected areas, but students are not required to take the survey, then written consent of the parent is not required but parents must be notified about the survey in advance of distribution, and they could request a copy of the survey and opt-out their student of participating in survey. There should always be an opt-in for the survey to be given. What student would stand up in front of their class and refuse to take a survey? Not many, if any. Students tend to follow the majority and not call specific attention to themselves by opting out. Therefore, urge all parents to be aware of surveys! Better yet, convince the school boards to request parent permission slips before any surveys are distributed.

Additional Resources:

California Healthy Kids Survey: [In-School Core Survey Middle School Questionnaire 2021-22](#)

Parents Defending Education: [Opt-In vs. Opt-Out - Passive vs. Active Parental Consent](#)

Courage is a Habit: [Schools Will Data Mine Your Children](#)

Questions from the CALIFORNIA HEALTHY KIDS SURVEY: In-School Core Survey

Middle School Questionnaire—**Grades 5-8; Ages 10-13**—2021-2022 ~ 133 Questions

Question #4: Some people describe themselves as transgender when how they think or feel about their gender is different from the sex they were assigned at birth. Are you transgender?

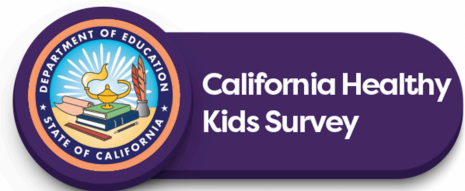
- A. No B. Yes C. I am not sure D. Decline to respond.

Question #5: Which of the following best describes you?

- A. Straight B. Lesbian or Gay C. Bisexual D. Something Else E. Not Sure
F. Decline To Respond

Question #10: What is the highest level of education your parents or guardians completed?

- A. Did not finish high school B. Graduated from high school C. Attended college... D. Graduated from college E. Don't know.



Questions #48-91 ask about alcohol, drugs, tobacco and vaping. One of the instructions counsels students (remember: ages 10-13) that drugs mean any substance “used to get ‘high’ (loaded, stoned or wasted) or for purposes other than prescribed by a doctor.” Sample questions:

Question #57: During your life how many times have you been very drunk or sick after drinking alcohol?

Question #65B: During your life how many times have you vaped marijuana or THC?

Question #92: In a normal week how many days are you home after school for at least one hour without an adult there?

Question #128: I would describe my satisfaction with my family life as:

- A. Very dissatisfied B. Dissatisfied C. A little dissatisfied D. Satisfied E. Very satisfied