



Educating Our Community About
Critical Theory in Nevada County Schools

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We want to hear from YOU!

Our community determines the quality of education our children receive.

Thomas Jefferson noted that the goal of education is "To develop the reasoning faculties of our youth, enlarge their minds, cultivate their morals, and instill in them the precepts of virtue and order.

Share your thoughts and experiences from the local schools with us. Send your email to our [PAI email](mailto:protecting_american_ideals@reagan.com).

Hutu Radio and the NJUHSD Training Day

By Salacious B. Crumb
Auburn, California

In November of 2023, 1,000 NJUHSD employees, teachers, and classified staff attended a mandatory Professional Development Day put on by the District at the Nevada Union (NU) High School Auditorium. According to one attendee (who wishes to remain anonymous), the day included a 2-hour training on *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*. The session started with a Land Acknowledgement. If you are unfamiliar with Land Acknowledgments, they are a new allegiance pledge that tells audiences they stand far too comfortably on stolen land. A key assumption being that the land was taken from those who held it for time immemorial, never sold it, and never acquired it by conquest of other peoples. As of the February 2024 Board of Trustees meeting, reciting the Land Acknowledgement at certain events during the school year is mandatory. It doesn't state who stole the land, or what should be done about it, but your mind invokes visual closure to fill in the blanks. Hint: it's the people of the same skin color at the center of discussion for the rest of today's session.

The training was provided by ANEW Collective Consulting. Their website states that they "...help individuals and organizations develop transformational racial equity strategies focused on identity, leadership, and building communities for justice". Justice, now we're talking, fellow Hutu peoples. You can read about ANEW's philosophy at their website: <https://www.anewcollectiveconsulting.com/>.

They are all about transformative change. Systemic Racism runs deep at NJUHSD, or so said the Superintendent's Anti-Racism and Inclusivity Task Force during the George Floyd riots of 2020.

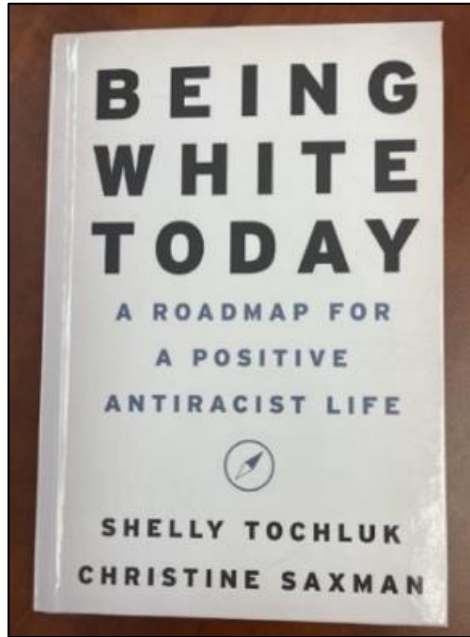


But it's not systemic racism, it's the new faith on fire in the American University - Wokeism. Your recently credentialed local high school teacher carries it with them like white Dandelion seeds wafting into your local School District, ready to plant and grow future adherents.

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At the back of the auditorium for sale were copies of Shelly Tochluk's book, "*Being White Today*". Tochluk's website explains its thesis: "*This book offers clarity while arguing that White people can feel good about themselves and be antiracist at the same time. For people who care about living in an inclusive,*



multiracial democracy, this book provides a roadmap to navigate the various positions White people negotiate on the way toward becoming positive, healthy, antiracist people. It is also a guide for those who want to help more White people act effectively in service of racial justice".

Unhealthy Whites. Ugh, nothing worse. You thought you grew up in a multiracial democracy where you and the other races strove to be colorblind and proclaim the things that unite us rather than what divides us. But, until board room executives and penitentiary inmates match US population percentages by race, Wokeness tells us racism endures. It doesn't hurt that smug proclamations of righteous social awareness heaps cheap virtue upon those that espouse it.

"We'll get back to that colorblind meritocracy thing someday when things even out", they say as if they ever think about where the path might lead. For now, express your anti-racist bonafides or accept the racist moniker we will apply. It's easy, we offer you an out, just pledge your allyship.

A discussion of Social Justice amongst around 1,000 of your peers and workmates at a time when job security is the thin red line between a spiraling economy and family financial solvency is risky business. Can a NJUHSD employee afford to say: "*I*

reject your faith, and I will not pay homage to your DEI gods"?

I imagine that more than one attendee looked around nervously and wondered if their silence would be perceived as violence. Who wants to be the one with no hand in the air as *Der Fuhrer* passes by?

In 1990's Rwanda, radio broadcasts made by natives of Hutu descent played an important role in teaching young and easily influenced Hutu peoples to scapegoat Tutsis, and their moderate Hutu neighbors (read: "insufficiently anti-racist"). These groups had previously co-existed with little conflict, but the nightly radio broadcasts became immensely popular, identifying the sins of Tutsi ancestors as the seeds of Hutu struggle. The Hutu public was invited to phone into the broadcasts and participate in the "othering" of the Tutsis. Ultimately, 800,000 Tutsis succumbed to the resulting genocide. Mostly by machete.

Training where a particular racial group is singled out as a problem to be corrected, as undoubtedly occurred following the *Being White Today* script, is wrong. Its message broadcast to an auditorium of captive District employees in the name of professional training crackles like Hutu Radio calling for the righteous correction of past offense: *They deposed your kings, colonized your lands, enslaved your people. Soon, fellow Hutus, the time will come for you to throw off your enslavers. Sharpen your machetes, all ye oppressed.*



Reference Information:

- https://americanmind.org/salvo/expropriation-the-end-game-of-anti-whiteness/?_hsmi=301357854
- <https://newdiscourses.com/2023/12/is-crt-anti-white/> (20 minute audio)

Is Woke Kindergarten Coming to Nevada County?

By Terry McLaughlin
Grass Valley, California

A federally funded program intended to help the country's lowest-performing schools boost student achievement enabled Glassbrook Elementary School in Hayward, California to spend \$250,000 of taxpayer money for teacher training sessions run by "Woke Kindergarten". The for-profit organization, founded by Akiea "Ki" Gross, who is a self-proclaimed "global, abolitionist early childhood ecosystem . . . supporting children, families, educators and organizations in their commitment to abolitionist early education and pro-black and queer and trans liberation." The stated goal of the teacher training program is to help students "resist, heal, liberate, and create", and to teach them that the education system is steeped in racism and oppression and cannot be reformed.

Woke Kindergarten's social media pages are not subtle about its beliefs, as evidenced by a TikTok video posted by the founder in which the philosophy of the program is clear. While claiming that the US and Israel are "demons" and "villains", Gross states "I am anti-Israel...I believe Israel has no right to exist. I believe the United States has no right to exist. I believe every settler colony who has committed genocide against native peoples, against indigenous people has no right to exist."



This ideology was no secret to Glassbrook Elementary School when they opted to spend a quarter of a million dollars on the program. Michael Bazeley, spokesperson for the Hayward Unified School District, explained that abolitionist teaching, which is central to Woke Kindergarten, acknowledges "institutional racism and bias exists in the education system, and it seeks to actively dismantle the institutional

and cultural barriers" by training teachers to confront white supremacy and disrupt racism and oppression. Apparently, the district believed this was the answer to low test scores and high absenteeism.

The program offers a "woke word of the day", described as the "language of resistance" used to "introduce children to liberatory vocabulary in a way that they can easily digest, understand and most importantly, use in their critiques of the system."

An example of "woke words of the day" is "ceasefire", which Gross defined as "an order for people with power in places to stop fighting and using weapons to hurt large groups of people. When people use weapons to hurt others, we call that 'violence.' One place that people are demanding a permanent ceasefire for is in Palestine because they are being occupied, or controlled, by a made-up place called Israel that has settlers called Zionists who are harming and killing the Palestinian people who have always lived on the land." Not only is this ideology radically anti-Semitic, but neither does it reflect accurate historical content or context.

The program offers workshops on concepts such as "ways the prison industrial complex manifests in early childhood", and advises teachers to pose "wonderings" to their students, including "wonderings" such as: "If we challenge the legitimacy of the Supreme Court, how might we transfer power back to the people?" "If the United States defunded the Israeli military, how could this money be used to rebuild Palestine?"

Many videos are included in the curriculum, including "Free Palestine: A Visual History Instazine: For Kids", and "So You Made It to A Protest: A Sensory Guide For Kids." Along with these videos are book-readings of titles such as "Mr. Tiger Goes Wild". In this video children are taught about "dismantling respectability politics", and instructed that respectability means arbitrary laws and rules designed by White people to control people of color. Children are encouraged not to conform to rules, even those as benign as "tucking in your shirt". Poor grammatical expressions such as "I ain't wearing no shoes" are scattered throughout this "teaching" video.

Two years into the three-year contract with Woke Kindergarten, the Hayward Unified School District prematurely terminated the program after finding that student achievement at Glassbrook Elementary had fallen. While students were being taught to disrespect laws and rules, their actual academic test scores declined to less than 4% of students proficient in math and less than 12% proficient in English.

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Michael Bazeley claimed that the contract had been scrapped because of “widespread media attention, the mischaracterization of the Woke Kindergarten work, social media posts by the vendor and the public response”.

But the reality is that even some of the teachers were questioning whether the money was well spent, given the needs of the predominantly low-income students, 80% of whom are Hispanic or Latino and two-thirds are English language learners.

Records from OpenTheBooks.com revealed that in 2022, when Woke Kindergarten was hired, the Hayward Unified School District spent almost \$136 million on payroll, with 60% of district employees earning six-figure salaries. The Superintendent was paid \$295,000 that year, \$80,000 more than California’s governor.

Despite the decline in achievement, district officials still defend their decision to implement this quarter of a million-dollar program, saying that they have seen improvement in their attendance and suspension rates. They claimed that they were no longer on the state “watch list”, but the San Francisco Chronicle, in reporting on this story, discovered that Glassbrook Elementary School was not only still on the watch list but had even dropped to a lower rating level.



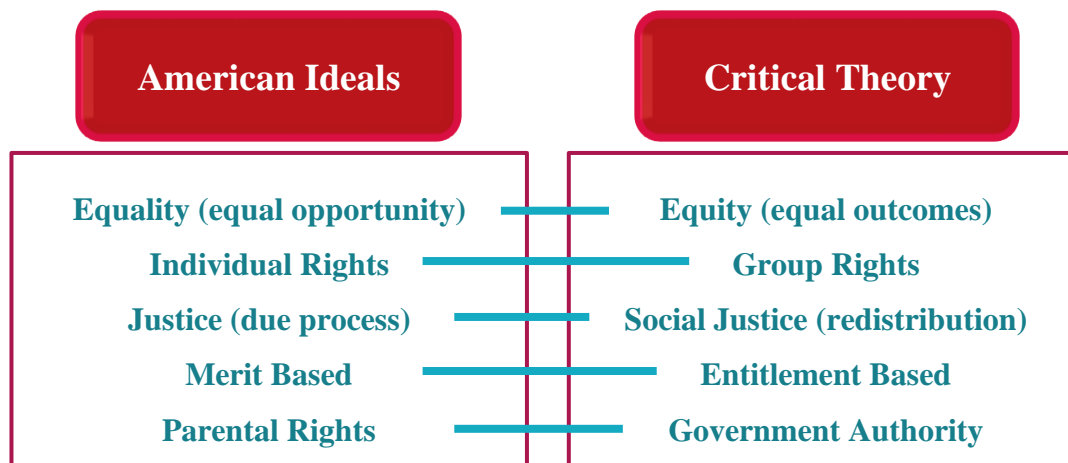
The decision to bring in Woke Kindergarten, rather than a literacy or math improvement program was advocated by some educators who believe they “need to confront legacies of racism and bias in schools, and to talk about historic white supremacy, so that students feel safe and supported”. But perhaps \$250,000 would be better used to teach first graders to read and write, add, and subtract, instead of tackling global politics. Perhaps struggling schools could better serve their students by utilizing research-based literacy and math intervention programs that can provide all students the basic skills to succeed. John Muir Elementary School in San Francisco, for example, adopted a pilot math intervention program using coaching and student-led coursework that led to a more than 50% proficiency rate, up from 15%.

The California Department of Education is required by law to monitor the performance of schools utilizing federal funds. In the case of the Hayward Unified School District, this would mean that the Department of Education either approved the \$250,000 Woke Kindergarten contract, with ample evidence of its anti-Semitic and anti-American content, or they were negligent in following proper oversight procedures.

“Woke Kindergarten” is just the latest example of school districts adopting radical teaching agendas that take time away from developing basic skills in reading, writing, and math. Let’s hope that this program does not make its way into Nevada County’s Kindergarten classrooms.

Reference Information:

- <https://intellectualltakeout.org/2022/08/how-to-protect-your-children-from-the-woke-ripping-through-schools/>
- <https://newdiscourses.com/2022/11/the-theft-of-education/> (20 minute audio)



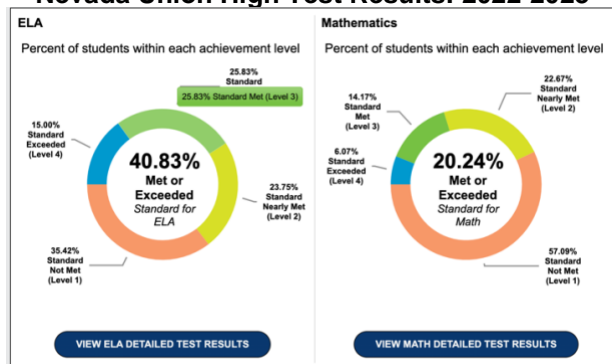
Any Learning Loss Recovery at Local High Schools?

By Jo Ann Rebane
Nevada City, California

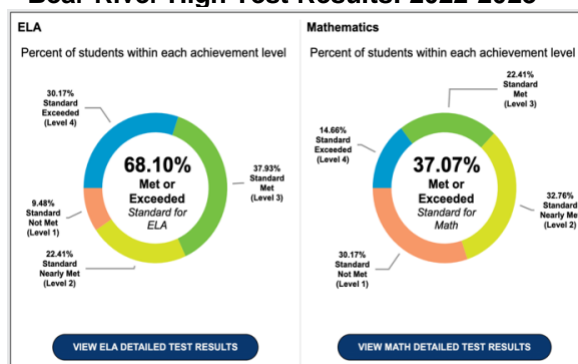
An article in [Protecting American Ideals](#) in June of 2023 detailed substantial decreases in 11th grade English Language Arts/Literature and Mathematics test scores (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress – CAASPP) for the 2021-22 year compared to 2018-19, pre-pandemic scores at Nevada Union and Bear River high schools.

I was hopeful that the 2022-23 scores would show improvement over the pre-pandemic scores. Unfortunately, and tragically, for the young people graduating from Nevada Union High School, achievement levels in both English and Math have declined yet again. Only 41% met or exceeded the English Language standard (down from 48% in 2021-22 and drastically down from 73% in 2018-19). Math achievement scores at Nevada Union, while lousy (40% of the students met the standard in 2018-19) scores plummeted to 28% in 2021-22. Worse still, only 1 in 5 eleventh graders (20%) were able to meet or exceed the math standard for the current period – 2022-23.

Nevada Union High Test Results: 2022-2023



Bear River High Test Results: 2022-2023



Achievement scores from Bear River offer a glimmer of hope and are the brighter spot in Nevada County. For 2022-23 68% of eleventh graders met or exceeded the English Language Achievement standard, up from 42% in 2021-22, but not yet bettering the 82% of students in 2018-19 who met the standard. Bear River High students test higher in math than those at Nevada Union although not by much. 37% of 2022-23 math scores met or exceeded the standard, up from 28% in 2021-22 but not reaching the middling 53% score in 2018-19.

This is very bad news. One wonders if our teenagers aren't learning to read, write and do arithmetic at grade level, what are they being taught? Does anyone care that our young people are ill-equipped to enter the workforce. Seems like local high schools these days prepare graduates to stand in the welfare line and to vote for those promoting more generous benefits. Does anyone care?

Reference Information (Click on text to visit the links):

- [Nevada Union Test Results at a glance](#)
- [Bear River Test Results at a glance](#)

“The simple step of a courageous individual is not to take part in the lie. One word of truth outweighs the world.”

Aleksandr I. Solzhenitsyn