

# REASONS TO EXIT

## Illinois Government Schools

"The education fight – between those who want to provide solid schooling in the three R's and other subjects and those who want to change kids' core beliefs – is culminating. If the overwhelming majority of children in the coming generations are sufficiently indoctrinated, every struggle between freedom and tyranny will eventually be lost. **Every. Single. One.**"

– Alex Newman, educator, author, speaker, and executive director of Public School Exit



**DUMBING DOWN:** Illinoisreportcard.com reports that only 32% of students met or exceeded grade level proficiency standards in math for the 2019 school year after completing the Scholarship Aptitude Test (SAT). Only 38% of students met or exceeded grade level proficiency in English Language Arts. The Illinois Science Assessment test shows 49% of students are at grade proficiency in science.

Illinois Report Card states: "These skills are necessary in order for students to be successful in the real world." With these low proficiency scores, the future appears grim for more than half of the children enrolled in Illinois government schools. To make matters worse, revised national standards have already been lowered to make it easier for students to achieve grade level proficiency. (See *Common Core*.)

Rather than focus time and resources on helping students master the basics, social justice warriors in Springfield, the Illinois State Board of Education, and in government schools are spending increasing amounts of time and resources indoctrinating students with leftist dogma on race, homosexuality, and "trans"-cultism.

**COMMON CORE:** Common Core is in all government schools in Illinois. Common Core is a set of internationally aligned national education standards imposed on America by the Obama administration. They are so bad that the only two subject-matter *experts* on the Common Core Validation Committee refused to sign off. The math expert, Dr. James Milgram, said the math standards were confusing, and in some cases, based on incorrect math. The English Language Arts expert, Dr. Sandra Stotsky, warned that great literature was being removed and that children's ability to develop critical thinking skills would be reduced.

**INDOCTRINATION:** In February 2021, Illinois lawmakers approved new teaching standards to infuse Marxist ideology about Critical Race Theory, identity politics, white privilege, Black Lives Matter, homosexuality and gender confusion, and anti-Christian extremism into all teaching programs, all professional licensing, and indirectly into all government school classrooms. The "Culturally Responsive Teaching and Leading Standards" seek to ingrain school children in Illinois with leftist ideas about "systems of oppression, sex and gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, racism, sexism, homophobia, unearned privilege," and "Eurocentrism."

Since the Fall of 2019, Chicago Public Schools ramped up the indoctrination of children through the 1619 Project. The 1619 Project teaches that the true history of America began not with the Pilgrims in 1620, but with the arrival of slaves the year before. The 1619 Project re-writes history by painting America as a nation built on the backs of slaves, instead of one of the first to abolish slavery.

In March 2021, Governor J.B. Pritzker signed a law that will create a network of Chicago Freedom Schools (CFS). Until now, there was one CFS in operation. Its executive director is left-wing activist Tony Alverado-Rivera, who wants to defund police, abolish ICE, and remove Chicago Police presence from dangerous drug and gang-infested Chicago Public Schools.

The mission of CFS is to bring BLM/Critical Race Theory study and tactics into government schools. They are doing this by concentrating on "issues of systemic oppression, racism, heterosexism, food justice, the school to prison pipelines, sexism, and more."

On February 28, 2021, Naperville School District 203 paid Dena Nicole, a diversity consultant and founder of LiberatED, \$10,500 dollars for a 60-minute Zoom keynote address at its 2021 Equity Institute. That's \$175 per minute the district paid to convince district staff and faculty that "our education is based on a foundation of whiteness" and because of this, Americans were "spiritually murdering" students, and that if they weren't anti-racist, they were racist.

**SEXUALIZATION:** Illinois lawmakers passed a Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) law in 2013, that required any school that offers sex ed to use comprehensive sex ed curricula *only*. However, it left schools free not to offer any sex ed. Now, through a series of bills, lawmakers are determined to rob local school districts of that freedom by making sex ed mandatory starting in pre-kindergarten.

Through CSE classes, children will be provided with information on condoms, abortion, homosexuality, cross-sex impersonation, how to please their sex partners, masturbation, sexting and much more. Many sex ed curricula contain pornographic images and descriptions. CSE rejects God's design for sex within the boundaries of marriage, destroys natural modesty, and increases sexual experimentation.

While lawmakers repeatedly claim that information provided to students will be "age-appropriate," they never identify the criteria used to determine age-appropriateness or who created the criteria.

**LGBTQ NORMALIZATION:** In July 2020, Illinois mandated that all government schools teach the "roles and contributions" of homosexuals and cross-sex identifiers. The effect—and surely the goal—of this mandate is to cultivate positive feelings in students about homosexuality and cross-sex identification by associating accomplishments with disordered sexuality. There is no opt out for parents who oppose such instruction and to graduate 8th grade, students must demonstrate proficiency in LGBTQ history.

For years, government schools have been normalizing LGBTQ ideology. The normalization of LGBTQ often begins in early grades through colorful picture books such as *King & King*, *King & King & Family*, *Heather Has Two Mommies*, and *It's Perfectly Normal*.

Now with Illinois' newly revised teaching standards, Illinois government school classrooms will be flooded with LGBTQ indoctrination.



**CO-ED SCHOOL BATHROOMS, LOCKER ROOMS AND SHOWERS:** On his first day in office, President Biden reversed President Trump's order that banned schools from sexually integrating bathrooms, locker rooms and showers to accommodate children who identify as the sex they are not. Many schools are in the process of changing their policies to allow students who identify as the sex they are not to have full access to opposite sex bathrooms, locker rooms and showers and several have already established co-ed facilities: Palatine District 211 (2019), Deerfield High School (2016), and all Chicago Public Schools (2016).

**INFRINGMENT ON PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES:** Many schools are usurping parental responsibilities by providing explicit information on sexual activity which often leads to sexual experimentation, unplanned pregnancy, and abortion. Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion provider, is behind requiring all children to be subjected to explicit sex ed curricula in the classroom. Planned Parenthood is also pushing to repeal the Parental Notice of Abortion Act which removes a parent from being made aware that their minor daughter is seeking an abortion.

Countless schools are allowing "trans"-identifying students to use new names, incorrect pronouns, and opposite-sex private spaces. Such practices undermine parental authority and teach the opposite of Scripture and God's design for humankind.

Government schools are teaching children that sex has no boundaries, life has no value, and physical embodiment as male or female has no intrinsic meaning.

**TEACHING FAUX-SCIENCE:** Since the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the teaching of Creation was unconstitutional in *Edwards v. Aguillard*, all government schools have only taught evolution. In addition to teaching a belief in a godless creation, these schools are teaching as fact the near-future destruction of the earth through man-made climate change.

**RADICAL EDUCATION UNIONS:** The National Education Association (NEA), Illinois Education Association, and other teacher unions have an iron grip on the teaching profession in Illinois. These groups bully teachers and parents and fund extremist politicians, groups, and causes that undermine good education. They lower student expectations, reward failure, and radicalize schools.



Picture from the current Chicago Freedom School web site.

Just recently, the NEA formed a partnership with the pro-homosexual, pro- “trans” Human Rights Campaign, which is currently leading the war to destroy religious liberty in America. The partnership calls on teachers to embrace cross-sex impersonation and to instruct students that families can consist of two mommies or two daddies. In addition, the partnership advises teachers to ask students what pronouns they prefer.

**AN EPIDEMIC:** There is an epidemic of violence, depression, suicide, self-harm, promiscuity, gang activity, and drug use in government schools. Children are dying at alarming rates. Some of the leading contributors to this tragedy are the false and dangerous teachings that saturate government schools. By promoting an anti-Christian worldview these schools are leaving children with a bleak and hopeless future or turning them into anti-American agitators.

**CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS RAMPANT STUDENT SEX ABUSE SCANDAL:** In 2019, an investigative series by the *Chicago Tribune* uncovered 523 reports of sexual abuse of CPS students from 2008 to 2017. That is approximately one report per week. How many incidents were never reported? We will never know. Former mayor Rahm Emanuel and CPS officials fought the release of records requested through a Freedom of Information Act request for months and only relented under threat of a lawsuit.

**DATA MINING & PROFILING:** Schools are compiling data and creating detailed profiles on every student. These intrusive dossiers include information on children’s mental health, attitudes, psychological make up, bio-metric data, academic performance, home life, and much more. The data is also used to help manipulate children’s views.

**WHAT’S AHEAD?** The federal “Equality Act” will amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964. It will force schools to allow transgenders to play on school sports teams that coincide with their “chosen” gender, among other damaging policies.

- The Illinois “Responsible Education for Adolescents and Children’s Health (REACH) Act will mandate explicit comprehensive sex ed curricula to students starting in Pre-K. The legislation is backed by Planned Parenthood and LGBT groups.
- Illinois lawmakers are proposing expansive changes to what explicit comprehensive sex-ed programs shall include.
- Illinois lawmakers introduced legislation to create all-gender multiple-occupancy bathrooms.

## WHAT ARE WE DOING TO OUR CHILDREN

Is it any wonder that a growing number of young people hate America, hate themselves, and have lost hope?

Why place your child or your children in the care of people whose values are in stark contrast to yours? There are better Christ-centered options that prepare children for life and service to God.

**“...whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin,  
it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.”**

MATTHEW 18 : 6



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