

**ALLIANCE TO RECLAIM OUR
SCHOOLS
JANUARY 19, 2017
NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION**

The National Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools (AROS) is hosting a National Day of ACTION to defend our schools from the Trump/DeVos agenda and stand up for the fully funded public schools that all our students deserve! Join us in cities and towns around the country on January 19th.

Why Take ACTION?

We stand for fully funded public schools that provide a quality education to *every* child. We will not cooperate with Donald Trump's stated plans to divert billions of public dollars to vouchers and charter schools. We will not cooperate with his hateful rhetoric and bullying of immigrant children, LGBT students, Muslims and others. We oppose the confirmation of billionaire Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education. We demand safe and nurturing schools where children can learn without being frightened or harassed. We will work for policies and practices that *strengthen* our public schools, not dismantle them.

We are encouraging strong, non-violent and spirited events that focus on the challenges that we are facing in public education today. Events will take place at local sites around the country. This is a day of local resistance to the dismantling of public education!

What Types of Events Are Being Planned?

All events should be planned locally. We are asking people to organize demonstrations or actions that bring together students, parents, teachers and community members to show a united front against privatization and any actions other policies that have been harming our students and schools for two decades: school closings, the war on teachers, budget cuts in our schools, the over-use of standardized testing. You could focus on concerns that directly impact young people of color: Trump's threat of deportation of undocumented immigrants, the School-to-Prison pipeline, and more. The event that you organize or participate in on January 19th should reflect the education justice issues most prevalent in your community. You decide!

- A rally at a school, or district offices calling for more investment in public education.
- Actions targeting billionaires or corporations that receive tax breaks from the city and deny public schools the revenues they need to be successful.

- A group meeting with your U.S. Senator to demand that he/she vote NO on the nomination of billionaire Betsy DeVos for Secretary of Education.
- “Walk-ins” at local schools around the city in the morning in support of public education.
- Visits to / rallies at the offices of state legislators or members of Congress to demand full investment in public education and ask them to vote NO on vouchers and charter expansion.

As is always the case at AROS, we encourage all actions to include parents and community members, teachers and school staff, and students! We are building a national movement of parents, students and educators to fight for public education! Please keep your protests non-violent.

For More Information:

Please go to the AROS website at www.reclaimourschools.org to register to hold an action. We are hoping for actions to be held in more than 500 cities nationwide! We want to know where you are, and what you’re planning!



If you are with an organization and willing to take the lead in planning one or more events in your city, please use the designated form to let us know who you’re working with. If you are an individual, interested in planning or participating in an event, please register via the “individual” registration form. **Everyone who registers will receive a series of planning emails between now and January 19th with updates on where actions are taking place, what folks are doing, and some materials to help you make your event a success.** Please watch the website for further information!

What is AROS?

The **Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools (AROS)** is an unprecedented alliance of parent, youth, community and labor organizations that together represent over 7 million people nationwide. We are fighting to reclaim the promise of public education as our nation's gateway to a strong democracy and racial and economic justice.

AROS believes that the best way to ensure each and every child has the opportunity to pursue a rich and productive life is through a system of publicly funded, equitable and democratically controlled public schools. After years of division, AROS is uniting parents, youth, teachers and unions to drive the transformation of public education, shift the public debate and build a national movement for equity and opportunity for all.

AROS is best-known for our nationally coordinated “walk-ins.” AROS has hosted three walk-ins, in February, May and October of 2016. Each one was bigger than the previous. In October, walk-ins took place at over 2,000 schools, in 238 cities across the country.

AROS national partner organizations include: Alliance for Education Justice (AEJ); American Federation of Teachers (AFT); Annenberg Institute for School Reform (AISR); Center for Popular Democracy (CPD); Gamaliel; Journey for Justice Alliance (JJJ); National Education Association (NEA); Schott Foundation for Public Education; Service Employees International Union (SEIU).