



What are the National Days of Teaching Truth?

Uniting to Save Our Schools is working in solidarity with other progressive groups to organize the **National Days of Teaching Truth** as collective resistance to:

- Censoring and banning of books that reflect diverse perspectives of life in the US
- Banning the truth about US history including racism, sexism, economic oppression
- Silencing of teachers' and students' voices, identities and lived experiences
- Encouraging educators and students to betray educators who dare to teach truth
- Tip lines for parents and community members to report educators that teach truth
- Instituting legislation and policies that mandate what can and cannot be taught in classrooms
- 'Don't say gay' and educational gag orders that silence LGBTQI+ students
- And the many other attacks on public education in a democratic society

As educators and supporters of public education, we are charged with honoring the dignity and acknowledging the identities and experiences of every student, by teaching the truth.

We are therefore joining with many other groups that include educators, students, and communities to promote and participate in the **National Days of Teaching Truth, May 1-31, 2022**. The week may consist of teaching—not just in schools—but also at school board meetings, public meetings and forums, libraries, in our homes with community members, at community centers, on-line and on social media. Activities under the banner of the National Days of Teaching Truth can include:

- Artistic, musical, poetic, dance performances or other ways of voicing dissent and celebrating truth.
- Reading, reciting, or discussing banned books (perhaps include authors of these books and/or experts about them)
- Teaching or developing lessons on race and racism, academic freedom and censorship, gender and sexuality and what it means to be educated in a country that claims to be free.
- Posting lesson plans or blogging about lessons on censored books and topics/lessons targeted by education gag orders.

- Organizing resistance to censorship, oppression, and exclusion through student and/or educator actions such as walkouts, nonviolent civil disobedience, direct actions, and demonstrations
- Celebrations of the rich diversities and identities that compose our communities
- Presentations by invited experts about specific issues regarding systemic racism and bigotry.
- Curriculum experts sharing strategies and ideas for creating inclusive environments in schools and classrooms
- Performances by musician/artist activists, such as spoken word poets
- Sharing of personal stories on how peoples' identities have been excluded or oppressed in society
- Celebrations of students' accomplishments that include: science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics that highlight diversities
- The honoring of activist elders in our communities
- Multimedia projects celebrating and teaching about specific cultural and historical figures
- Sessions with legal experts on knowing educators' rights and responsibilities to teach truth
- Collating important and useful resources
- And many more!

See our expanded list of suggested actions, along with other resources on our website:
<https://www.unitingtosaveourschools.org/ndtttoolkit>

You can find our [flyer](#) announcing the National Days of Teaching Truth which you can send out to members and supporters of your organization, community members, educators and all interested parties.

We look forward to working with you!

Teach Truth-Live Justice