5th December, 2020

RE: Elevating the Voices of Teachers During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Dear Fellow Educators,

Educators across the world, and specifically the U.S., are still being asked to gather in-person for standardized testing, whether or not our classrooms have been completely virtual since the pandemic. Schools are closing because the numbers keep climbing and yet Educators and students are being forced to come together in person for testing only. We are asking that Standardized testing be canceled for the 2020-2021 school year. It is time for us to use our collective power to make a difference. On December 15, 2020 Teachers for Good Trouble is asking that all teachers participate in a national “sick out.”

According to the World Socialist Web Site, there have been at least 47,376 global coronavirus cases reported in K-12 schools so far this year, and at least 37 educators have died since August 1, 2020. The concern throughout the globe is the government’s inability to implement and uphold the necessary measures to protect our lives, and the lives of our students and their families. This lack of protection has led to countless and entirely preventable deaths throughout the school system.

We are a group of fellow educators focused on building safe, nurturing, and justice driven school communities by reforming the current American education structure. It is time to use our collective power to have our needs met. We have a three-tiered approach in our demand for our school communities. First and foremost, we seek immediate reformation of the current state assessment process, including no standardized testing during the pandemic. The USDOE MUST approve each and every state’s testing waiver application. Secondly, we demand that physical, mental, and emotional health of our school communities be the driving force behind all system-wide policy decisions. And, finally, we demand full transparency and inclusion regarding all fiscal, academic, and health related policy developments.

Ways to Support the Movement:

* Click [HERE](http://chng.it/ZdMftrSFpZ) to sign and share our petition to end standardized testing during the pandemic.
* Join the Teachers for Good Trouble group on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/teachersforgoodtrouble/), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/teachersforgoodtrouble/), or [GroupMe](https://web.groupme.com/join_group/64145844/mO25xn7k).
* Donate through [PayPal](https://www.paypal.com/donate?token=-05VJGxtC2DjOdQ-7Jcvl0a9qZbsfzjHF3xsT7WO8-rEchNIqiyKMSpAWGKma_1WwiYnuKwdIRykVmdZ), CashApp $TFGTORG, or purchase “Teachers for Good Trouble” [merchandise](http://www.teachersforgoodtrouble.org/merch) to help support teachers who are speaking out and putting their livelihood in jeopardy.
* Visit our website for more information [www.teachersforgoodtrouble.org](http://www.teachersforgoodtrouble.org)

Yours Sincerely,

Teachers for Good Trouble