P.E.A.C.E. News for January 2022
Peace Educators Allied for Children Everywhere, Inc.
(P.E.A.C.E., Inc.)

Please contribute to our future as we support the peaceful world we and children need to thrive.

Action Alerts

Please Get Vaccinated ASAP!

It’s good for your health, it’s good for the health of the children in your care, and it’s good for their families too. The more eligible people we can get vaccinated and boosted, the easier it will be for life to return to normal for all of us. Kids from the ages of 5 to 11 are now eligible for vaccinations.

Picture courtesy of covidfactsnow.com
Senate Delays Action on Vital Child Care Bill: 
**Contact your Senators Now!**

Congress is still working on the Build Back Better Bill, with its program improvements and funding to restore and improve the broken national child care system. While your Senators are home for the holiday recess, and also once they get back to D.C. to resume their work, please do get in touch with them to tell them why you need this important Bill passed, and why the children and families need it to get America back to work, with a better future for the next generations.

You can call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 to be forwarded to your Senator’s office to talk with a staffer, or you can Google the Senator’s name and write a message on the appropriate website or email address. Or you can call up the in-State office for the Senator, and maybe even talk directly with the Senator.

For more details about where Congress stands now on this legislation, see the [First Five Years Fund statement](#) and [NAEYC’s statement](#).

### How P.E.A.C.E. Gets Stuff Done: 
**You Can Make a Difference!**

Our organization started in 1979 as CEASE, Concerned Educators Allied for a Safe Environment. The people who got together and did its work were known as our Worker Bees. As we grew, CEASE became P.E.A.C.E. We felt we needed a more formal-sounding name for our Worker Bees, so they became our Council.

Then came COVID-19, as well as an aging leadership. The Executive Committee, the Newsletter Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Peace Project Committee meet monthly by zoom, but the Council has been called on irregularly to approve our most formal decisions.

Now we need to pass the work of P.E.A.C.E. on to a new generation of leaders, including some of you who are reading this. If you’re at all interested in getting more involved with our vital work, please [send a message about it to us](#).

We’re also planning in the coming year to have regular quarterly Zoom meetings for our Council. Would you like to join the Council or a Committee? The experience would be a good way to find out about how we work together and get more involved in doing so. We hope to see you online soon!
Help Us Recover from Abuses in Native American Boarding Schools

In the past year, graves of Indigenous children have been discovered at the grounds of several former boarding schools in Canada. In one school in Kamloops, British Columbia, 215 children’s graves were found in an apple orchard on the grounds. Tribes in both Canada and the United States have been writing and researching this issue for many years and the atrocities have been ignored and hidden. They are now being exposed.

Contact the Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition.

Support this legislation on Native American boarding schools.
****Book Reviews****

**Stringing Rosaries: The History, the Unforgivable, and the Healing of Northern Plains American Indian Boarding School Survivors**

By Denise K. Lajimodiere


*Stringing Rosaries* by Denise K. Lajimodiere, completed in 2019, is an excellent background history of Native American boarding schools and oral histories of 16 survivors from the Northern Plains in the U.S.

Let us be clear about these schools. The original intention was a deliberate strategy of disturbing the lives of the American Indian, the erasure of their cultures, and their assimilation into mainstream American life. Children were many times taken from their homes, families and tribes with or without consent taken hundreds of miles away and not allowed to return to their reservations for years. They weren't allowed to speak their language. Their hair was cut short. They were forced into inappropriate labor. These were children sometimes as young as 4 and as old as teenagers. Some were physically and sexually abused. The Catholic Church owned and operated many of the schools but most Protestant churches did as well. Some in the U.S. were run in military fashion by the federal government.

Lajimodiere, an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Tribe of the Chippewa, chose a variety of survivors, some who benefitted by their experience and most that didn’t. Most Indigenous people in Canada and the U.S. have been affected by the boarding school experience whether they or a relative went to the school or not. Many survivors were affected by a lifetime of trauma. Every early childhood educator should learn the legacies of these schools. This book is an excellent place to start - by listening to the voices of the survivors and their families. There are many accounts on YouTube and books about this period. Take some time to learn about this. It affects all children even into our present time. It should never happen again and we need to demand justice for survivors, families and tribes.

Submitted by Craig Simpson
**Winter Lullaby**
Written by Dianne White
Illustrated by Ramona Kaulitzki
Candlewick Press, 2021
Ages 3-7.

We join a young cub and his mama as they travel through the forest to their den for a very long sleep. Geese are honking, a chilled wind is blowing, while the sky is turning gray. We know winter is on its way, yet a mouse is scurrying by, and chipmunk is still gathering nuts beside the lake. We spy hare and skunk running through the leaves! Why can’t a small bear stay up, too? With each question, Mama responds with patient answers, and creates a cozy picture of the beautiful weather and wonderful adventures that will greet them after their long sleep.

Hibernation becomes an invitation to drowsy little ones everywhere. “In just a while, deep underground, Skunk will slumber safe and sound.” Fascinating images depict where each animal hibernates. The story is ideal for teaching seasonal changes as well as the need for reassuring transitions. This tender story with lively, expressive illustrations done in a gentle, swirling design, shifts the transition from autumn’s landscape to an early winter’s silver wonderland. I like that the text style changes for each bear. It is plain to see when the cub is expressing himself and when mama is comforting her cub, who is not quite ready for sleep. She promises that when spring comes and the world is green again, they will wake and play. Until then, mama and cub snuggle in tight and let the security and serenity of their den soothe them. For months, the time of light is shorter and nights are longer. It is nature asking the world to pause and replenish and gather strength for the new year and spring.

Submitted by Karen Kosko
In Loving Memory

Bishop Desmond Tutu

October 7, 1931 - December 26, 2021

“If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse and you say that you are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality.”
Days of the Month
January

January 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day National Holiday (Observed) - Born January 15, 1929

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute’s Liberation Curriculum provides document-based lesson plans, online educational resources, and historical materials pertaining to the modern African American Freedom Struggle and King's vision of a just and peaceful world. Currently directed by Dr. Mira S. Foster, this educational initiative seeks to transform the way students acquire and apply knowledge about the past.

January 17 - Muhammad Ali’s Birthday

In 2021, the birthday of Muhammad Ali was designated a commemorative school holiday in the state of Illinois. Ali’s dream to share his inspiration with the world is being realized through the Muhammad Ali Center in Louisville, Kentucky. The Ali Center appeals to the heart, spirit, and imagination. It inspires both children and adults to form new commitments in their lives in areas of personal growth, integrity, and respect for others, and it gives them the tools to make these commitments happen. Ali passed away on June 3, 2016, at the age of 74.
January 30 - Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution

The first statewide day in U.S. history to be named after an Asian American was established in California to commemorate Korematsu’s birthday in 1919. Korematsu defied the 1942 order requiring Americans of Japanese descent to report to internment camps. After being arrested and convicted, he appealed all the way to the Supreme Court. The court ruled against him at the time but the ruling was overturned 40 years later upon discovery of evidence that the government concealed at the time of the trial. (from 2020-2021 Planning to Change the World: A Plan Book for Social Justice Educators.)

Picture courtesy of Wikipedia.org

Quote of the Month

Love isn't a state of perfect caring. 
It is an active noun like struggle.

- Fred Rogers
You’re Important to Us!

Help us keep in touch!

Please contribute to our future as we support the peaceful world we and children need to thrive.

We are eager for new members, and active members. Membership is free, although you’re encouraged to help us as you can. Spread the word and let us know how you would like to be engaged at 1peaceeducators@gmail.com.

Help bring peace education to the profession and the public!

If you would like to bring P.E.A.C.E., Inc.’s perspective to more teachers on the ground working with young children, there are opportunities both in person and online.

Particularly on NAEYC’s HELLO open forum we have seen opportunities to engage on these issues.

Join actforpeace@googlegroups.com to follow our members’ recommended actions and share your own! You can sign up at 1peaceeducators@gmail.com or directly through Google Groups. We hope you will spread the word about the actions by forwarding them on to others.

Visit our Website, peaceeducators.org!

Teach Peace to Young Children

Search Resources