



Preamble

AS the founding convention of the Industrial Workers of the World recognized that “the working class and the employing class have nothing in common”, we recognize that we, as people in education, are also of that working class and have nothing in common with the capitalist class. Also, we realize that the capitalist class is at war against us as much as it is against all other people of our class.

We recognize that capitalism is at war against the very idea of education. Capitalism seeks to remove learning and replace it with training; to discourage critical thinking and in its place instill obedience; to silence dissent, stifle creativity, and crush dreams, replacing all three with passive acceptance of the existing order.

We do NOT accept that the educational system must remain as it is. To those who say “there is no alternative”, we say “there are BILLIONS of alternatives, tens of millions born each year, one formed in each person, surviving in each of us as long as it is not killed by the forces of power.”

We strive for an educational system, and then a world, run democratically, without ANY hierarchy, without oppression on the basis of socially-constructed identities, without fear or want, with inclusion, with acceptance, with justice that heals rather than wounds, and with an all-embracing community truly of life; a community in which all will teach as we learn, all will learn as we teach, and what is taught and learned will be the blueprint for the world we need. We believe this world can be achieved through organization and class struggle.