



This fall marks more than just the start of another school year—it's **a moment for parents to reclaim leadership in their children's education**. With national test scores collapsing in math and science, it's clear our schools need higher standards like our **Franklin Science Standards** and **Archimedes Math Standards** to ensure academic excellence. At the same time, parents must know their rights and how to use them, whether through filing complaints with [HHS OCR](#) or holding schools accountable. Drawing wisdom from seasoned parents and practical strategies from the field, this month's newsletter equips families with the knowledge, tools, and confidence to set their children up for success.

If you have any questions, concerns, or need guidance regarding education, please don't hesitate to [contact us](#). If you have suggestions or ideas for addressing any remaining issues, we welcome your input!

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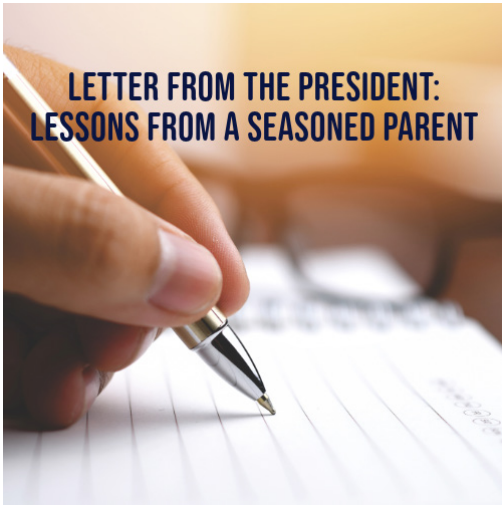
## GET INFORMED.

### NAEP SCORES EXPOSE NATIONAL COLLAPSE IN MATH AND SCIENCE

Only 31 percent of eighth graders are [proficient in science](#). Just 22 percent of 12th graders are [proficient in math](#)—the lowest results since the exam was restructured in 2005. And reading has collapsed to its worst level in history, with only 35 percent of [12th graders proficient](#) since NAEP began tracking in 1992.

[FIE PRESS RELEASE](#)

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[LESSONS FROM A SEASONED PARENT](#)



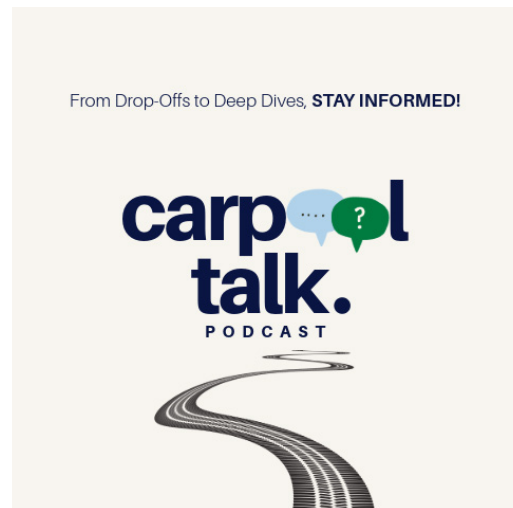
[PARENT GUIDE: FILING A COMPLAINT WITH HHS-OCR](#)



**Founder's Podcast**

[THE SCIENCE OF LEARNING](#)

In this episode, Beanie Geoghegan speaks with Carl Hendrick about research-based teaching methods.



**Carpool Talk Podcast — Real talk for parents!**

[BACK TO SCHOOL](#)

Apryl and Miranda discuss tips and resources parents need to navigate the school year.

**PARENT TOOLKIT**

**TAKE ACTION!**

**Freedom in Education is actively seeking Ambassadors across America!** Ambassadors could be parents, teachers, or community members who share our vision and mission. Our team will train, mentor, and support Ambassadors to champion the solutions we have created and endorsed to enhance K-12 education for all children.

Help us bring **SOLUTIONS** to all states!

You can learn more about the solutions we champion at [freedomined.org](http://freedomined.org) under the **SOLUTIONS** tab on menu.

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## FOR STUDENTS

### Homework Tips: Making Learning Stick with Spacing

Research shows that **spacing out practice over time** helps children remember better than cramming it all at once. Think of it less like a study “trick” and more like a **study schedule**. Here’s how you can use spacing at home:

#### 1. Break Work into Smaller Sessions

Instead of one long homework block, study in shorter bursts over several days.

- Example: 20 minutes of math vocabulary practice spread over a week beats 2 hours in one evening.

#### 2. Revisit Old Material Regularly

Ask a few questions from last week’s lessons when helping with today’s homework.

- Spaced review helps information move from short-term memory into long-term understanding.

#### 3. Adjust the Gaps by Experience

Beginners: Shorter, more frequent practice (daily or every other day).

- More confident learners: Longer gaps (every few days or weekly) to allow deeper consolidation.

#### 4. Use Quiet Time Wisely

Spacing works best when children’s brains can process in the background.

- A calm break (like drawing or a walk) is better than jumping straight into a demanding video game.

#### 5. Make It Cumulative

Encourage your child to connect new material to what they already know.

- For example: “How is today’s math problem like the ones you solved last week?”

#### 6. Keep It Flexible

Spacing isn’t “one-size-fits-all.” Adjust as your child learns more:

- At first, keep reviews close together; later, stretch them out as mastery grows.

**Bottom Line for Parents:** Don’t cram. Help your child **spread out learning, circle back to old topics, and give their brain time to rehearse quietly between sessions**. Small changes in homework scheduling can make a big difference in memory and confidence.

SOURCE: *What Makes Spaced Practice So Powerful?* -CARL HENDRICK

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**Ignite a love for reading and learning by filling our schools with books that grow a child's imagination, curiosity and passion for knowledge.**



To date Freedom in Education has gifted over **1,500 books** to more than **125 schools** in **24 states**, impacting **70,000+ students**, enriching classroom libraries and media centers with wholesome, thought-provoking literature. We invite you to participate by donating to our [Good Book Drive](#) or volunteering with Freedom in Education to spread the word in your own community. Your donation, no matter the size, will contribute to the success of our book drive and bring the gift of reading **wholesome books** to even more schools across America.

**GOOD BOOK DRIVE**

### **Your financial investment benefits:**

- Rigorous K-12 Academic Standards and Framework Development
- K-12 Franklin Science Standards
- K-12 Archimedes Math Standards
- Content-Rich K-12 Lesson Plans and Professional Development
- Parental Resources and Support
- Freedom of Information Requests (Open Records)
- Teacher Coalition and Engagement

**INVEST IN FREEDOM!**



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