



Mission focus: Increase the number of children educated in US and world

What do we know?

According to a survey done by the American Community Survey for the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly 6,000,000 school age children (ages 3-17) are not attending school in the United States! From our past contacts with educational leaders, there is strong interest in our mobilizing efforts to address this serious issue. When compared to our counterparts in the 15 Highly Developed Nations, the US is rated lower than all but one of these 15 countries. Compared to the 181 countries in the world on this measure, the USA has a surprisingly higher percentage of students not in school; our rate is higher than 63% of all these world nations. After sharing this information with colleagues and others, everyone has been shocked that this issue exists and is not being addressed. It is this US issue that we in WEFUSA are eager to continue addressing. We hope our actions will not only entice our nation and states to initiate addressing this mission, but perhaps it will also activate more serious conversations about the importance of educating all children in this country!

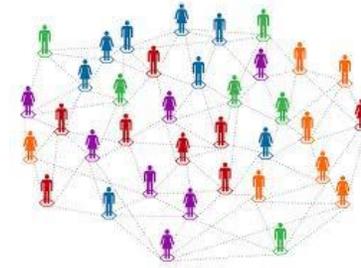
Montana has 7,267 students ages 5-17 years not enrolled in school, which is the 5th highest among all states. Additionally, 19% of students attending school have chronic absenteeism.

<https://www.the74million.org/article/chronic-absenteeism-36-states-essa-plans/>

We can make a difference!

Webpage: www.wefusa.net

Education links: <http://wefusa.net/education-links/>



Why do we do this?

- Education is the best investment for the future of every country.
- Education will become increasingly important when the next generation will have to take care of us as we age.
- Education can give children the tools to become less dependent on welfare and social services in the future.
- Education can be preventative in terms of creating a more peaceful and law-abiding society.
- How do we do this?

The World Education Forum has started initiatives worldwide. We have active network members in the Netherlands, England, Wales, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Croatia, Australia, Nepal and the United States. In these countries WEF Platforms or communities have been created or are being developed.

What do these networks do?

- Each WEF network aims to link up the largest possible number of schools and ambassadors.
- Each WEF network investigates its countries' facts and figures on education.
- Each WEF network lobbies/advocates in its own political system and reports about it.
- Each WEF network supports others countries initiatives.

How you can help?

- Montana is one of 19 states who currently has an ambassador identified. Connect with and assist Tamra Covington, State of Montana Ambassador, covingtont@billingssschools.org
- Get county-by-county details about the 7,267 Montana children (ages 5-17) **who are not attending any school** at: <http://wefusa.net/cty-gsheet/>
- Contact your local county superintendent to inquire about community outreach opportunities
- “Join” WEFUS by signing up on our website. No membership fee
 - WHY JOIN WEF-USA?
 - As an individual, school, or organization you can be affiliated with WEF-USA. Through this affiliation, you have the opportunity to connect with other entities devoted to enhancing education for all children. In addition, you will connect with other educators in other countries affiliated with the World Education Forum-Global. Since WEF-USA is still in its formative stages, everyone who becomes connected with WEF-USA will play a key role in helping us develop the organization and our communication through this website. We need your thoughts and ideas to share with others throughout the US and the world
- Check out and contribute to social media sites
- Share the information and encourage friends/colleagues to support WEFUSA
 - No membership fees
- Become active in your state and other organizations
 - Share your message at meetings, with groups and friends
- Talk with political leaders and share this information
 - Ask them to raise this question and insist on ways to reduce the number of children not in school

- Help us find some influential people who would:
 - Write a testimonial in support of this mission
 - Donate funds so we can be more effective in our action
- Share ideas that are working in your area

JOIN US TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR ALL KIDS!

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