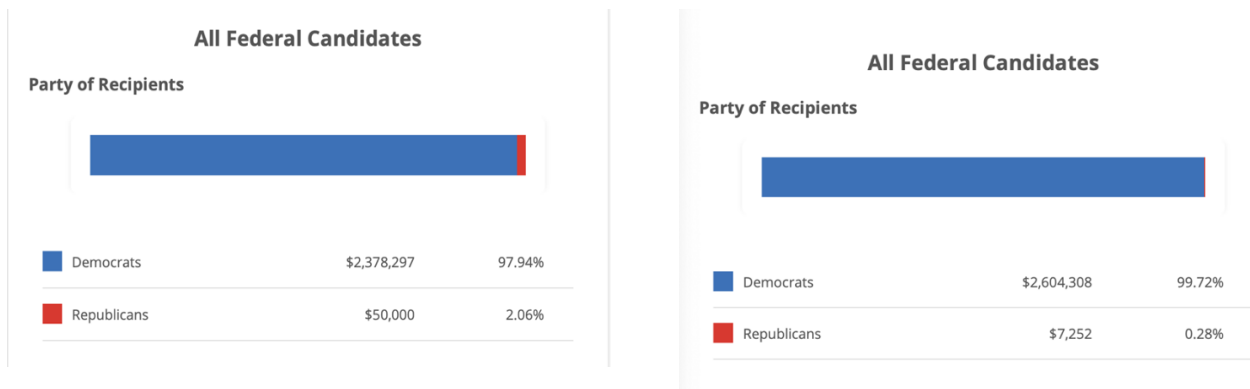


#4

Teacher Unions – No Good but Plenty of Bad and Ugly

Teachers' unions do not exist to support students – their focus is money and power. And since the passage of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) in 1965, their access to money and power has grown enormously.

The presidents of the national unions, [Lilia Garcia/NEA](#) and [Randi Weingarten/AFT](#) both make in excess of \$400,000, while the average teacher earns [\\$64,000](#). These organizations, which are funded by taxpayers through teacher and school employee salaries, turn around and spend tens of millions on politicians ([\\$191,315,888 for the NEA](#) and [\\$86,914,628 for the AFT](#)). Nearly 100% of those donations go to Democrats who accuse taxpaying parents of being domestic terrorists.



Neither the National Education Association (NEA), [founded in 1857](#), nor the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), [birthed in 1916](#), have a student-centered focus. They pay lip service on their websites to “student success” and “high quality public education”, but a look at [NEA](#) and [AFT](#) policies reveals academic excellence is not mentioned, while resolutions against the police, about COVID-19, and supporting LGBT and social justices activities proliferate.

Most Americans would presume teachers' unions would be responsible for promoting reading and writing, helping students enter the workforce and become good citizens. In reality these organizations have shown less concern for instilling even basic academics in the next generation than they have for the size of their paychecks, improving their benefits' packages and getting time off for COVID.

Closing schools does more harm than good and even the *New York Times* [acknowledged that fact](#). In spite of the evidence children are being hurt, unions continue to push for closures and remote learning. [More than 2,000 schools shut down](#) in the first week of January 2022, two years after the pandemic started and a year after the vaccine became available. These districts were flooded with more than \$200 billion from the feds to ensure they were made COVID-safe,

but that does not appear to be sufficient for the unions, even though there is [no evidence](#) school closures have helped reduce the spread.

There is one positive result from the COVID-19 shutdowns: parents saw what their children were being taught. The result? More and more parents are [pulling their kids from public schools](#). Even before the lockdowns the unionized system was [failing students](#). Now parents know why and they are taking responsibility for their children's education back from the unions who are failing them.