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# — News From The States —

## THIS WEEK IN COMMENTARY

Welcome to the best opinion pieces of the week from **News From The States**. Our commentary includes our own journalists from across our extensive network as well as outside voices to bring a wide range of perspectives and ideas. In addition to the sampling below, [you can look through all our commentary here](#).

TOP COMMENTARY OF THE WEEK

### ***How anti-government ideologues targeted Wisconsin public schools***

Ruth Conniff | *Wisconsin Examiner*



*Wisconsin is at the center of a national right-wing effort to privatize public schools that has had terrible results for kids.*

*Getty Images*

Now that the new school year has started, I've been volunteering on the Madison East High School cross-country team, trying to keep up with 80 or so kids as they run through Madison's east side neighborhoods and around the fields behind the school.

A former East runner myself, I've always been a Purgolder partisan. All three of my kids have been shaped by the down-to-earth culture of East High School, with its hallmark quirkiness, warmth and inclusive ethic that, to me, captures the social value of public school.

Still, the inequities among public schools in richer and poorer property tax districts are nothing compared to the existential threat to public education from a parallel system of publicly funded private schools that has been nurtured and promoted by a national network of right-wing think tanks, well funded lobbyists and anti-government ideologues.

[Read this commentary](#)

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### **[Suicide prevention is a priority for me now](#)**

**Quentin Young** | *Colorado Newsline*

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### **[No man is above the law: Knudsen's 41 charges were a long-time coming](#)**

**Darrell Ehrlick** | *Daily Montanan*

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### **[Ohio voters can expect to get hosed again by gerrymandering in upcoming redistricting charade](#)**

**David DeWitt** | *Ohio Capital Journal*

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### **[Transparency demands that Marion County attorney explain his role in 'chilling' newspaper raid](#)**

**Clay Wirestone** | *Kansas Reflector*

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**[Desperate for a seat at the table, Oklahomans wait hours to get into education meetings](#)**

Janelle Stecklein | *Oklahoma Voice*

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**[To see Jimmy Buffett's best legacy, look at Florida's manatees](#)**

Craig Pittman | *Florida Phoenix*

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**[Alabama's experiment with death](#)**

Brian Lyman | *Alabama Reflector*

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1414 Raleigh Rd #127 | Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517

[info@newsfromthestates.com](mailto:info@newsfromthestates.com)

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