

# EDUCATION, BEST QUOTES ON

No one has yet fully realized the wealth of sympathy, kindness, and generosity hidden in the soul of a child. The effort of every true education should be to unlock that treasure.

--Emma Goldman

Educate a man and you educate an individual—educate a woman and you educate a family.

--Agnes Cripps

A child miseducated is a child lost.

--John F. Kennedy

Education is the transmission of civilization.

--Will and Ariel Durant

We need to move beyond the idea that an education is something provided for us, and toward the idea that an education is something that we create for ourselves.

—Stephen Downes

All men who have turned out worth anything have had the chief hand in their own education.

—Sir Walter Scott

Education does not cease the day we leave the classroom, nor are teachers only those who lecture us in front of blackboards. Teachers come in all conceivable forms: the newspaper columnist who examines an issue in a way you have never seen before, the basketball coach who makes you truly understand the value of discipline and teamwork, the child who trots home from school and tells you something you never knew about astronomy, Guatemala, or snowflakes.

--Bridget Sullivan

Every child is different from every other and must be educated differently.

--Jean Jacques Rousseau

Children who are treated as if they are uneducable almost invariably become uneducable.

--Kenneth B. Clark

It is as impossible to withhold education from the receptive mind as it is impossible to force it upon the unreasoning.

—Agnes Repplier

Education: The ability to describe a beautiful girl without using your hands.

--Joseph Charles Salak

Education should include knowledge of what to do with it.

--Unknown

It has always seemed strange to me that in our endless discussions about education so little stress is laid on the pleasure of becoming an educated person, the enormous interest it adds to life. To be able to be caught up into the world of thought—that is to be educated.

—Edith Hamilton

Training teaches how. Education teaches why.

—Nido Qubein

Self-education is, I firmly believe, the only kind of education there is.

--Isaac Asimov

The factory model of education is a gargantuan bureaucracy. Some kids are good fits—I wasn't. The system gives you bad grades and tells you you're stupid. You don't think, *if this kid's not a good fit it could be the system's fault*.

--Jose Ferreira

The most effective kind of education is that a child should play amongst lovely things.

—Plato

In 2013, for the first time, a majority of public-school students in this country—51 percent, to be precise—fell below the federal government's low-income cutoff, meaning they were eligible for a free or subsidized school lunch. It was a powerful symbolic moment—an inescapable reminder that the challenge of teaching low-income children has become the central issue in American education.

—Paul Tough

Upon the subject of education, not presuming to dictate any plan or system respecting it, I can only say that I view it as the most important subject which we as a people may be engaged in. That everyone may receive at least a moderate education appears to be an objective of vital importance.

--Abraham Lincoln

In humanistic education, the goal is to produce a human, or humane, being, whole beings, not automatons, or intellects, but thinking, feeling, living—or acting—persons, persons who can love, feel deeply, expand their inner selves, create, and who continue the process of self-education....The purpose of education is to develop self-actualizing persons.

--C. H. Patterson

To save man from the morass of propaganda, in my opinion, is one of the chief aims of education. Education must enable one to sift and weigh evidence, to discern the true from the false, the real from the unreal, and the facts from the fiction.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.

If you work hard and intelligently, you should be able to detect when a man is talking rot, and that, in my view, is the main, if not the sole, purpose of education.

--Oxford Professor,  
*Newsweek*, 2/6/78

Men without education are condemned to live as outsiders—outside the twentieth century, foreigners in their own land.

--Robert F. Kennedy

Schooling, basic or advanced, that does not prepare the individual for further learning has failed no matter what else it succeeds in doing.

--Mortimer Adler

It is, in fact, nothing short of a miracle that the modern methods of instruction have not yet entirely strangled the holy curiosity of inquiry; for this delicate little plant, aside from stimulation, stands mainly in need of freedom; without this it goes to wrack and ruin without fail. It is a very grave mistake to think that the enjoyment of seeing and searching can be promoted by means of coercion and a sense of duty.

—Albert Einstein

A good education should leave much to be desired.

--Alan Gregg

We are not asking our children to do their own best but to be the best. Education is in danger of becoming a religion based on fear; its doctrine is to compete. The majority of our children are being led to believe that they are doomed to failure in a world which has room only for those at the top.

--Eda J. Leshan

Education is not *one* of man's activities: it comprises all of them; it is man singing, painting, wondering, feeling, dreaming, working, loving in that terrible comedy we call life. It is man experimenting with fire, in the stone age, or at the kitchen stove; it is man carving the first hieroglyphics, or writing his first ABCs, man wondering at the stars, or plotting them or forecasting their returns; man cackling in treetops, or spreading the good word through the printed page.

--Lewis Mumford

The best and briefest reason for a good education is that the more effort you expend in sharpening the ax, the less effort you have to expend in chopping the wood.

--Sydney J. Harris

Today, there are greater, more certain, and more immediate penalties in this country for serving up a rotten hamburger than for furnishing a thousand school children with a rotten education.

--William Bennett

The gains of education are never really lost; books may be burned and cities sacked, but truth, like the yearning for freedom, lives in the hearts of humble men.

--Franklin Roosevelt

Plants are fashioned by cultivation, men by education.

--Jean Jacques Rousseau

If you want to plan for a year, plant rice. If you want to plan for a decade, plant a tree. If you want to plan for a lifetime, educate a child.

--Chinese Proverb

It is easier to put a man on the moon than to reform public education.

--Jerold Zacharias

A poor education is immensely expensive to the individual who achieves it, and to the country that must depend on him later.

--Sarah Caldwell

What the best and wisest parent wants for his own child that must the community want for all its children.

--John Dewey

Be careful to leave your sons well instructed rather than rich, for the hopes of the instructed are better than the wealth of the ignorant.

—Epictetus

The simplest schoolboy is now familiar with truths for which Archimedes would have given his life.

—Ernest Renan

The only really educated men are self-educated.

--Jesse Lee Bennett

The better part of every man's education is that which he gives himself.

--J. R. Lowell

What we call education and culture is for the most part nothing but the substitution of reading for experience, of literature for life, of the obsolete fictitious for the contemporary real.

--George Bernard Shaw

Whoso neglects learning in his youth, loses the past and is dead for the future.

--Euripides

The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future life.

--Plato

Education, beyond all other devices of human origin, is the great equalizer of the conditions of men—the balance-wheel of the social machinery....It does better than to disarm the poor of their hostility towards the rich; it prevents being poor.

--Horace Mann

Sixty years ago I knew everything; now I know nothing; education is a progressive discovery of our own ignorance.

--Will Durant

The things taught in schools and colleges are not an education, but the means of education.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves through their lives.

--Robert M. Hutchins

Education is what survives when what has been learnt has been forgotten.

--B. F. Skinner

We can respond to the clamor of those who cry 'go back to the fundamentals--to the Three R's.' Some who raise this clamor have looked upon the world and do not find it cast in their own image. They blame the school for this aberration. They would cut education below the thinking level where the change called 'progress' begins. They would restrict education to the simpler mental skills of reading, spelling, writing, numbers. We can do that. We can devote our time solely to these rudiments of learning. We can create degrees of fascinating skill in reading, penmanship, spelling, ciphering. And in two generations the American people would have little to read, write, or spell about.

--Willard E. Givens

Teaching children skills without giving them a vision for a better future is only training.

—Nido Qubein

Education which is simply intellectual taxidermy—the scooping out of the mind and the stuffing in of facts—is worthless. The human mind is not a deepfreeze for storage but a forge for production; it must be supplied with fuel, fired, and properly shaped.

--William A. Donaghy

You do not really understand something unless you can explain it to your grandmother.

—Albert Einstein

Perhaps the most valuable result of all education is the ability to make yourself do the thing you have to do, when it ought to be done, whether you like it or not. This is the first lesson to be learned.

--Thomas Huxley

Civilization is a race between education and catastrophe.

--H. G. Wells

All who have meditated on the art of governing mankind have been convinced that the fate of empires depends on the education of youth.

--Aristotle

Education is helping the child realize his potentialities.

--Erich Fromm

America is the best half-educated country in the world.

--Nicholas Murray Butler

Nothing in education is so astonishing as the amount of ignorance it accumulates in the form of inert facts.

--Henry Adams

The great end of education is to discipline rather than furnish the mind; to train it to use its own powers, rather than to fill it with the accumulation of others.

--Tryon Edwards

The supreme end of education is expert discernment in all things—the power to tell the good from the bad, the genuine from the counterfeit, and to prefer the good and genuine to the bad and the counterfeit.

--Samuel Johnson

Public education is of key importance in educating young people to understand the realities of the world they will inherit, and to change it, not for the sake of change, but because we will not survive without change.

--Eve Olve

Education is a thing of infinite usury. Money devoted to it yields a singular increase to which there is no calculable end, an increase of knowledge, and therefore of intelligence and efficiency.

--Woodrow Wilson

Education in its deepest sense is the improvement of man so that he will be a thinking individual, not afraid of the validity of his conclusions even though they may deviate from what may be acceptable and safe at the moment.

--Henry T. Heald

The education of the young child takes place through the quality of his living rather than through words we say, techniques we use, or the deeds we demand of him.

--James L. Hymes

Education is both a personal interest and a national asset. For education enlarges life—not only for each of us as a person, but for all of us as a nation.

--Marion B. Folsom

If ever there can be a cause worthy to be upheld by all sacrifice that the human heart can endure, it is the cause of education.

—Horace Mann

The commonwealth requires the education of her people as the safeguard of order and liberty.

--Thomas Jefferson

Education and the process of educating is a total integral, contextual situation which includes students, teachers, parents, administration and environment.

—Jean Huston

Education doesn't do us much good unless it is mixed with sweat.

—Barack Obama

Without popular education, moreover, no government which rests upon popular action can long endure.

--Woodrow Wilson

Education is good only as it helps people to enrich and fulfill their lives, both in leading towards personal joy and in leading towards the extension of one's talents into modes of helping other people.

--Harold Taylor

But it is a point worth making—that education, in the deepest sense, is continuous and lifelong and in essence unfinishable; and it is true also that what we think we already know is often less helpful than the desire to learn.

--James Hilton

Education is not something done *to* but something done *by* an individual which is actually self-educational. It is a slow, subtle growth entailing a life-time of self-discipline and an unquenchable passion to learn and to grow up to the full stature of one's abilities. The outcome should be competent, self-active, responsible, and socially minded citizens whose lives are predicated on faith, courage, integrity, intelligence and the will to achieve.

--F. Earl Williams



The acceptance of the principle that everyone should be able to go as far in his schooling as his talents permit is one of the moral achievements of the present century.

--Charles Frankel

If the school is to be judged by its poor products, why can't a factory be judged by its scrap pile?

--Marie Fraser

Since we cannot know all that is to be known of everything, we ought to know a little about everything.

--Blaise Pascal

Education is helping the child realize his potentialities.

--Erich Fromm

If there is anything education does not lack today, it is critics.

--Nathan M. Pusey

Education has in America's whole history been the major hope for improving the individual and society.

--Gunnar Myrdal

The education of a man is never completed until he dies.

--Robert E. Lee

At the desk where I sit, I have learned one great truth. The answer for all our national problems—the answer for all the problems of the world—comes to a single word. That word is 'education.'

--Lyndon B. Johnson

Ignorance is the primary source of all misery and vice.

--Victor Cousin

Education should be gentle and stern, not cold and lax.

--Joseph Joubert

There is less flogging in our great schools than formerly, but then less is learned there; so that what the boys get at one end they lose at the other.

--Samuel Johnson

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.

--William Butler Yeats

If you think education is expensive—try ignorance.

--Derek Bok

The test and the use of man's education is that he finds pleasure in the exercise of his mind.

--Jacques Barzun

By virtue of being born to humanity, every human being has a right to the development and fulfillment of his potentialities as a human being.

--Ashley Montagu

There are three questions which in life we have over and over again to answer: Is it right or wrong? Is it true or false? Is it beautiful or ugly? Our education ought to help us to answer these questions.

--John Lubbock

The general diffusion of knowledge and learning through the community is essential to the preservation of free government.

--Carl Becker

The good life is one inspired by love and guided by knowledge.

--Bertrand Russell

Now the purpose of education—I mean real education—is to set up a current of understanding between the student and the things of the world in which he lives. In the process of learning the student begins to look at things in books....The only purpose of his study is to get the life current of understanding started. Once it begins to flicker, he reads more books as his intellectual curiosity drives him on. It is when he is able to lay the book down and examine the rock or the star or the blade of grass for himself and with understanding that he begins to be educated....Once educated he turns to things not found in universities, but at large.

--Walter Prescott Webb

Somehow the notion has got abroad that education is confined to reservations as were the Indians....The biggest reservations are called universities and it is too generally assumed that they have a sort of monopoly on knowledge and the facilities for acquiring it. What they really have is a vast number of descriptions which are called books and a somewhat lesser number of describers called teachers. We can never have real education, or a self-perpetuating culture, until we get beyond the description and the describer to the things described. In short, education needs to be got off the reservations.

--Walter Prescott Webb

All of us have two educations: one which we receive from others; another, and the most valuable, which we give ourselves.

--John Randolph

Too much schooling works against education.

--John Holt

To learn is to change. Education is a process that changes the learner.

--George B. Leonard

I have never let my schooling interfere with my education.

--Mark Twain

One might say that the American trend of education is to reduce the senses almost to nil.

--Isadora Duncan

Much education today is monumentally ineffective. All too often we are giving young people cut flowers when we should be teaching them to grow their own plants.

--John W. Gardner

The chief wonder of education is that it does not ruin everybody concerned in it, teachers and taught.

--Henry Adams

It is our American habit if we find the foundations of our educational structure unsatisfactory to add another story or wing. We find it easier to add a new study or course or kind of school than to reorganize existing conditions so as to meet the need.

--John Dewey

It is because modern education is so seldom inspired by a great hope that it so seldom achieves a great result. The wish to preserve the past rather than the hope of creating the future dominates the minds of those who control the teaching of the young.

--Bertrand Russell

Theories are more common than achievements in the history of education.

--Sir Richard Livingstone

Life is full of untapped sources of pleasure. Education should train us to discover and exploit them.

--Norman Douglas

A great deal, of course, of that spiritual and perpetual joy that children bring to us is just this power of seeing the world as a new thing, as pure intuition, and so renewing for us the freshness of all life. But they always lose this power of original expression as soon as they begin their education.

--Joyce Cary

One of the major jobs in the future will be learning itself. What we now call work must be redefined to include a strong component of learning. Those who stop learning will stop working. We must give our children nothing less than the ability to think, the ability to absorb facts quickly and then structure them into a useful discipline. Creativity, chance-taking and insight will be at a premium along with adaptability to rapid change. Before anything can change, parents, educators and legislators must first recognize the need to make education a lifelong process.

--*World Future Society*

Education is a positive and productive enterprise whereby an individual's capacities for dealing with his life circumstances are expanded. Education is an enabling activity which incorporates a long-term, future-oriented perspective. With education, one is investing resources which will result in lifelong capabilities.

--David E. Wiley

Cultivation is as necessary to the mind as food is to the body.

--Cicero

It is as true today as it was when Dewey wrote that one cannot foresee the world in which the child we educate will live. Informed powers of mind and a sense of potency in action are the only instruments we can give that will be invariable across the transformations of time and circumstance.

--Jerome Bruner

When an illiterate gets angry, you'll get to understand that calmness is probably a sign of education.

—Michael Bassey  
Johnson

It is hard to get far enough away from the canvas to take any general view of such a subject as education. Education means everything.

--John Jay Chapman

All education is a continuous dialogue—questions and answers that pursue every problem to the horizon. That is the essence of academic freedom.

--William O. Douglas

From the very beginning of his education, the child should experience the joy of discovery.

--Alfred North Whitehead

Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education....The human mind is our fundamental resource.

--John F. Kennedy

Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation.

--John F. Kennedy

The fact is, our process of universal education is today so uncouth, so psychologically barbaric, that it is the most terrible menace to the existence of our race. We seize hold of our children, and by parrot-compulsion we force into them a set of mental tricks. By unnatural and unhealthy compulsion we force them into a certain amount of cerebral activity. And then, after a few years, with a certain number of windmills in their heads, we turn them loose, like so many inferior Don Quixotes, to make a mess of life.

--D. H. Lawrence

Education makes a greater difference between man and man than nature has made between man and brute.

--John Adams

Education is an ornament in prosperity and a refuge in adversity.

--Aristotle

The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.

--Aristotle

By nature all men are alike, but by education widely different.

--Chinese Proverb

How is it that little children are so intelligent and men so stupid? It must be education that does it.

--Alexandre Dumas

Meek young men grow up in colleges and believe it is their duty to accept the views which books have given, and grow up slaves.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

We are shut up in school and college recitation rooms for ten or fifteen years, and come out at last with a bellyfull of words and do not know a thing.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Learning makes a man fit company for himself.

--Thomas Fuller

Education is not a *product*: mark, diploma, job, money-in that order; it is a *process*, a never-ending one.

--Bel Kaufman

The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination of truth.

--John F. Kennedy

Our schools have become vast factories for the manufacture of robots. We no longer send our young to them primarily to be taught and given the tools of thought, no longer primarily to be informed and acquire knowledge; but to be 'socialized.'

--Robert Lindner

It is only the ignorant who despise education.

--Publilius Syrus

Education is the leading human souls to what is best, and making what is best out of them; and these two objects are always attainable together, and by the same means; the training which makes men happiest in themselves also makes them most serviceable to others.

--John Ruskin

What does education often do? It makes a straight-cut ditch of a free, meandering brook.

--Henry David Thoreau

Let us never be betrayed into saying we have finished our education because that would mean we had stopped growing.

—Julia H. Gulliver

Education is an admirable thing, but it is well to remember from time to time that nothing that is worth knowing can be taught.

--Oscar Wilde

A child's education should begin at least one hundred years before he was born.

--Oliver Wendell  
Holmes

First you have to learn something, then you can go out and do it.

--Mies van der Rohe

The real object of education is to give children resources that will endure as long as life endures; habits that time will ameliorate, not destroy; occupations that will render sickness tolerable, solitude pleasant, age venerable, life more dignified and useful, and death less terrible.

--Sidney Smith

The most important function of education at any level is to develop the personality of the individual and the significance of his life to himself and to others. This is the basic architecture of a life; the rest is ornamentation and decoration of the structure. As such, it is desirable but only in a supplementary sense.

--Grayson Kirk

The primary concern of American education today is...to cultivate in the largest number of our future citizens an appreciation both of the responsibilities and the benefits which come to them because they are American and free.

--James Bryant Conant

I respect no study, and deem no study good, which results in money-making.

--Seneca

Education has become one of the chief obstacles to intelligence and freedom of thought.

--Bertrand Russell

That's what education means—to be able to do what you've never done before!

--George Herbert Palmer

Life is short. The sooner that a man begins to enjoy his wealth the better.

--Samuel Johnson

Knowledge does not comprise all which is contained in the large term 'education.' The feelings are to be disciplined, the passions are to be restrained, true and worthy motives are to be instilled, and pure morality inculcated under all circumstances. All this is comprised in education.

--Daniel Webster

Teach the art of living well.

--Seneca

What sculpture is to a block of marble, education is to the human soul. The philosopher, the saint, the hero, the wise, and the good, or the great, very often lie hid and concealed in a plebeian, which a proper education might have disinterred and brought to light.

--Joseph Addison

Most Americans do value education as a business asset, but not as the entrance into the joy of intellectual experience or acquaintance with the best that has been said and done in the past. They value it not as an experience, but as a tool.

--W. H. P. Faunce

Without ideals, without effort, without scholarship, without philosophical continuity, there is no such thing as education.

--Abraham Flexner



Educated men are as much superior to uneducated men as the living are to the dead.

--Aristotle

There is nothing so stupid as an educated man, if you get off the thing that he was educated in.

--Will Rogers

Nations have recently been led to borrow billions for war; no nation has ever borrowed largely for education. Probably no nation is rich enough to pay for both war and civilization. We must make our choice; we cannot have both.

--Abraham Flexner

A democratic form of government, a democratic way of life, presupposes free public education over a long period; it presupposes also an education for personal responsibility that too often is neglected.

--Eleanor Roosevelt

Education is delivery from bondage.

--Andre Gide

What is a good education, if not the means of achieving all kinds of pleasure without danger and without hindrance?

--Denis Diderot

The investigation of the meaning of words is the beginning of education.

--Antisthenes

The grand result of schooling is a mind with just vision to discern, with free force to do; the grand schoolmaster is Practice.

--Thomas Carlyle

Education is not received. It is *achieved*.

--Albert Einstein

Education is the best provision for old age.

--Aristotle

Note too that a faithful study of the liberal arts humanizes character and permits it not to be cruel.

--Ovid

Education is a funny thing. At eighteen we knew all the answers—forty years later even the questions confuse us.

--Unknown

The one real object of education is to have a man in the condition of continually asking questions.

—Bishop Mandell  
Creighton

Among the few things more expensive than an education these days is the lack of it.

--Unknown

If you think getting an education is expensive, try not getting one.

--Derek Bok

The whole purpose of education is to turn mirrors into windows.

—Sydney J. Harris

Shortchange your education now and you may be short of change the rest of your life.

—Unknown

Education... has produced a vast population able to read but unable to distinguish what is worth reading.

—George M. Trevelyan

The true object of education should be to train one to think clearly and act rightly.

—Unknown

Education is the process of driving a set of prejudices down your throats.

—Martin H. Fischer

An educational system isn't worth a great deal if it teaches young people how to make a living but doesn't teach them how to make a life.

—Unknown

All the learnin' my father paid for was a bit o' birch at one end and an alphabet at the other.

—George Eliot

If you sincerely desire a truly well-rounded education, you must study the extremists, the obscure and 'nutty.' You need the balance! Your poor brain is already being impregnated with middle-of-the-road crap, twenty-four hours a day, no matter what. Network TV, newspapers, radio, magazines at the supermarket... even if you never watch, read, listen, or leave your house, even if you are deaf and blind, the telepathic pressure alone of the uncountable normals surrounding you will insure that you are automatically well-grounded in consensus reality.

—Ivan Stang

Who knows the difference between education and training? For those of you with daughters, would you rather have them take sex education or sex training? Need I say more?

—Dennis Rubin

The tragedy of education is played in two scenes — incompetent pupils facing competent teachers and incompetent teachers facing competent pupils.

—Martin H. Fischer

I think everyone should go to college and get a degree and then spend six months as a bartender and six months as a cabdriver. Then they would really be educated.

—Al McGuire

There is only one Education, and it has only one goal: the freedom of the mind. Anything that needs an adjective, be it civics education, or socialist education, or Christian education, or whatever-you-like education, is not education, and it has some different goal. The very existence of modified 'educations' is testimony to the fact that their proponents cannot bring about what they want in a mind that is free. An 'education' that cannot do its work in a free mind, and so must 'teach' by homily and precept in the service of these feelings and attitudes and beliefs rather than those, is pure and unmistakable tyranny.

—Richard Mitchell

Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence.

—Robert Frost

Children have to be educated, but they have also to be left to educate themselves.

—Abbé Dimnet

To me education is a leading out of what is already there in the pupil's soul. To Miss Mackay it is a putting in of something that is not there, and that is not what I call education. I call it intrusion.

—Muriel Spark, *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*

Education means developing the mind, not stuffing the memory.

—Unknown

The rule for every man is, not to depend on the education which other men have prepared for him—not even to consent to it; but to strive to see things as they are, and to be himself as he is. Defeat lies in self-surrender.

—Woodrow Wilson

Schooling confuses teaching with learning, grade advancement with education, a diploma with competence, and fluency with the ability to say something new.

—Wendy Priesnitz

A child educated only at school is an uneducated child.

—George Santayana

Edification is the process whereby one attains a higher level of bias.

—Hal Morgan

The hardest conviction to get into the mind of a beginner is that the education upon which he is engaged is not a college course, not a medical course, but a life course, for which the work of a few years under teachers is but a preparation.

—Sir William Osler

By nature all men are much alike, but by education they become different.

—Unknown

True education enrolls men at the cradle and graduates them at the grave.

--Unknown

The money saved on education is later spent on jails and reformatories.

--Unknown

Education is not a head full of facts, but knowing *how* and *where* to find facts.

--Unknown

When education is neglected or compromised, democracy suffers, for ignorance, fear, and prejudice are freedom's worst enemies.

--Michael E. DeBakey

Lifelong learning is no longer a luxury, it's the key to survival.

--John Glenn

Education by itself is meaningless – education only takes meaning in the context of our decision on how we are going to apply it.

—Robert John Meehan

A republican government should be based on free and equal education among the people.

—Susan B. Anthony

The philosophy of the classroom today will be the philosophy of government tomorrow.

—Abraham Lincoln

Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom.

—George Washington  
Carver

Looking into the future, without a doubt, education will continue to be the greatest engine we have to strengthen our democracy, to improve our productivity, to enhance our true national security and to enrich our lives.

--Charles Mathias

I truly and sincerely believe that the fate of democracy as we know it depends upon the quality of education our public schools provide today and in the coming years.

--Tom Bradley

Public education, in America, has been the immigrant's passport to progress—whether personal, economic or cultural.

--Anthony V. Bouza

A well-educated population is our most valuable national resource, which, unlike so many others, is renewable.

--Nancy Landon Kasse

It was in making education not only common to all, but in some sense compulsory on all, that the destiny of the free republics of America was practically settled.

--James Russell Lowell

Education has for its object the formation of character.

--Herbert Spencer

Education is the instruction of the intellect in the laws of Nature, under which name I include not merely things and their forces but men and their ways, and the fashioning of the affections and of the will into an earnest and loving desire to move in harmony with these laws.

--Thomas Henry Huxley

I pay the schoolmaster, but 'tis the schoolboys that educate my son.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

The highest result of education is tolerance.

--Helen Keller

Education is the apprenticeship of life.

--Willmott

The aim of education should be to teach us rather how to think, than what to think—rather to improve our minds, so as to enable us to think for ourselves, than to load the memory with the thoughts of other men.

—Bill Beattie

Character development is the great, if not the sole, aim of education.

--O'Shea

Education is a companion which no misfortune can depress, no crime can destroy, no enemy can alienate, no despotism can enslave. At home a friend, abroad an introduction, in solitude a solace, and in society an ornament. It chastens, it guides virtue, it gives, at once, grace and government to genius. Without it, what is man? A splendid slave, a reasoning savage.

--Joseph Addison

Education is the knowledge of how to use the whole of oneself.

--Henry Ward Beecher

Education is what you have left over after you have forgotten everything you have learned.

--Albert Einstein

If all students are helped to the full utilization of their intellectual powers, we will have a better chance of surviving as a democracy in an age of enormous technological and social complexity.

--Jerome S. Bruner

Education should prepare people not just to earn a living but to live a life—a creative, humane, and sensitive life.

--Charles Silberman

Whom, then, do I call educated? First, those who control circumstances instead of being mastered by them; those who meet all occasions manfully and act in accordance with intelligent thinking; those who are honorable in all dealings, who treat good-naturedly persons and things that are disagreeable; and furthermore, those who hold their pleasure under control and are not overcome by misfortune; finally, those who are not spoiled by success.

--Socrates

Education does not mean teaching people what they do not know. It means teaching them to behave as they do not behave. It is not teaching the young the shapes of letters and the tricks of numbers, and then leaving them to turn arithmetic to roguery, and their literature to lust. It means, on the contrary, training them into the perfect exercise and kingly continence of their bodies and souls. It is a painful, continual and difficult work to be done by kindness, by watching, by warning, by precept and by praise, and above all—by example.

--John Ruskin

Sometimes, indeed, extraordinary geniuses have broken out by the force of nature, without the assistance of education; but those instances are too rare for anybody to trust to; and even they would make a much greater figure, if they had the advantage of education into the bargain.

--Lord Chesterfield

Life is a succession of making choices and education will help you make wise ones.

--Mary Emma Woolley

The most influential of all educational factors is the conversation in a child's home.  
--William Temple

Too much of our present educational system emphasizes failure and too many children who attend school are failing. Unless we can provide schools where children, through a reasonable use of their capacities, can succeed, we will do little to solve the major problems of our country.

--William Glasser

The more a man thinks, the better adapted he becomes to thinking, and education is nothing if it is not the methodical creation of the habit of thinking.

--Ernest Dimmet

Man ultimately decides for himself. And in the end, education must be education toward the ability to decide.

--Viktor E. Frankl

Education should be coterminous with human life.

--Moses Michael Coady

The intelligent anticipation of consequences is a vital goal of education.

--John Dewey

Why should society feel responsible only for the education of children, and not for the education of all adults of every age?

--Erich Fromm

The primary purpose of a liberal education is to make one's mind a pleasant place in which to spend one's leisure.

--Sydney Harris

Education has become such a fetish that many parents are pushing the children far beyond their capacity....At the rate we are going, we are headed for a society of all generals and no privates.

--Vance Packard

The goal in education is not to increase the amount of knowledge, but to create the possibilities for a child to invent and discover.

--Jean Piaget



The entire object of true education is to make people not merely to do the right things, but to enjoy them; not merely industrious, but to love industry; not merely learned, but to love knowledge; not merely pure, but to love purity; not merely just, but to hunger and thirst after justice.

--John Ruskin

The aim of education should be to convert the mind into a living fountain, and not a reservoir. That which is filled by merely pumping in, will be emptied by pumping out.

--John M. Mason

Public instruction should be the first object of government.

--Napoleon

Somewhere along the line since 1914...we lost sight of the real nature of education. IT'S NOT FUN AND GAMES. It's not intended to entertain or to divert. It's far too important to be watered down and gussied up and made palatable for a generation which prefers a placebo to a physic, even as all generations would have chosen to their disaster had their elders been stupid enough to give them a choice.

--Max Rafferty

The benefits of education and of useful knowledge, generally diffused through a community, are essential to the preservation of a free government.

--Sam Houston

My father must have had some elementary education for he could read and write and keep accounts inaccurately.

—George Bernard Shaw

Upon the education of the people of this country the fate of this country depends.

—Benjamin Disraeli

You can lead a boy to college, but you cannot make him think.

—Elbert Hubbard

Enlighten the people generally, and tyranny and oppressions of body and mind will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day.

—Thomas Jefferson

Education is the period during which you are being instructed by somebody you do not know, about something you do not want to know.

—G. K. Chesterton

Loyal and efficient work in a great cause, even though it may not be immediately recognized, ultimately bears fruit.

—Jawaharlal Nehru

Education is a social process....Education is growth....Education is, not a preparation for life; education is life itself.

—John Dewey

To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.

—Theodore Roosevelt

A sense of curiosity is nature's original school of education.

—Smiley Blanton

The mere imparting of information is not education. Above all things, the effort must result in making a man think and do for himself.

--Carter G. Woodson

One's work may be finished some day, but one's education never.

--Alexandre Dumas

The education of today is nothing more than drill....Children must be accustomed to obey, to believe, to think according to the social dogmas which govern us.

--Francisco Ferrer

Were all instructors to realize that the quality of mental process, not the production of correct answers, is the measure of educative growth something hardly less than a revolution in teaching would be worked.

—John Dewey

Education is learning what you don't know you don't know.

--Daniel J. Boorstin

Education has in America's whole history been the major hope for improving the individual and society.

--Gunnar Myrdal

It takes a whole village to educate a child.

--African Proverb

We are now at a point where we must educate our children in what no one knew yesterday, and prepare our schools for what no one knows yet.

--Margaret Mead

Education is the process by which we move from cocksure certitude to thoughtful uncertainty.

--Unknown

My own belief is that education must be subversive if it is to be meaningful. By this I mean that it must challenge all the things we take for granted, examine all accepted assumptions, tamper with every sacred cow, and instill a desire to question and doubt.

—Bertrand Russell

Education—To help the child in its own battle, to strengthen it and equip it to the ends which the child's own spirit is obscurely seeking.

--Bertrand Russell

Education is the leading of human souls to what is best, and making what is best out of them; and these two objects are always attainable together, and by the same means. The training which makes men happiest in themselves also makes them more serviceable to others.

—John Ruskin

All a child's life depends on the ideal it has of its parents. Destroy that and everything goes—morals, behavior, everything. Absolute trust in someone else is the essence of education.

--E. M. Forster

The cost of educating a child today is immense. But the cost of not educating a child is incalculable.

--Unknown

What's gotten in the way of education in the United States is a theory of social engineering that says there is ONE RIGHT WAY to proceed with growing up.

—John Taylor Gatto

Education is what remains when we have forgotten all that we have been taught.  
--Marquis of Halifax

He is best educated who is most useful.  
--Hubbard

The chief object of education is not to learn things but to unlearn things.  
--G. K. Chesterton

Without education you are not going anywhere in this world.  
--Malcolm X

The real goal of education is not to produce the critical, independent-minded individual whom many Americans glorify in abstract and distrust in the flesh, but a person conditioned to working at compulsive and mindless tasks, able to suspend autonomous judgments, to submit to the regulations of superordinates, and to assume his or her place in the elite-conditioned institutions.  
--Michael Parenti

Education is the true corrective of abuses of constitutional power.  
--Thomas Jefferson

When young people's education is at stake, compromise is a crime.  
—Milan Kundera

My education was only interrupted by the twelve years I spent in school.  
--Mark Twain

Education is the acquisition of the art of the utilization of knowledge. This is an art very difficult to impart. Whenever a textbook is written of real educational worth, you may be quite certain that some reviewer will say that it will be difficult to teach from it. Of course it will be difficult to teach from it. If it were easy, the book ought to be burned; for it cannot be educational. In education, as elsewhere, the broad primrose path leads to a nasty place.  
--Alfred North Whitehead

Your ideas cannot become my ideas just because I read them. They become mine when I test them by acting on them.  
--Edgar Dale

Education has been thought of as taking place mainly within the confines of the classroom, and school buildings have been regarded as the citadels of knowledge. However, the most extensive facility imaginable for learning is our environment. It is a classroom without walls, an open university for people of all ages offering a boundless curriculum with unlimited expertise. If we can make our environment comprehensible and observable, we will have created classrooms with endless windows on the world.

--R. S. Worman

A child in itself is not an imperfect creature, he is not a half-ready adult, but he is an independent individual. So a tadpole is satisfied with itself, its operation is as perfect as that of a frog and it is not an imperfect, insufficiently functioning frog!...If a child is an independent creature with a whole life, an individual with specific needs, then we can draw the conclusion that education, from the child's point, is not preparation for life but it is life itself.

--Claparede

An educational system is no broader, no deeper, no more humane, no more dynamic, no more qualitative in its aspects than the people who are its architects and leaders. In the last analysis, one quality of education is the quality of each of us.

--Samuel Gould

The ability to think straight, some knowledge of the past, some vision of the future, some skill to do useful service, some urge to fit that service into the well-being of the community—these are the most vital things education must try to produce.

--Virginia Gildersleeve

The educated differ from the uneducated as much as the living from the dead.

--Aristotle

We can't take a slipshod and easygoing attitude toward education in this country. And by 'we' I don't mean 'somebody else,' but I mean me and I mean you. It is the future of our country—yours and mine—which is at stake.

--Henry Ford II

Native ability without education is like a tree without fruit.

--Aristippus

Intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.

--Martin Luther King

Criticism of American public schools has been consistent and continuous for a century. This may mean that educators are dumb S.O.B.s. Or it may mean the critics are wrong.

--Gerald W. Bracey

Education today, more than ever before, must see clearly the dual objectives: education for living and educating for making a living.

--James Mason Wood

Education in the long run is an affair that works itself out between the individual student and his opportunities. Methods of which we walk so much play but a minor part. Offer the opportunities, leave the student to his natural reaction on them, and he will work out his personal destiny, be it a high one or a low one.

--William James

An education is not a thing one gets, but a lifelong process.

--Gloria Steinem

They realized that education was not a thing of one's own to do with what one pleases, that it was not a personal privilege to be merely enjoyed by the possessor—but a precious treasure transmitted, a sacred trust to be held, used, and enjoyed, and if possible strengthened—the passed on to others upon the same trust.

--Louis Brandeis

Education is a private matter between the person and the world of knowledge and experience, and has little to do with school or college.

--Lillian Smith

Education: a debt due from present to future generations.

--George Peabody

If a man empties his purse into his head, no man can take it from him.

--Benjamin Franklin

Education is a weapon whose effects depend on who holds it in his hands and at whom it is aimed.

--Joseph Stalin

A human being is not, in any proper sense, a human being till he is educated.

--Horace Mann

Republics, one after another...have perished from a want of intelligence and virtue in the masses of the people....If we do not prepare children to become good citizens; if we do not develop their capacities, if we do not enrich their minds with knowledge, imbue their hearts with love of truth and duty, and a reverence for all things sacred and holy, then our republic must go down to destruction, as others have gone before it; and mankind must sweep through another vast cycle of sin and suffering, before the dawn of a better era can arise upon the world.

--Horace Mann

Education is the formation of habits of judgment and the development of character, the elevation of standards, the facilitation of understanding, the development of taste and discrimination, the stimulation of curiosity and wondering, the fostering of style and a sense of beauty, the growth of a thirst for new ideas and visions of the yet unknown.

--Israel Scheffler

The want of education and moral training is the only real barrier that exists between classes of men.

--Susanna Moodie

Education, in its larger sense, is a thing of great scope and extent. It includes the whole process by which a human being is formed to be what he is, in habits, principles, and cultivation of every kind....You speak of *beginning* the education of your son. The moment he was able to form an idea his education was already begun.

--Anna Letitia Barbauld

The beginning place of a child's education is a parent's expectations of a child's ability. A child not expected to learn doesn't learn well.

--Richard Riley

What is really important in education is not that the child learns this and that, but that the mind is matured, that energy is aroused.

--Soren Kierkegaard

Education aims to expand, amplify, deepen and to refine the quality and continuity of one's experiences, to extend each person's radius of concern.

--Edgar Dale

Most people are willing to pay more to be amused than to be educated.

--Robert C. Savage

The purpose of education—both East and West—is the mass production of robots...who have so internalized social constraints that they submit to them automatically.

--Maurice Brinton

You should have education so that you won't have to look up to people; and then more education so that you will be wise enough not to look down on people.

--M. L. Boren

An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you *do* know and what you don't. It's knowing where to go to find out what you need to know. And it's knowing how to use the information once you get it.

—William Feather

An educated person is one who voluntarily does more thinking than is necessary for his own survival.

--Mildred H. McAfee

Education has moved from three R's to six: remedial reading, remedial 'riting, and remedial 'rithmetic.

--Robert M. Hutchins

Education is, I suppose, largely a matter of the individual, both on the side of the teacher and of the scholar, and both teacher and scholar are perhaps born and not made. I would say that if a man does not want an education nothing on earth can force it down him and, conversely, that if he desires it nothing can prevent him from achieving it. In between, of course, are all the people who do not know whether they want to learn to understand anything or not, and that is where the inspired teacher comes in, the man or woman who can lend excitement to any subject and surround himself with young people whose lives may be changed by contact with the flame he represents.

--Louis Bromfield

All the value of education rests in respect for the physical, intellectual, and moral will of the child.

--Francisco Ferrer

A liberal-arts education is supposed to provide you with a value system, a standard, a set of ideas, not a job.

--Caroline Bird



True education makes for inequality; the inequality of individuality, the inequality of success; the glorious inequality of talent, of genius; for inequality, not mediocrity, individual superiority, not standardization, is the measure of progress in the world.

--Felix F. Schelling

It is generally stated that general education is good in proportion as it serves to broaden or deepen a student's understanding of life as a whole. Our experience has taught us that this criterion is misleading. It is not that the concepts are wrong but that they are wrong in tense. After all, even in college, students are young and have a long life ahead of them. In this changing, perplexing, and indoctrination-ridden world, they must learn much more after graduation than they can possibly learn in school or college and for the most part they must be their own teachers. What is important in any program of general education, therefore, is less what the students learn at the time than how well their education fits them to go on learning in the future.

--Elliott Dunlap Smith

All education today is therapy.

--Herbert Marcuse

Education makes people easy to lead, but difficult to drive; easy to govern, but impossible to enslave.

--Henry Peter, Lord  
Brougham

The advantage of a classical education is that it enables you to despise the wealth which it prevents you from achieving.

--Russell Green

The only difference between intelligence and education is this: intelligence will make you a good living.

--Charles F. Kettering

The primary purpose of a liberal education is to make one's mind a pleasant place to spend one's time.

--Sydney J. Harris

It is a woeful mistake to suppose that the educated are kinder and more tolerant: education creates vested interests, and renders the beneficiaries jealous and very vocal.

--Lewis Bernstein  
Namier

A muttonhead, after an education at West Point—or Harvard—is a muttonhead still.

--Theodore Roosevelt

One of the greatest problems of our time is that many are schooled but few are educated.

—Thomas More

Education: the inculcation of the incomprehensible into the indifferent by the incompetent.

--John Maynard Keynes

He is educated who knows how to find out what he doesn't know.

--George Simmel

I consider a human soul without an education like marble in a quarry, which shows none of its inherent beauties until the skill of the polisher sketches out the colors, makes the surface shine, and discovers every ornamental cloud, spot, and vein that runs through it.

--Joseph Addison

Real education must ultimately be limited to men who INSIST on knowing. The rest is mere shepherding.

--Ezra Pound

Education is not a thing of one's own to do with what one pleases...it is not a personal privilege to be merely enjoyed by the possessor, but a precious treasure transmitted; a sacred trust to be held, used, and enjoyed, and if possible, strengthened and then passed on to others upon the same trust.

--Louis Brandeis

Education is what happens to the other person, not what comes out of the mouth of the educator.

--Miles Horton

Education is simply the soul of society as it passes from one generation to another.

--G. K. Chesterton

Education is helping a child realize his potentialities.

--Erich Fromm

It is in fact a part of the function of education to help us escape—not from our own time, for we are bound by that—but from the intellectual and emotional limitations of our own time.

--T. S. Eliot

I had a terrible education. I attended a school for emotionally disturbed teachers.

--Woody Allen

Instruction ends in the schoolroom—but ends only with life.

--Publilius Syrus

Education is...hanging around until you've caught on.

--Robert Frost

Education must have an end in view, for it is not an end in itself.

--Sybil Marshall

Education is understanding relationships.

--George Washington  
Carver

Education is a problem of getting our bearings, of developing orientation, of discovering in what direction to go and how to get there.

--Edgar Dale

Education has in America's whole history been the major hope for improving the individual and society.

--Gunnar Myrdal

Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army.

--Edward Everett

The foundation of every state is the education of its youth.

--Diogenes

A well-instructed people alone can be permanently a free people.

--James Madison

We have faith in education as the foundation of democratic government.

--Franklin D. Roosevelt

Excellence in education is when we do everything that we can to make sure they become everything that they can.

—Carol Ann Tomlinson

There should be no economy in education. Money should never be weighed against the child.

--William Ellery  
Channing

There is an old saying that the course of civilization is a race between catastrophe and education. In a democracy such as ours, we must make sure that education wins the race.

--John F. Kennedy

I am beginning to suspect all elaborate and special systems of education. They seem to me to be built upon the supposition that every child is a kind of idiot who must be taught to think.

—Anne Sullivan

And so we discovered that education is not something which the teacher does, but that it is a natural process which develops spontaneously in the human being.

—Maria Montessori

If education is always to be conceived along the same antiquated lines of a mere transmission of knowledge, there is little to be hoped from it in the bettering of man's future. For what is the use of transmitting knowledge if the individual's total development lags behind?

—Maria Montessori

Everyone who remembers his own education remembers teachers, not methods and techniques. The teacher is the heart of the educational system.

—Sidney Hook

Education without values, as useful as it is, seems rather to make man a more clever devil.

—C. S. Lewis

Money may be the measure of wealth, but it is far from the only form of it. Family, friends, social networks, personal health, culture, education, and even location are all ways of being rich, too.

—Matthew Stewart

Nothing is so fatal to the well being of our children as remaining indifferent to the education we provide them.

—Robert John Meehan

True education combines intellect, beauty, goodness, and the greatest of these is goodness. When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another.

--Helen Keller

He who adds not to his learning diminishes it.

--*The Talmud*

The main part of intellectual education is not the acquisition of facts but learning how to make facts live.

--Oliver Wendell  
Holmes, Jr.

Education is to a state what national defense is to the federal government.

--George W. Bush

Education, properly understood, is that which teaches discernment.

-Joseph Roux

We receive three educations, one from our parents, one from our schoolmasters, and one from the world. The third contradicts all that the first two teach us.

--Montesquieu

The more scholastically educated a man is generally, the more he is an emotional boor.

--David Herbert  
Lawrence

The best-educated human being is the one who understands most about the life in which he is placed.

--Helen Keller

Let early education be a sort of amusement; you will then be better able to find out the natural bent.

--Plato

Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know.

--Daniel J. Boorstin

Without education, we are in a horrible and deadly danger of taking educated people seriously.

—G. K. Chesterton

When we escaped from Cuba, all we could carry was our education.

--Alicia Coro

All you have to do to educate a child is leave him alone and teach him to read. The rest is brainwashing.

--Ellen Gilchrist

It's fairly obvious that American education is a cultural flop. Americans are not a well-educated people culturally....On the other hand they have open quick minds and if their education has little sharp positive value, it has not the stultifying effects of more rigid training.

--Raymond Chandler

Life's an open book, and an education helps you write success stories.

--Joyce A. Myers

Education is the taming or domestication of the soul's raw passions—not suppressing them or excising them, which would deprive the soul of its energy—but forming and informing them as art.

--Allan Bloom

Two kinds of people:...those who think and those who don't; the difference comes almost entirely from education.

--Rousseau

Yes, it's emotionally and psychologically difficult to get involved in anything when you don't know where your next meal is coming from. Nonetheless, education is the solution to cyclical poverty, and Latinas in particular need to concentrate on the solution, not the problem!

--Bettina R. Flores

You've never heard of four Ph.D.'s doing a drive-by or of four engineers holding up a liquor store.

--Jaime Oaxaca

Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.

--Malcolm X

Education empowers you; it places you in a position to verbally challenge people who are giving you a whole lot of nonsense.

--Camille Cosby

Perhaps we should remind ourselves that the ultimate purpose of education is not to know but to act.

--Johnetta B. Cole

I feel that the problem that we have in the black community is education. The greatest impact on the community is education. Until we can educate our people to be healthy we're going to have problems; until we can improve the education in the schools and our community we are going to have problems; until we can start early with our bright young people, get them off to a good start so they aren't already behind when they get to school we are going to have problems. So I feel that the problems are related to education.

--Dr. Joycelyn Elders

There are children of color in special education who have been taken off the express train and put on local. The local never catches up with the express.

—M. Mason

We can improve. We can keep kids in school longer and achieve a better result. We cannot fail in education. If we fail, we fail our kids, and we fail our future.

—Jaime Escalante

No one can become really educated without having pursued some study in which he took no interest—for it is a part of education to learn to interest ourselves in subjects for which we have no aptitude.

—T. S. Eliot

I read Shakespeare and the Bible and I can shoot dice. That's what I call a liberal education.

--Tallulah Bankhead

Education is the cheap defense of nations.

--Edmund Burke

If you're illiterate, people can do anything they want to you...As you go through life X-ing documents, unable to defend yourself against forces hostile to you, people can deprive you of your voting rights through gerrymandering schemes, build a freeway next to your apartment building, or open a retail crack operation on your block, with people coming and going as though you lived next door to Burger King—because you're not articulate enough to fight back, because you don't have sense enough to know what is happening to you, and so you're shoveled under at each turn in your life; you might as well be dead.

--Ishmael Reed

There's no way for the back wheels of the car to catch up with the front wheels if both are moving at the same rate.

--Whitney Young Jr.

Education is the process by which the individual relates himself to the universe, gives himself citizenship in the changing world, shares the race's mind and enfranchises his own soul.

--Dr. John H. Finley

A man cannot leave a better legacy to the world than a well-educated family.

--Thomas Scott

Formal education is but an incident in the lifetime of an individual. Most of us who have given the subject any study have come to realize that education is a continuous process ending only when ambition comes to a halt.

--Col. R. I. Rees

Your education begins when what is called your education ends.

--Justice O. W. Holmes

No man is worthy the honored name of a statesman who does not include the highest practicable education of the people in all his plans of administration. He may have eloquence, he may have a knowledge of all history, diplomacy, jurisprudence; and by these he might claim, in other countries, the elevated rank of a statesman; but, unless he speaks, plans, labors, at all times and in all places, for the culture and edification of the whole people, he is not, he cannot be, an American statesman.

--Horace Mann

In the education of children there is nothing like alluring the interest and affection; otherwise you only make so many asses laden with books.

--Michel de Montaigne



There is a time in every man's education when he arrives at the conviction that envy is ignorance; that imitation is suicide; that he must take himself for better, for worse, as his portion; that though the wide universe is full of good, no kernel of nourishing corn can come to him but through his toil bestowed on that plot of ground which is given to him to till.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Education is too important to be left solely to the educators.

--Francis Keppel

The liberally educated person is one who is able to resist the easy and preferred answers, not because he is obstinate but because he knows others worthy of consideration.

--Allan Bloom

Education must, then, be not only a transmission of culture but also a provider of alternative views of the world and a strengthener of the will to explore them.

--Jerome S. Bruner

Surely knowledge of the natural world, knowledge of the human condition, knowledge of the nature and dynamics of society, knowledge of the past so that one may use it in experiencing the present and aspiring to the future—all of these, it would seem reasonable to suppose, are essential to an educated man. To these must be added another—knowledge of the products of our artistic heritage that mark the history of our aesthetic wonder and delight.

--Jerome S. Bruner

My schooldays were the period when I was being instructed by somebody I did not know about something I did not want to know.

—G. K. Chesterton

A good education ought to help people to become both more receptive to and more discriminating about the world: seeing, feeling, and understanding more, yet sorting the pertinent from the irrelevant with an ever finer touch, increasingly able to integrate what they see and to make meaning of it in ways that enhance their ability to go on growing.

--Laurent A. Daloz

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.

--Marian Wright  
Edelman

The proper aim of education is to promote significant learning. Significant learning entails development. Development means successively asking broader and deeper questions of the relationship between oneself and the world. This is as true for first graders as graduate students, for fledging artists as graying accountants.

--Laurent A. Daloz

We need to nurture uniqueness and independence....Ours must be schools for ego-strength—the child’s ego, not the teacher’s. ‘You can do it!’ has to be the teacher’s consistent, over-and-over steady slogan: ‘You can hang up your own coat....’ ‘You can pour your own juice....’ ‘You can climb to the top....’ ‘You can figure it out.’ We have no stake in schools where children learn to color within the lines. No stake in pushing for unnecessary conformity, no stake in children submerging themselves in the group, no stake in everlasting lessons in obediently following the directions.

--James L. Hymes, Jr.

In Rousseau’s view (1762)...most of the problems of education are problems of motivation, as teachers try to rush things. They talk of geography before the child knows the way around his own backyard. They teach history before the child understands anything about adult motivation....It would be far better, to let questions arise naturally....When a child is self-motivated, the teacher cannot keep him from learning.

--C. John Sommerville

It isn’t how much you learn that makes you educated; it’s how little you forget.

—Unknown

Cutting the deficit by gutting our investments in innovation and education is like lightening an overloaded airplane by removing its engine. It may make you feel like you’re flying high at first, but it won’t take long before you feel the impact.

—U.S. President Barack Obama

The Science of Government it is my Duty to study, more than all other Sciences: the Art of legislation and Administration and Negotiation, ought to take Place, indeed to exclude in a manner all other Arts.—I must study Politicks and War that my sons may have liberty to study Mathematicks and Philosophy. My sons ought to study Mathematicks and Philosophy, Geography, natural History, Naval Architecture, navigation, Commerce and Agriculture, in order to give their Children a right to study Painting, Poetry, Musick, Architecture, Statuary, Tapestry and Porcelaine.

--John Adams

Education is to get where you can start to learn.

--George Aiken

Every child must be encouraged to get as much education as he has the ability to take. We want this not only for his sake—but for the nation’s sake. Nothing matters more to the future of our country: not military preparedness—for armed might is worthless if we lack the brain power to build a world of peace; not our productive economy—for we cannot sustain growth without trained manpower; not our democratic system of government—for freedom is fragile if citizens are ignorant.

--Lyndon B. Johnson

If you plan for a year, plant a seed. If for ten years, plant a tree. If for a hundred years, teach the people. When you sow a seed once, you will reap a single harvest. When you teach the people, you will reap a hundred harvests.

--Kuan Chung

In the conditions of modern life the rule is absolute, the race which does not value trained intelligence is doomed. Not all your heroism, not all your social charm, not all your wit, not all your victories on land or at sea, can move back the finger of fate. To-day we maintain ourselves. To-morrow science will have moved forward yet one more step, and there will be no appeal from the judgment which will then be pronounced on the uneducated.

--Alfred North Whitehead

More people have to start spending as much time in the library as they do on the basketball court. If they took the ideas that they could escape poverty through education, I think it would make a more basic and long-lasting change in the way things are done.

--Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

Children have to be educated, but they have also to be left to educate themselves.

--Ernest Dimnet

Better education than wealth.

--Welsh Proverb

Excellence in education is the key to our nation’s future. We must empower all our students with the best schools and guidance possible if we are truly to prepare for the challenges of tomorrow. At a time when we face stark choices about how best to strengthen our economic future, our commitment to education and to children must stand absolutely firm. We have a sacred obligation to put children’s needs first and to make the essential investments that will help them to succeed.

--Bill Clinton

A mind is a terrible thing to waste.

--*United Negro College  
Fund*

Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.

--Malcolm Forbes

The essence of our effort to see that every child has a chance must be to assure each an equal opportunity, not to become equal, but to become different—to realize whatever unique potential of body, mind and spirit he or she possesses.

--John Fischer

Education is forcing abstract ideas into concrete heads.

--Horace Mann

Education is not to reform students or amuse them or to make them expert technicians. It is to unsettle their minds, widen their horizons, inflame their intellects, teach them to think straight, if possible.

--Robert M. Hutchins

Education is a ladder.

--Manuelito, Navajo Chief

It is possible to store the mind with a million facts and still be entirely uneducated.

--Alec Bourne

Education is...hanging around until you've caught on.

--Robert Frost

Neither piety, nor liberty can long flourish in a community where the education of youth is neglected.

--Albert Cooper

Education is the jewel casting brilliance into the future.

--Mari Evans

To the uneducated, an A is just three sticks.

-- A. A. Milne

Genius without education is like silver in the mine.

-- Benjamin Franklin

Respect for the fragility and importance of an individual life is still the first mark of the educated man.

--Norman Cousins

Education is not the piling on of learning, information, data, facts, skills, or abilities—that's training or instruction—but is rather a making visible what is hidden as a seed.

--Thomas Moore

Now what I want is, Facts. Teach these boys and girls nothing but Facts. Facts alone are wanted in life. Plant nothing else, and root out everything else...Stick to Facts, sir!

--Charles Dickens,  
*Hard Times*

The man who views the world the same at 50 as he did at 30 has wasted 20 years of his life.

--Muhammed Ali

I am convinced that it is of primordial importance to learn more every year than the year before. After all, what is education but a process by which a person begins to learn how to learn.

--Peter Ustinov

Education—the thing itself, not the degree —is always good. A genuine education opens minds and makes good citizens. It ought to be pursued for the sake of society.

—Matthew Stewart

The great secret of education is to open all the ears—which we call senses—of a man, so that he can drink in all the harmonies of that world of music, which we commonly call life.

--William Gilmore Simms

An educated mind is, as it were, composed of all the minds of preceding ages.

--Bernard de Fontenelle

Education is the ability to meet life's situations.

--Dr. John G. Hibben

Education is only a certain relationship which we establish between ourselves and our children, a certain climate in which feelings, instincts, and thoughts can flourish.

--Natalia Ginzburg

Education is the best preventive of the evils now most dreaded.

--Rutherford B. Hayes

As each child is a new creation, as life is ever growing, ever changing, so must education, if it is to nourish the living child, be ever developing, never finished.

--Carleton W. Washburne

Nine-tenths of education is encouragement.

-- Anatole France

There are a lot of children who are suffering, and we should not have to wait another generation before we get things right.

--Rev. Michael Pflieger

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

--Nelson Mandela

Self-education is the only possible education; the rest is mere veneer laid on the surface of a child's nature.

—Charlotte Mason

Free human dialogue...lies at the heart of education.

--Neil Postman

It would be extremely naive to expect the dominant classes to develop a type of education that would enable subordinate classes to perceive social injustices critically.

—Paulo Freire

A general State education is a mere contrivance for moulding people to be exactly like one another; and as the mould in which it casts them is that which pleases the dominant power in the government, whether this be a monarch, an aristocracy, or a majority of the existing generation; in proportion as it is efficient and successful, it establishes a despotism over the mind, leading by a natural tendency to one over the body.

—John Stuart Mill

I pay the schoolmaster, but 'tis the schoolboys that educate my son.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

I am entirely certain that twenty years from now we will look back at education as it is practiced in most schools today and wonder that we could have tolerated anything so primitive.

—John W. Gardner

My schooling not only failed to teach me what it professed to be teaching, but prevented me from being educated to an extent which infuriates me when I think of all I might have learned at home by myself.

—George Bernard Shaw

The plain fact is that education is itself a form of propaganda—a deliberate scheme to outfit the pupil, not with the capacity to weigh ideas, but with a simple appetite for gulping ideas ready-made. The aim is to make 'good' citizens, which is to say, docile and uninquisitive citizens.

—H. L. Mencken

The aim of public education is not to spread enlightenment at all; it is simply to reduce as many individuals as possible to the same safe level, to breed a standard citizenry, to put down dissent and originality.

—H. L. Mencken

A well-educated mind will always have more questions than answers.

—Helen Keller

The aim of education is to enable individuals to continue their education...and the object and reward of learning is continued capacity for growth.

--John Dewey

If I ran a school, I'd give the average grade to the ones who gave me all the right answers, for being good parrots. I'd give the top grades to those who made a lot of mistakes and told me about them, and then told me what they learned from them.

—Buckminster Fuller

Rewards and punishments are the lowest form of education.

—Chuang-Tzu

No one rises to low expectations.

--Les Brown

Almost all education has a political motive: it aims at strengthening some group, national or religious or even social, in the competition with other groups. It is this motive, in the main, which determines the subjects taught, the knowledge offered and the knowledge withheld, and also decides what mental habits the pupils are expected to acquire. Hardly anything is done to foster the inward growth of mind and spirit; in fact, those who have had the most education are very often atrophied in their mental and spiritual life.

—Bertrand Russell

Education is hard work, not play, and its rewards are a seriously informed, wide ranging attitude towards real life, and the beginning of a great adventure.

--Robertson Davies

Education is a thing of which only the few are capable; teach as you will, only a small percentage will profit by your most zealous energy

--George Gissing

The question is not whether teachers will change, but when and how. The present education system cannot be tolerated. Teaching based on traditional methods is not just inadequate, it is actually injurious.

--Bill Page

In education the closeness of students to a good or great man or woman is the finest we can offer our children.

--Seymour St. John

One test of the correctness of educational procedure is the happiness of the child.

--Maria Montessori

The man who can make hard things easy is the educator.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

There is one blanket statement which can be safely made about the world's schools: the teachers talk too much.

--Martin Mayer

All claims of education notwithstanding, the pupil will accept only that which his mind craves.

--Emma Goldman



Children are our hope for the future. We are the hope for theirs.

--Lee Canter

The most violent element in society is ignorance.

--Emma Goldman

Just think of the tragedy of teaching children not to doubt.

--Clarence Darrow

Education should equip a person to live life well, to understand what is happening about him, for to live life well one must live with awareness.

--Louis L'Amour

Education would be much more effective if its purpose was to ensure that by the time they leave school every boy and girl should know how much they do not know, and be imbued with a lifelong desire to know it.

--Sir William Haley

It must be remembered that the purpose of education is not to fill the minds of students with facts. It is to teach them to think, if that is possible, and always to think for themselves.

--Robert Hutchins

A good education is the next best thing to a pushy mother.

--Charles Schulz

Education is the vaccine for violence.

--Edward James Olmos

Education costs money, but then so does ignorance.

--Sir Claus Moser

The educator must above all understand how to wait; to reckon all effects in the light of the future, not of the present.

--Ellen Key

The time has come when education must conduct itself like the Fortune 500 company it is.

--Barbara Orwig

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.

—Aristotle

Education is an exchange between people who are different each from the other.

--Mildred Odom Bradley

To make your children capable of honesty is the beginning of education.

--John Ruskin

Passion mutates into procedures, into rules and roles. Instead of purpose, we focus on policies. Instead of being free to create, we impose constraints that squeeze the life out of us.

—Margaret Wheatley

All human beings are born with unique gifts. The healthy functioning of our community depends on its capacity to develop each gift.

—Peter Senge

Our aim is to discipline for activity, for work, for good; not for immobility, not for passivity, not for obedience.

--Maria Montessori

People will pay more to be entertained than educated.

--Johnny Carson

An educational system is no broader, no deeper, no more humane, no more dynamic, no more qualitative in its aspects than the people who are its architects and leaders. In the last analysis, one quality of education is the quality of each of us.

--Samuel Gould

We will not find the solution to problems of violence, alienation, ignorance, and unhappiness in increasing our security apparatus, imposing more tests, punishing schools for their failure to produce 100 percent proficiency, or demanding that teachers be knowledgeable in ‘the subjects they teach.’

--Nel Noddings

A word as to the education of the heart. We don't believe that this can be imparted through books; it can only be imparted through the loving touch of the teacher.

--Cesar Chavez

In the human organism, there is no such thing as an independent part; all parts are interconnected. We need to recognize these connections when we teach, when we design education environments, when we provide incentives, and when we grade students. Attention to such complex matters will not simplify our tasks as teachers, but it will bring education closer to the heart of what really matters.

--Elliot Eisner

Education...is a process of living and not a preparation for future living.

--John Dewey

What then is the education to be? Perhaps we could hardly find a better than that which the experience of the past has already discovered, which consists, I believe, in gymnastic, for the body, and music for the mind.

--Plato

My request is: Help your students to become human. Your efforts should never produce learned monsters, skilled psychopaths and educated Eichmanns. Reading, writing and arithmetic are important only if they serve to make our children more humane.

--Haim G. Ginott

The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.

--Herbert Spencer

In the world which is already upon us, the aim of education must be to develop individuals who are open to change.

--Carl Rogers

In the elementary grades, many teachers are experimenting with new ways to involve students in their own experience. There is pressure emanating from a growing force for more personalized living, to make schools human places, to return students to their life as children, to allow them to believe that it is worthwhile, perhaps even special, to be a child and not to be an ongoing performer seeking institutional rewards.

--Carl Weinberg

It is a miracle that curiosity survives formal education.

--Albert Einstein

The only thing that interferes with my learning is my education.

--Albert Einstein

Where the actions of one can drastically affect the lives of others far distant, it will be crucially important that each person master the skill of feeling what others feel....One of the first tasks of education, then, is to return man to himself; to encourage rather than stifle awareness; to educate the emotions, the senses, the so-called autonomic systems; to help people become truly responsive and therefore truly responsible.

--George Leonard

An educational system is no broader, no deeper, no more humane, no more dynamic, no more qualitative in its aspects than the people who are its architects and leaders. In the last analysis, one quality of education is the quality of each of us.

--Samuel Gould

My definition of an educated man is the fellow who knows the right thing to do at the time it has to be done. You can be sincere and still be stupid.

--Charles Kettering

To educate means to lead out. And we don't lead kids out. We kind of stop them. To educate is to expose kids to many possibilities until they find a connection between what's really important to them and the world out there. And then we must nurture and cultivate that connection.

--Mikaly  
Csikszentmihalyi

The only question in education reform that's worth anything is this: What are you doing to prepare these kids for college? If I can get a kid to read Shakespeare and laugh at the right places, I can get him to college. That's all that matters to me.

--Michael Piscal

It is the high privilege and sacred duty of those now living to educate their successors and fit them, by intelligence and virtue, for the inheritance which awaits them.

--James A. Garfield

Not every child has an equal talent or an equal ability or equal motivation; but children have the equal right to develop their talent, their ability, and their motivation.

--John F. Kennedy

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.

--Franklin D. Roosevelt

Instruction increases inborn worth, and right discipline strengthens the heart.

--Horace

The secret of education lies in respecting the pupil.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

It's a mistake to think that once you're done with school you need never learn anything new.

--Sophia Loren

The key is that unless there is accountability, we will never get the right system. As long as there are no consequences if kids or adults don't perform, as long as the discussion is not about education and student outcomes, then we're playing a game as to who has the power.

--Albert Shanker

The top-performing school systems [internationally] attract more able people into the teaching profession, leading to better student outcomes...The top-performing systems we studied recruit their teachers from the top third of each cohort [that graduates] from their school system...Conversely, lower-performing school systems rarely attract the right people into teaching. The New Commission on the Skills of the American Workforce observes that, 'We are now recruiting our teachers from the bottom third of high-school students going to college.'

--Mckinsey and Company

The quality of an education system cannot exceed the quality of its teachers.

--Mckinsey and Company

That's the reason they're called lessons...because they lessen from day to day.

—Lewis Carroll

The central task of education is to implant a will and a facility for learning; it should produce not learned but learning people. The truly human society is a learning society, where grandparents, parents, and children are students together. In a time of drastic change it is the learners who inherit the future. The learned usually find themselves equipped to live in a world that no longer exists.

--Eric Hoffer

Education is a wonderful thing. If you couldn't sign your name you'd have to pay cash.

—Rita Mae Brown

Right now about 22 percent of the people in the world graduate high school or the equivalent. That's pathetic.

--Jose Ferreira

The United States routinely spends more tax dollars per high-school athlete than per high-school math student—unlike most countries worldwide. And we wonder why we lag in international education rankings?

--Amanda Ripley

A visitor entering an American high school would likely be confronted, first of all, with a trophy case. His examination of the trophies would reveal a curious fact: The gold and silver cups, with rare exception, symbolize victory in athletic contests, not scholastic ones...Altogether, the trophy case would suggest to the innocent visitor that he was entering an athletic club, not a educational institution.

--James Coleman

In many schools, sports are so entrenched that no one—not even the people in charge—realizes their actual cost. When Marguerite Roza, the author of *Educational Economics*, analyzed the finances of one public high school in the Pacific Northwest, she and her colleagues found that the school was spending \$328 a student for math instruction and more than four times that much for cheerleading—\$1,348 a cheerleader. 'And it is not even a school in a district that prioritizes cheerleading' Roza wrote. 'In fact, this district's strategic plan has for the past three years claimed that *math* was the primary focus.'

--Amanda Ripley

I don't think anybody anywhere can talk about the future of their people or of an organization without talking about education. Whoever controls the education of our children controls our future.

--Wilma Mankiller

Imagine, or a moment, if Americans transferred our obsessive intensity about high-school sports—the rankings, the trophies, the ceremonies, the pride—to high-school academics. We would look not so different from South Korea, or Japan, or any of a handful of Asian countries whose hypercompetitive, pressure-cooker approach to academics in many ways mirrors the American approach to sports. Both approaches can be dysfunctional; both set kids up for stress and disappointment. The difference is that 93 percent of South Korean students graduate from high school, compared with just 77 percent of American students—only about 2 percent of whom receive athletic scholarships to college.

--Amanda Ripley

There is no correlation between homework and achievement. According to a 2005 study by the Penn State professors Gerald K. LeTendre and David P. Baker, some of the countries that score higher than the U.S. on testing in the *Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study*—Japan and Denmark, for example—give less homework, while some of those scoring lower, including Thailand and Greece, assign more. Why pile on the homework if it doesn't make even a testable difference, and in fact may be harmful?

--Karl Taro Greenfeld

Some countries where the school systems are held up as models for our schools have been going in the opposite direction of the U.S., giving less homework and implementing narrower curricula built to encourage deeper understanding rather than broader coverage.

--Karl Taro Greenfeld

My daughter tells me she got a C on her math homework from the night before because she hadn't made an answer column. Her correct answers were there, at the end of each neatly written-out equation, yet they weren't segregated into a separate column on the right side of each page. I'm amazed that the pettiness of this doesn't seem to bother her. School is training her well for the inanities of adult life.

--Karl Taro Greenfeld

The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.

My idea of an educated person is one who can converse on one subject for more than two minutes.

--Robert Millikan

Education, whatever else it should or should not be, must be an inoculation against the poisons of life and an adequate equipment in knowledge and skill for meeting the chances of life.

--Havelock Ellis

I also tell them that your education can take you way farther than a football, baseball, track, or basketball will—that's just the bottom line.

--Bo Jackson

One of the saddest things about U.S. education is that the wisdom of our most successful teachers is lost to the profession when they retire.

—John Dewey

Since the conception of our country, America has held that parents, not schools, teachers, and certainly not courts, hold the primary responsibility of educating their children.

--John Doolittle

Greater financial and educational resources allow some parents to embed their children in neighborhoods and social settings in which they meet many college-educated adults with interesting careers. Upper-middle-class kids aren't just *told* a good education will help them succeed in life. They are surrounded by family and friends who work as doctors, lawyers, and engineers and who reminisce about their college years around the dinner table. Asian parents are an interesting exception: even when they are poor and unable to provide these types of social settings, they seem to be able to communicate the value and appeal of education in a similarly effective manner.

--Dana Goldstein

In poor and working-class households, children are urged to stay quiet and show deference to adult authority figures such as teachers. In middle-class households, kids learn to ask critical questions and to advocate for themselves—behaviors that serve them well in the classroom.

--Dana Goldstein

One of the few ways parents can improve their kids' academic performance—by as much as eight points on a reading or math test—is by getting them placed in the classroom of a teacher with a good reputation....White parents are at least twice as likely as black and Latino parents to request a specific teacher. Given that the best teachers have been shown to raise students' lifetime earnings and to decrease the likelihood of teen pregnancy, this is no small intervention.

--Dana Goldstein

In schools the main problem is not the absence of innovations but the presence of too many disconnected... piecemeal, superficially adorned projects... We are over our heads.

—Michael Fullan

Beginning in 2011, Swanson Primary School in New Zealand submitted itself to a university experiment and agreed to suspend all playground rules, allowing the kids to run, climb trees, slide down a muddy hill, jump off swings, and play in a 'loose-parts pit' that was like a mini adventure playground. The teachers feared chaos, but in fact what they got was less naughtiness and bullying—because the kids were too busy and engaged to want to cause trouble, the principal said.

--Hanna Rosin



Results from the *Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking* in 2011 found that American children's scores have declined steadily across the past decade or more. The data show that children have become: less emotionally expressive, less energetic, less talkative and verbally expressive, less humorous, less imaginative, less unconventional, less lively and passionate, less perceptive, less apt to connect seemingly irrelevant things, less synthesizing, and less likely to see things from a different angle. The largest drop has been in the measure of 'elaboration,' or the ability to take an idea and expand on it in a novel way.

--Kyung-Hee Kim

If life were one long grade school, women would be the undisputed rulers of the world.

--Carol Dweck

It's easier for young girls than for young boys to behave: As is well established, they start elementary school with a developmental edge in some key areas. They have longer attention spans, more-advanced verbal and fine-motor skills, and greater social adeptness. They generally don't charge through the halls like wild animals, or get into fights during recess. Soon they learn that they are most valuable, and most in favor, when they do things the right way: neatly and quietly.

--Katty Kay and Claire  
Shipman

Girls seem to be more easily socialized. They get a lot of praise for being perfect says Carol Dweck. In turn, they begin to crave the approval they get for being good. There's certainly no harm intended by overworked, overstressed teachers (or parents). Who doesn't want a kid who works hard and doesn't cause a lot of trouble?

--Katty Kay and Claire  
Shipman

We conclude that, in the field of public education, the doctrine of 'separate but equal' has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal....To separate black children from others of similar age and qualifications solely because of their race generates a feeling of inferiority as to their status in the community that may affect their hearts and minds in a way unlikely ever to be undone.

--Chief Justice Earl  
Warren (1954)

Education sows not seeds in you, but makes your seeds grow.

--Kahlil Gibran

The more that learn to read the less learn how to make a living. That's one thing about a little education. It spoils you for actual work. The more you know the more you think somebody owes you a living.

--Will Rogers

Some claim that education is an art and a science. It's a science and a science.

--Ben Nelson

The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be lit.

—Plutarch

Give me the children until they are seven and anyone may have them afterwards.

—St. Francis Xavier

An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest.

—Benjamin Franklin

Anyone who has passed through the regular gradations of a classical education, and is not made a fool by it, may consider himself as having had a very narrow escape.

—William Hazlitt

In large states public education will always be mediocre, for the same reason that in large kitchens the cooking is usually bad.

—Friedrich Nietzsche

Although a man be able to recite 300 odes, if he knows not how to act, of what use is his learning?

—Confucius

Education is not merely a means for earning a living or an instrument for the acquisition of wealth. It is an initiation into life of spirit, a training of the human soul in the pursuit of truth and the practice of virtue.

—Vijaya Lakshmi Pundit

The educated do not share a common body of information, but a common state of mind.

—Mason Cooley

Do you know the difference between education and experience? Education is when you read the fine print; experience is what you get when you don't.

—Pete Seeger

Low-income parents as a group tend toward a firmly directive approach with their children, whereas middle-class parents typically favor a more solicitous tack, encouraging their kids to question adult authority....the different effects on behavior: dutiful respect versus a sense of entitlement.

—Sarah Carr

A liberal education... frees a man from the prison-house of his class, race, time, place, background, family and even his nation.

—Robert M. Hutchins

There are two educations. One should teach us how to make a living and the other how to live.

—John Adams

Education is important, but big biceps are importanter.

—T-Shirt Slogan

Formal education will earn you a living, self-education will make you a fortune.

—Jim Rohn

You may be a redneck if... you have spent more on your pickup truck than on your education.

—Jeff Foxworthy

Those who know about education have no power; those who have the power know little or nothing about education.

—Marion Brady

Nothing is easier than to falsify the past. Lifeless instruction will do it. If you rob it of vitality, stiffen it with pedantry, sophisticate it with argument, chill it with unsympathetic comment, you render it as dead as any academic exercise. The safest way in all ordinary seasons is to let it speak for itself: resort to its records, listen to its poets and to its masters in the humbler art of prose. Your real and proper object, after all, is not to expound, but to realize it, consort with it, and make your spirit kin with it, so that you may never shake the sense of obligation off. In short, I believe that the catholic study of the world's literature as a record of spirit is the right preparation for leadership in the world's affairs, if you undertake it like a man and not like a pedant.

—Woodrow Wilson

No student knows his subject: the most he knows is where and how to find out the things he does not know.

—Woodrow Wilson

The object of education is not merely to draw out the powers of the individual mind: it is rather its right object to draw all minds to a proper adjustment to the physical and social world in which they are to have their life and their development: to enlighten, strengthen and make fit.

—Woodrow Wilson

Next in importance to freedom and justice is popular education, without which neither freedom nor justice can be permanently maintained.

—James A. Garfield

Education is a state-controlled manufactory of echoes.

—Norman Douglas

Education: that which reveals to the wise, and conceals from the stupid, the vast limits of their knowledge.

—Mark Twain

Every educated person ought to know when a thing is proved and when it is not proved, should know how to investigate and analyze the proposition which confronts him, and how to search for solutions, how to talk about it effectively before others, and how to contribute to a discussion on problems of joint interest.

—William Norwood  
Brigance

The aim of education is precisely to develop intelligence of this independent and effective type—*a disciplined mind*.

—John Dewey

We state emphatically that, upon its intellectual side, education consists in the formation of wide-awake, careful, thorough habits of thinking.

—John Dewey

The discipline of education is thus inquiry into the development of the power of thought and the study of ways of nurturing it.

—W. R. Wees

If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.

—Thomas Jefferson

Education is ongoing, never complete. A headstone will be my diploma.

—Lawrence Levine

At present opinion is divided about the subjects of education. People do not take the same view about what should be learned by the young, either with a view to human excellence or a view to the best possible life; nor is it clear whether education should be directed mainly to the intellect or to moral character...whether the proper studies to be pursued are those that are useful in life, or those which make for excellence, or those that advance the bounds of knowledge...men do not all honor the same excellence, and so naturally they differ about the proper training for it.

—Aristotle

The paradox of education is precisely this—that as one begins to become conscious one begins to examine the society in which he is being educated. The purpose of education, finally, is to create in a person the ability to look at the world for himself, to make his own decisions.

—James Baldwin

Equal rights cannot exist without equality of instruction.

—Frances Wright

I respect faith, but doubt is what gives you an education.

—Wilson Mizner

Nations have recently been led to borrow billions for war; no nation has ever borrowed largely for education... no nation is rich enough to pay for both war and civilization. We must make our choice; we cannot have both.

—Abraham Flexner

With guns you can kill terrorists. With education, you can kill terrorism.

—Malala Yousafzai

Nothing in all the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity.

—Martin Luther  
King, Jr.

Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.

—Albert Einstein

Learning starts with failure; the first failure is the beginning of education.

—John Hersey

The ignorant classes are the dangerous classes.

—Henry Ward Beecher

The child who desires education will be bettered by it; the child who dislikes it disgraced.

—John Ruskin

Public education does not exist for the benefit of students or the benefit of their parents. It exists for the benefit of the social order.

We have discovered as a species that it is useful to have an educated population. You do not need to be a student or have a child who is a student to benefit from public education. Every second of every day of your life, you benefit from public education.

So let me explain why I like to pay taxes for schools, even though I don't personally have a kid in school: It's because I don't like living in a country with a bunch of stupid people.

—John Green

Education and democracy have the same goal: the fullest possible development of human capabilities.

—Paul Wellstone

Preschool classrooms have become increasingly fraught spaces, with teachers cajoling their charges to finish their 'work' before they can go play. And yet, even as preschoolers are learning more pre-academic skills at earlier ages, I've heard many teachers say that they seem somehow—is it possible?—less inquisitive and less engaged than the kids of earlier generations. More children today seem to lack the language skills needed to retell a simple story or use basic connecting words and prepositions. They can't make a conceptual analogy between, say, the veins on a leaf and the veins in their own hands.

—Erika Christakis

Life is tough, but it's tougher when you're stupid.

—John Wayne

New research sounds a particularly disquieting note....Although children who had attended preschool initially exhibited more ‘school readiness’ skills when they entered kindergarten than did their non-preschool-attending peers, by the time they were in first grade their attitudes toward school were deteriorating. And by second grade they performed *worse* on tests measuring literacy, language, and math skills. The researchers told *New York* magazine that overreliance on direct instruction and repetitive, poorly structured pedagogy were likely culprits; children who’d been subjected to the same insipid tasks year after year after year were understandably losing their enthusiasm for learning.

—Erika Christakis

When I survey parents of preschoolers....they fear that the old-fashioned pleasures of unhurried learning have no place in today’s hypercompetitive world....The stress is palpable: Pick the ‘wrong’ preschool or ease up on the phonics drills at home, and your child might not go to college. She might not be employable. She might not even be allowed to start first grade!

—Erika Christakis

The real focus in the preschool years should be not just on vocabulary and reading, but on talking and listening. We forget how vital spontaneous, unstructured conversation is to young children’s understanding. By talking with adults, and one another, they pick up information. They learn how things work. They solve puzzles that trouble them. Sometimes, to be fair, what children take away from a conversation is wrong. They might conclude, as my young son did, that pigs produce ham, just as chickens produce eggs and cows produce milk. But these understandings are worked over, refined, and adapted—as when a brutal older sibling explains a ham sandwich’s grisly origins.

—Erika Christakis

In the past few decades we have seen a major transfer of child care and early learning from home to institution: Nearly three-quarters of American 4-year-olds are now in some kind of non-family care.

—Erika Christakis

The academic takeover of American early learning can be understood as a shift from what I would call an ‘ideas-based curriculum’ to a ‘naming-and-labeling-based curriculum.’ Not coincidentally, the latter can be delivered without substantially improving our teaching force. Inexperience or poorly supported teachers are directed to rely heavily on scripted lesson plans for a reason: We can point to a defined objective, and tell ourselves that at least kids are getting *something* this way.

—Erika Christakis

What usually happens in the educational process is that the faculties are dulled, overloaded, stuffed and paralyzed so that by the time most people are mature they have lost their innate capabilities.

—R. Buckminster Fuller

The poor poet has not in these days, nor has he had for two hundred years, a dog's chance. Believe me—and I have spent a great part of the last ten years in watching some 320 Elementary Schools—we prate of democracy, but actually a poor child in England has little more hope than had the son of an Athenian slave to be emancipated into that intellectual freedom of which great writings are born.

—A. Quiller-Couch

He [Robert Frost] left Dartmouth, not because he didn't like hard work, nor because he was restless, but because he found college a mill of being made into 'decent boards', and he was going to stay a growing tree....No real experience comes, he thinks, when you can take the sting out of it by telling yourself you can use it in a book or otherwise. The experiences that toughen your character or furnish your mind are experiences you are submerged in.

—Sidney Cox

Education is neither eastern or western. Education is education, and it's the right of every human being.

—Malala Yousafzai

The truth, as many American teachers know firsthand, is that low-income children can be harder to educate than children from more comfortable backgrounds. Educators often struggle to motivate them, to calm them down, to connect with them. This doesn't mean they're impossible to teach, of course; plenty of kids who grow up in poverty are thriving in the classroom. But two decades of national attention have done little or nothing to close the achievement gap between poor students and their better-off peers.

—Paul Tough

Character matters. Researches concerned with academic-achievement gaps have begun to study, with increasing interest and enthusiasm, a set of personal qualities—often referred to as noncognitive skills, or character strengths—that include resilience, conscientiousness, optimism, self-control, and grit. These capacities generally aren't captured by our ubiquitous standardized tests, but they seem to make a big difference in the academic success of children, especially low-income children.

—Paul Tough



Where is the line between education as a tool and education as a kind of magic? The line is blurred, and that is why when education fails, disillusionment is so bitter.

—Henry Anatole  
Grunwald

The aim of education is the knowledge not of fact, but of values.

—William Ralph Inge

Education is that which discloses to the wise and disguises from the foolish their lack of understanding.

—Ambrose Bierce

The greatest service we can do to education today is to teach fewer subjects. No one has time to do more than a very few things well before he is twenty, and when we force a boy to be a mediocrity in a dozen subjects, we destroy his standards, perhaps for life.

—C. S. Lewis

The ultimate goal of the educational system is to shift to the individual the burden of pursuing his own education. This will not be a widely shared pursuit until we get over our odd conviction that education is what goes on in school buildings and nowhere else.

—John W. Gardner

We should not lose sight of the fact the most important door a child walks through for their education is the front door of their home.

—Robert John Meehan

The most important outcome of education is to help students become independent of formal education.

—Paul E. Gray

Above all things I hope the education of the common people will be attended to; convinced that on their good sense we may rely with most security for the preservation of a due degree of liberty.

—Thomas Jefferson

Merely to stuff the child with a lot of information, making him pass examinations, is the most unintelligent form of education.

—Jiddu Krishnamurti

Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.

—Aristotle

Children have to be educated, but they have also to be left to educate themselves.

—Abbe Dimnet

Education is a progressive discovery of our ignorance.

—William James ‘Will’  
Durant

No man who worships education has got the best out of education... Without a gentle contempt for education no man’s education is complete.

—Gilbert K. Chesterton

Schooling, instead of encouraging the asking of questions, too often discourages it.

—Madeleine L’Engle

One should guard against preaching to young people success in the customary form as the main aim in life. The most important motive for work in school and in life is pleasure in work, pleasure in its result, and the knowledge of the value of the result to the community.

—Albert Einstein

American education will never realize its potential as an engine of opportunity and economic growth until a writing revolution puts the power of language and communication in their proper place in the classroom. Writing is how students connect the dots in their knowledge.

--Bob Kerrey

Compassionate teachers fill a void left by working parents who aren’t able to devote enough attention to their children. Teachers don’t just teach; they can be vital personalities who help young people to mature, to understand the world and to understand themselves. A good education consists of much more than useful facts and marketable skills.

—Charles Platt

Education would be much more effective if its purpose was to ensure that by the time they leave school every boy and girl should know how much they do not know and be imbued with a lifelong desire to know it.

—William Haley

We must not believe the many, who say that only free people ought to be educated, but we should rather believe the philosophers who say that only the educated are free.

—Epictetus

Education begins at home. You can't blame the school for not putting into your child what you don't put into him.

—Geoffrey Holder

Real education should educate us out of self into something far finer—into selflessness which links us to all humanity.

—Mary Astor

Education is what most receive, many pass on, and few possess.

—Karl Kraus

In all education the main cause of failure is staleness.

—Alfred North  
Whitehead

But if you ask what is the good of education in general, the answer is easy: that education makes good men, and that good men act nobly.

—Plato

Educate the heart. Let us have good men.

—Hiram Powers

Example has more followers than reason.

—Bovee

It is not what is poured into a student that counts but what is planted.

—Linda Conway

Like politics, all education is local.

—Gerald Bracey

If someone is going down the wrong road, he doesn't need motivation to speed him up. What he needs is education to turn him around.

—Jim Rohn

The belief that all genuine education comes about through experience does not mean that all experiences are genuinely or equally educative.

—John Dewey

I regard it as the foremost task of education to insure the survival of these qualities: an enterprising curiosity, an undefeatable spirit, tenacity in pursuit, readiness for sensible self denial, and above all, compassion.

—Kurt Hahn

Education must enable young people to affect what they have recognized to be right, despite hardships, despite dangers, despite inner skepticism, despite boredom, and despite mockery from the world.

—Kurt Hahn

Education is the movement from darkness to light.

—Allan Bloom

For if you suffer your people to be ill-educated, and their manners to be corrupted from their infancy, and then punish them for those crimes to which their first education disposed them, what else is to be concluded from this, but that you first make thieves and then punish them.

—Sir Thomas More

Education should not be a matter of memorizing mysterious formulas—it should be a matter of understanding.

—Elliot C. Gootman

Do not confine your children to your own learning, for they were born in another time.

—Hebrew Proverb

A treatment method or an educational method that will work for one child may not work for another child. The one common denominator for all of the young children is that early intervention does work, and it seems to improve the prognosis.

—Temple Grandin

Every citizen is capable of the kind of intellectual competence previously attained by only a small minority. The question is not, Is it possible to educate all children well? but rather, Do we want to do it badly enough?

—Deborah Meier

Having an above average teacher for five years running can completely close the average gap between low-income students and others.

--John Kain and Eric  
Hanushek

We like to think of college as a meritocracy, a place where only the dedicated and smart survive. But it seems to be something else. Between 1970 and 2012, the proportion of American 24-year-olds who came from affluent families and had a bachelor's degree rose from 40 percent to 73 percent—quite an enlightenment period for privileged kids. But over the same period, the proportion of American 24-year-olds who came from low-income families and had a bachelor's degree rose from 6 percent to just 8 percent. The country's uneven public-school systems cannot be blamed entirely for this state of affairs. Too many people come to college unprepared academically, it's true. But even those low-income students who outperform their affluent peers on tests are less likely to graduate from college.

—Amanda Ripley

A piece of you cringes when you hear that your friend has been preparing for the SAT with classes since last summer, and that they're already scoring a 2000. (And what about...the girl taking a summer immersion program to skip ahead and get into AP French her sophomore year? And that internship your best friend has with a Stanford professor?) You can't help but slip into the system of competitive insanity...We are not teenagers. We are lifeless bodies in a system that breeds competition, hatred, and discourages teamwork and genuine learning. We lack sincere passion. We are sick...Why is that not getting through to this community? Why does this insanity that is our school district continue?

—Carolyn Walworth,  
High School Junior

What its children become, that will the community become.

--Suzanne La Follette

Elite education manufactures students who are smart and talented and driven, yes, but also anxious, timid, and lost, with little intellectual curiosity and a stunted sense of purpose.

—William Deresiewicz

Childhood is not a race to see how quickly a child can read, write and count. It is a small window of time to learn and develop at the pace that is right for each individual child. Earlier is not better.

—Magda Gerber

Casals says music fills him with the wonder of life and the ‘incredible marvel’ of being a human. Ives says it expands his mind and challenges him to be a true individual. Bernstein says it is enriching and ennobling. To me, that sounds like a good cause for making music and the arts an integral part of every child’s education. Studying music and the arts elevates children’s education, expands students’ horizons, and teaches them to appreciate the wonder of life.

—Richard Riley

No profit grows where is no pleasure taken; in brief, sir, study what you most affect.

--William Shakespeare

It may be that we should stop putting so much emphasis in our own minds on the monetary value of a college education and put more emphasis on the intangible social and cultural values to be derived from learning. The time may be coming when we will have to start accepting the ideas that education is life, not merely a preparation for it.

—Seymour E. Harris

Man’s knowledge of science has clearly outstripped his knowledge of man. Our only hope of making the atom servant rather than master lies in education, in a broad liberal education where each student within his capacity can free himself from trammels of dogmatic prejudice and apply his educational accoutrement to besetting social and human problems.

--Harry Woodburn Chase

All of life is a constant education.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

We increasingly treat education as if its primary goal were to teach students to be economically productive rather than to think critically and become knowledgeable and empathetic citizens. This shortsighted focus on profitable skills has eroded our ability to criticize authority, reduced our sympathy with the marginalized and different, and damaged our competence to deal with complex global problems. The loss of these basic capacities jeopardizes the health of democracies and the hope of a decent world.

—Martha Nussbaum

You must resist efforts to reduce education to a tool of the gross national product. Rather, work to reconnect education to the humanities in order to give students the capacity to be true democratic citizens of their countries and the world.

—Martha Nussbaum

This is why, as soon as age permitted me to emerge from the control of my tutors, I entirely quitted the study of letters. And resolving to seek no other knowledge than that which could be found in myself, or at least in the great books of the world, I employed the rest of my youth in travel, in seeing courts and armies, in speaking with men of diverse temperaments and conditions, in collecting varied experiences, in proving myself in the various predicaments in which I was placed by fortune, and under all circumstances bringing my mind to bear on the things which came before it, so that I might derive some profit from my experience.

—René Descartes

The real process of education should be the process of learning to think through the application of real problems.

—John Dewey

In true education, anything that comes to our hand is as good as a book: the prank of a page-boy, the blunder of a servant, a bit of table talk - they are all part of the curriculum.

—Michel de Montaigne

In a time of drastic change, it is the learners who inherit the future. The learned usually find themselves equipped to live in a world that no longer exists.

--Eric Hoffer

You cannot try to fix the quality of education without asking the basic question: 'What do you mean by an educated youngster?' Just to get a kid into a math course is good. But it's better if we can define what an effective math course is.

--Bill Honig

You may not divide the seamless cloak of learning. There is only one subject-matter for education and that is Life in all its manifestations.

--Alfred North  
Whitehead

Education starts with knowledge of yourself.

--Jerome Avery

Learning should not only take us somewhere; it should allow us later to go further more easily.

--Jerome S. Bruner

It is indeed one of the great ironies of our time, that having designed computers that can perform the function of information storage and retrieval better than any human, we continue to emphasize in our teaching and testing, information storage and retrieval.

--Edward T. Clark

Since the real purpose of education is not to have the instructor perform certain activities but to bring about significant changes in the students' pattern of behaviour, it becomes important to recognize that any statements of objectives of the school should be a statement of changes to take place in the students.

—Ralph Tyler (1949)

The ultimate end of education is happiness or a good human life, a life enriched by the possession of every kind of good, by the enjoyment of every type of satisfaction.

—Mortimer Adler

It is as though our society has simply decided that the purpose of schooling is economic—to improve the financial condition of individuals and to advance the prosperity of the nation. Hence students should do well on standardized tests, get into good colleges, obtain well-paying jobs, and buy lots of things. Surely there must be more to education than this?

—Nel Noddings

All of life is education and everybody is a teacher and everybody is forever a pupil.

—Abraham Maslow

Education is learning to grow, learning what to grow toward, learning what is good and bad, learning what is desirable and undesirable, learning what to choose and what not to choose.

—Abraham Maslow

I think my deepest criticism of the educational system . . . is that it's all based upon a distrust of the student. Don't trust him to follow his own leads; guide him; tell him what to do; tell him what he should think; tell him what he should learn. Consequently at the very age when he should be developing adult characteristics of choice and decision making, when he should be trusted on some of those things, trusted to make mistakes and to learn from those mistakes, he is, instead, regimented and shoved into a curriculum, whether it fits him or not.

—Carl Rogers

Education is... doing anything that changes you.

—George Leonard



Public education has served as a check on the power of parents, and this is another powerful reason for maintaining it.

—John Goodlad

Parents do not own their children. They have no ‘natural right’ to control their education fully.

—John Goodlad

The ultimate aim of education is to enable individuals to become the architects of their own education and through that process to continually reinvent themselves.

—Elliot W. Eisner

We are born weak, we need strength; helpless, we need aid; foolish, we need reason. All that we lack at birth, all that we need when we come to man’s estate, is the gift of education.

— Jean-Jacques  
Rousseau

Establishing lasting peace is the work of education; all politics can do is keep us out of war.

—Maria Montessori

I will say little of the importance of a good education; nor will I stop to prove that the current one is bad. Countless others have done so before me, and I do not like to fill a book with things everybody knows. I will note that for the longest time there has been nothing but a cry against the established practice without anyone taking it upon himself to propose a better one. The literature and the learning of our age tend much more to destruction than to edification.

— Jean-Jacques  
Rousseau

If the purpose of secondary education is to improve all students’ ability to be successful as adults why is Algebra II required but not child-rearing or financial literacy or ethics?

—Grant Wiggins

We learn simply by the exposure of living. Much that passes for education is not education at all but ritual. The fact is that we are being educated when we know it least.

—David P. Gardner

Knowledge of the past should not be the goal of education but rather learning to perform in the future tasks of life should be the aim; whether it is maintaining relationships, raising children, cooking for our families, playing a sport or building a house. Not only are increasing abilities to perform in real life the most important outcomes of education but actually engaging in tasks related to these real world challenges is the best way to learn. We don't spend much time learning the history of soccer in order to learn to play—we start playing and learn the rules, strategies and, even its history if we are really smitten by the bug, in the context of learning to play. The same is true of music and many practical skills. The content is rarely the point; content is the by-product of actually learning to perform and then improve our performance.

—Grant Wiggins

We cannot know the consequences of suppressing a child's spontaneity when he is just beginning to be active. We may even suffocate life itself. That humanity which is revealed in all its intellectual splendor during the sweet and tender age of childhood should be respected with a kind of religious veneration. It is like the sun which appears at dawn or a flower just beginning to bloom. Education cannot be effective unless it helps a child to open up himself to life.

—Maria Montessori

The goal of education is to help people use their minds better.

—Howard Gardner

Scientific observation then has established that education is not what the teacher gives; education is a natural process spontaneously carried out by the human individual, and is acquired not by listening to words but by experiences upon the environment.

—Maria Montessori

The principal goal of education is to create men who are capable of doing new things, not simply of repeating what other generations have done—men who are creative, inventive, and discoverers. The second goal of education is to form minds which can be critical, can verify, and not accept everything they are offered.

—Jean Piaget

Education, for most people, means trying to lead the child to resemble the typical adult of his society . . . but for me and no one else, education means making creators. . . . You have to make inventors, innovators...not conformists.

—Jean Piaget

Only education is capable of saving our societies from possible collapse, whether violent, or gradual.

—Jean Piaget

Liberating education consists in acts of cognition, not transferrals of information.

— Paulo Freire

By instructing students how to learn, unlearn and relearn, a powerful new dimension can be added to education. Psychologist Herbert Gerjuoy of the Human Resources Research Organization phrases it simply: 'The new education must teach the individual how to classify and reclassify information, how to evaluate its veracity, how to change categories when necessary, how to move from the concrete to the abstract and back, how to look at problems from a new direction—how to teach himself. Tomorrow's illiterate will not be the man who can't read; he will be the man who has not learned how to learn.'

— Alvin Toffler

Education, whether of black man or white man, that gives one physical courage to stand up in front of a cannon and fails to give one moral courage to stand up in defense of right and justice, is a failure.

--Booker T. Washington

Erudition—dust shaken out of a book into an empty skull.

—Ambrose Bierce

Education really ought to help us understand the world we live in. This includes flora, fauna, cultures, governments, religions, money, advertising, buildings, cities, and especially people. Then it should help us cope with the world. And in the process, it would be nice if it helped us to become good, kind, empathic people.

--Tom Magliozzi

I am not an educational theorist but I think I know what an educated man looks like. He is thoroughly inoculated against humbug, thinks for himself and tries to give his thoughts, in speech or on paper, some style.

—Alan Simpson

Thinking is a most important and most neglected art. One of the criticisms I would suggest against our present system of education is the lack of training in the art of thinking.

--David Sarnoff

A child's mind is like a shallow brook which ripples and dances merrily over the stony course of its education and reflects here a flower, there a bush, yonder a fleecy cloud...

--Helen Keller

The IQ is often less important in education than the I Will.

—Unknown

The debate about homework should not be 'how much?' but 'what kind?' and 'what for?' Using homework merely to cover material there was no time for in class is less helpful, for example, than 'distributed practice': reinforcing and reviewing essential skills. Independent reading is also important. There are many more rare and unique words in even relatively simple texts than in the conversation of college graduates. Reading widely and with stamina is an important way to build verbal proficiency and background knowledge, keys to mature reading comprehension.

--Robert Pondiscio

Education in a democracy, both within and without the school, should develop in each individual the knowledge, interests, ideals, habits, and powers whereby he will find his place and use that place to shape both himself and society toward ever nobler ends.

—*Cardinal Principles of  
Secondary  
Education, 1918*

A man cannot leave a better legacy to the world than a well educated family.

--Thomas Scott

We know that increased parental involvement is critical to improving the quality of education for our children and all children. Parent involvement is a beacon of hope for healing what is wrong with our community and our nation.

--Emily Haxton

Some economists attribute the need for credit and the drive to spend with the 'keeping up with the Joneses' syndrome, which is so prevalent in America. I never wanted to keep up with the Joneses. But, like many Americans, I wanted my children to keep up with the Joneses' children, because I knew how easily my girls could be marginalized in a society where nearly all the rewards go to a small, well-educated elite.

—Neal Gabler

The first quality of a good education is good manners—and some people flunk the course.

--Hubert Humphrey

Game shows are designed to make us feel better about the random, useless facts that are all we have left of our education.

—Chuck Palahniuk

Gentlemen, you are now about to embark on a course of studies which will occupy you for two years. Together, they form a noble adventure. But I would like to remind you of an important point. Nothing that you will learn in the course of your studies will be of the slightest possible use to you in after life, save only this, that if you work hard and intelligently you should be able to detect when a man is talking rot, and that, in my view, is the main, if not the sole, purpose of education.

—John Alexander Smith,  
Speech to Oxford  
University  
Students, 1914

This is at the heart of all good education, where the teacher asks students to think and engages them in encouraging dialogues, constantly checking for understanding and growth.

—William Glasser

We need to make education so much fun that students can't help but learn.

—Sebastian Thrun

My contention is that most students get distracted by music and social media because our current state of education is not sufficiently engaging to command their full attention.

—Thomas Frey

Our approach to education has remained largely unchanged since the Renaissance: From middle school through college, most teaching is done by an instructor lecturing to a room full of students, only some of them paying attention.

—Daphne Koller

What we are doing in educating students is trying to prepare them to live more fulfilling lives for the decades after they graduate. And trying to provide a better, richer, fairer, more decent society for the generations after.

—Derek Bok

The most erroneous assumption is to the effect that the aim of public education is to fill the young of the species with knowledge and awaken their intelligence, and so make them fit to discharge the duties of citizenship in an enlightened and independent manner. Nothing could be further from the truth. The aim of public education is not to spread enlightenment at all; it is simply to reduce as many individuals as possible to the same safe level, to breed and train a standardized citizenry, to put down dissent and originality. That is its aim in the United States, whatever the pretensions of politicians, pedagogues and other such mountebanks, and that is its aim everywhere else.

—H. L. Mencken

Violence is black children going to school for 12 years and receiving 6 years' worth of education.

--Julian Bond

The things taught in schools are not an education but the means of an education.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

You know there is a problem with the education system when you realize that out of the three Rs, only one begins with an R.

--Dennis Miller

Our great mistake in education is, as it seems to me, the worship of book-learning—the confusion of instruction and education. We strain the memory instead of cultivating the mind. The children in our elementary schools are wearied by the mechanical act of writing, and the interminable intricacies of spelling; they are oppressed by columns of dates, by lists of kings and places, which convey no definite idea to their minds, and have no near relation to their daily wants and occupations; while in our public schools the same unfortunate results are produced by the weary monotony of Latin and Greek grammar. We ought to follow exactly the opposite course with children—to give them a wholesome variety of mental food, and endeavor to cultivate their tastes, rather than to fill their minds with dry facts. The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught, as that every child should be given the wish to learn. What does it matter if the pupil know a little more or a little less? A boy who leaves school knowing much, but hating his lessons, will soon have forgotten almost all he ever learned; while another who had acquired a thirst for knowledge, even if he had learned little, would soon teach himself more than the first ever knew.

—John Lubbock

One could get a first-class education from a shelf of books five feet long.

--Charles William Eliot

Observation more than books, experience rather than persons, are the prime educators.

--A. B. Alcott

The best students come from homes where education is revered: where there are books, and children see their parents reading them.

—Leo Buscaglia

The school is not the end but only the beginning of an education

--Calvin Coolidge

Music, dance, painting, and theater are keys that unlock profound human understanding and accomplishment. Children should be handed these keys at an early age. Yet, according to the Council of Chief State School Officers, boards of education in only 13 states specified the arts within formal statements of educational goals....A study by George Hardiman and Andra Johnson in *Art Education* found that elementary schools commit only 4 percent of their school week to art instruction, with only a quarter of that provided by trained art teachers. An elementary school that treats the arts as the province of a few gifted children, or views them only as recreation and entertainment, is a school that needs an infusion of soul. Children's imaginations yearn for the chance to transcend the ordinary, to hear and see what they have not heard and seen.

—William J. Bennett

Educational reform must focus on changing teachers, their teaching and their classrooms not because teachers are the problem; but because schools can change only to the extent that teachers change.

--Bill Page

(Because) it is the intellect which dominates schooling ... the specifically soul making subjects—literature, drama, music, the visual arts—are progressively 'de-souled' as the child progresses through school.

—Dr. Bernie Neville

My education was the liberty I had to read indiscriminately and all the time, with my eyes hanging out.

--Dylan Thomas

Reading is important. It is especially important to children. It is the key which unlocks the gates of formal education, the means by which the wisdom of the past and the technology of the present are made available. But it can do much more. Through reading, a child may live another's life for a few hours. He becomes Huck Finn and wrestles with the problem of laws that destroy freedom; or he is Johnny Tremaine and learns in the time of the American Revolution how adversity may be put to good use....By learning to identify with others, to suffer or to rejoice as he encounters tragedy or joy, he can develop a sense of empathy towards the life around him—his fellow companions as well as the creatures of the world he inhabits.

--Scott O'Dell

The benefits of recess might seem obvious—time to run around helps kids stay fit. But a large body of research suggests that it also boosts cognition. Many studies have found that regular exercise improves mental function and academic performance. And an analysis of studies that focused specifically on recess found positive associations between physical activity and the ability to concentrate in class. Perhaps most important, recess allows children to design their own games, to test their abilities, to role-play, and to mediate their own conflicts—activities that are key to developing social skills and navigating complicated situations.

—Alia Wong

Finnish kids get more than an hour of recess each day. More surprising, though, is the fact that in East Asian countries like China—the land of nine-hour school days and weekend cram classes—most schools give kids a 10-or every 20-minute break after each class, or about every hour.

—Alia Wong

The library is not merely a collection of books, or a storehouse, but an aggressive and active source of education.

--John Cotton Dana

The best of my education has come from the public library...my tuition fee is a bus fare and once in a while, five cents for an overdue book. You don't need to know very much to start with, if you know the way to the public library.

--Lesley Conger

If it is noticed that much of my outside work concerns itself with libraries, there is an extremely good reason for this. I think that the better part of my education, almost as important as that secured in the schools and the universities, came from libraries.

—Irving Stone



What a school thinks about its library is a measure of what it feels about education.  
—Harold Howe

English teachers and their students must have freedom to read and see and think and discuss and learn if there is any hope of reality entering the classroom. Where censors grant teacher ‘limited’ freedom as long as students read only ‘wholesome’ books and ‘uplifting’ magazines about ‘good’ Americans and ‘happy’ things, view only ‘suitable’ and ‘clean’ and ‘Christian’ films, create only ‘optimistic’ and ‘positive’ and ‘inspirational’ media materials, and discuss only ‘noncontroversial’ and ‘safe’ topics, there is no possibility of education and the search for truth, only the indoctrination into the community’s contemporary mores.

—Kenneth L. Donelson

Books won’t stay banned. They won’t burn. Ideas won’t go to jail. In the long run of history, the censor and the inquisitor have always lost. The only sure weapon against bad ideas is better ideas. The source of better ideas is wisdom. The surest path to wisdom is a liberal education.

--Alfred Whitney  
Griswold

All television is education television. The only question is, What is it teaching?  
--Nicholas Johnson

I do not like explanatory speeches. Young people pay little attention to them and rarely remember them. Give them facts. I cannot say often enough, that we allow too great power to words. With our babbling education we only make babblers.

--Jean Jacques Rousseau

The longer I live, the more I have come to value the gift of eloquence. Every American youth, if he desires for any purpose to get influence over his countrymen in an honorable way, will seek to become a good public speaker.

--George F. Hoar

Frankly, it’s shocking that almost every other enterprise in this country—from banks to airlines to hotels to places of commerce—has, quite literally, been transformed by technology. These companies simply could not carry on their work without it. But if all the technology were suddenly removed from schools, hardly anyone would notice. How can we be serious about educating our children for the next century when we’ve barely equipped them for this one?

--Ernest Boyer

The computer is only a device, which can be used well or used poorly. Used well, technology can vastly improve education.

--Alfred Bork

It is as unforgivable to let a student graduate without knowing how to use a computer as it was in the past to let him graduate without knowing how to use a library.

--John Kennedy

We need to recognize that our public schools are low-tech institutions in a high-tech society. The same changes that have brought cataclysmic change to every facet of business can improve the way we teach students and teachers. And it can also improve the efficiency and effectiveness of how we run our schools.

--Louis V. Gerstener, Jr.

We are still using 19th Century technology to educate the work force of the 21st Century....the nation's school system lags far behind private business, and behind other sectors of government, in adopting the new technology needed to improve quality and productivity.

--*New York State  
Business Council*

In education, technology can be a life-changer, a game changer, for kids who are both in school and out of school. Technology can bring textbooks to life. The Internet can connect students to their peers in other parts of the world. It can bridge the quality gaps.

—Queen Rania of Jordan

Advanced technology is the ideal tool for implementing a new approach to learning which optimizes student time-on-task...increases the quality and quantity of feedback...and paces instruction to student's capabilities. For such an approach to work, the school system must first make the drastic switch from 'teacher-centered, classroom-controlled instruction' to 'learner-centered, performance-paced instruction.'

--Robert K. Branson

We are at a point in the history of education when radical change is possible, and the possibility for that change is directly tied to the impact of the computer.

--Seymour Papert

It goes against the grain of modern education to teach children to program. What fun is there in making plans, acquiring discipline in organizing thoughts, devoting attention to detail and learning to be self-critical?

—Alan Perlis

The Internet is the first technology since the printing press which could lower the cost of a great education and, in doing so, make that cost-benefit analysis much easier for most students. It could allow American schools to service twice as many students as they do now, and in ways that are both effective and cost-effective.

—John Katzman

Any tendency to consider music a luxury is dangerous. This patently false idea leads to devaluing music in general education, often to the point of eliminating it entirely when budgets are tight.

--Frederick Lieberman

If we are to hope for a society of culturally literate people, music must be a vital part of our children's education.

—Yo-Yo Ma

Creative rhythmic movement has a unique and vital place in today's schools. The potential...is unlimited...to help children feel good about themselves, find zest and excitement in learning and relate to others in meaningful ways.

--Robert S. Fleming

The arts humanize the curriculum while affirming the interconnectedness of all forms of knowing. They are a powerful means to improve general education.

--Charles Fowler

Schools that do not teach the arts are, quite literally, creating a generation that is less civilized than it could be, more barbaric than it should be.

--Charles Fowler

The experience of dealing with the arts is necessary for younger children. For most of them, producing art is their introduction to the idea of work. They start learning the discipline that they will need to achieve their goals. They learn what powerful satisfaction work can provide. They learn to explore, and they experience success. These are the impulses a human being needs most if he is to work hard and happily in life, and no children's activity is better than art at instilling these attitudes.

--Leonard Garmet

The arts provide a more comprehensive and insightful education because they invite students to explore the emotional, intuitive, and irrational aspects of life that science is hard pressed to explain.

--Charles Fowler

Art is not an ornament in our lives anymore than education is. Both need to be woven into the total experience of a full life. If we look closely, we'll see that art is education. Painting and sculpture and crafts educate our visual and tactile senses; music and drama teach us to listen and to reflect on the world around us. The arts sharpen our senses and teach us how to absorb information more quickly and on different levels. In today's complex world, we need to teach our children how to master a multitude of inter-related facts.

--Joan Mondale

Political history is far too criminal and pathological to be a fit subject of study for the young. Children should acquire their heroes and villains from fiction.

--W. H. Auden

All real education is the architecture of the soul.

—William Bennett

If the school sends out children with a desire for knowledge and some idea of how to acquire and use it, it will have done its work.

--Sir Richard Livingstone

Learning is nothing without cultivated manners, but when the two are combined in a woman, you have one of the most exquisite products of civilization.

--André Maurois

That we have not made any respectable attempt to meet the special educational needs of women is the clearest possible evidence that our educational objectives have been based on the vocational patterns of men.

--Betty Friedan

No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.

--*Higher Education Act,  
Title IX 1965*

A decade after graduation, almost everyone will have forgotten when and where and what they played. But every time they speak, everyone will know whether they are educated.

--Reverend Theodore  
Hesburgh

No drug, not even alcohol, causes the fundamental ills of society. If we're looking for the source of our troubles, we shouldn't test people for drugs, we should test them for stupidity, ignorance, greed and love of power.

—P. J. O'Rourke

The first condition of education is being able to put someone to wholesome and meaningful work.

—John Ruskin

The doctor of the year 2014 will work shoulder to shoulder with the teacher. He will see to it that education shall train and develop the whole child, instead of just the expanded bulb at the top of him, leaving the rest of him to shift for itself in the intervals that remain. The new medicine will make schooling a thing of the open air instead of stuffy rooms, of fields and gardens instead of printed pages, of deeds instead of words.... Perhaps by 2014 teachers may recognize that it is as important for a child to correctly bound and describe his liver as the countries of Europe, or the States of the Union, and to know at least as much of his own interior as he does of that of Hindustan. Education for life will include a sound, working knowledge of the body machine that he has to live and work with; of what food fuels will best and most economically supply it with energy; how its bearings are to be watched and its gears regulated; and how to make roadside repairs.

—Woods Hutchinson  
(1914)

Football cannot be defended in the high school unless it is subordinated, controlled, and made to contribute something definite in the cause of education.

--Roy Henderson, (1927)

What if the cure for cancer is trapped inside the mind of someone who can't afford an education?

—Unknown

If boys and girls do not learn discipline in their school days, money and time spent on their education is so much national loss.

--Mahatma Gandhi

By some strange perversity we are taught all sorts of useless things, but nothing is done about the art of conduct. We are supposed to be getting trained for society but are taught as if each one of us were going to live a life of contemplation in a solitary cell.

--Jean Jacques Rousseau

No use to shout at them to pay attention. If the situations, the materials, the problems before the child do not interest him, his attention will slip off to what does interest him, and no amount of exhortation or threats will bring it back.

—John Holt

Education delivered by a strict councillor, and received with great pains would never brighten the future of any student.

—Michael Bassey  
Johnson

We have become obsessed with what is good about small classrooms and oblivious about what also can be good about large classes. It's a strange thing isn't it, to have an educational philosophy that thinks of the other students in the classroom with your child as competitors for the attention of the teacher and not allies in the adventure of learning.

—Malcolm Gladwell

How sad that physics is viewed as more important than psychology and human development [in high school], as parents struggle to raise children wisely and families work hard to understand one another.

—Grant Wiggins

Without Greek studies there is no education.

—Leon Tolstoy

You feel like a fool when you don't know how to fill out (a job) application. You say, 'I don't want this stinking job.' But you are thinking, 'I wish I was smart enough to read the application.' I always blame the drugs, but it was me not having an education that was the biggest step, because I always fell back on drugs when I felt stupid.

—Prison Inmate  
Robert Sloan

The only things worth our knowing are those that teach us to live good lives.

--Jean Jacques Rousseau

## ON EDUCATION

He always wanted to explain things.

But no one cared.

So he drew.

Sometimes he would draw and it wasn't anything.

He wanted to carve it in stone or write it in the sky.

He would lie out on the grass and look up in the sky.

And it would be only him and the sky and the  
things inside him that needed saying.

And it was after that he drew the picture.

It was a beautiful picture.

He kept it under his pillow and would let no one see it.

And he would look at it every night and think about it.

And when it was dark, and his eyes were closed, he could still see it.

And it was all of him. And he loved it.

When he started school he brought it with him.

Not to show anyone but Just to have with him like a friend.

It was funny about school.

He sat in a square, brown desk

Like all the other square, brown desks

And he thought it should be red. And his room was a square, brown room,

Like all the other rooms,

And it was tight and close.

And stiff.

He hated to hold the pencil and chalk,

With his arm stiff and his feet flat on the  
floor;

Stiff,

With the teacher watching and watching.

The teacher came and spoke to him.

She told him to wear a tie like all die other  
boys.

He said he didn't like them.

And she said it didn't matter!

After that they drew.

And he drew all yellow and it was the way he  
felt about morning.

And it was beautiful.

The teacher came and smiled at him.

‘What's this?’ she said. ‘Why don’t you draw  
something like Ken’s drawing?  
Isn’t that beautiful?’  
After that his mother bought him a tie.  
And he always drew airplanes and rocketships  
like everyone else.  
And he threw the old picture away  
And when he lay alone looking at the sky,  
It was big and blue and all of everything,  
But he wasn’t anymore.  
He was square inside  
And brown.  
And his hands were stiff.  
And he was like everyone else.  
And the things inside him that needed saying  
didn’t need it anymore,  
It had stopped pushing,  
It was crushed.  
Stiff  
Like everything else.

(Written by a high school senior, two weeks before he committed suicide.)

—Arthur Daigon and  
Richard A.  
Dempsey

Walking into a meeting of education researchers is like walking into the kitchen of a Chinese restaurant. Everything is cut into small pieces, unrelated to anything else. The visitor wonders what a real meal would be like.

--Edward B. Fiske

Oscar Wilde may have quipped that one can ‘never be overdressed or overeducated,’ but Wilde did not live in our era of overeducated baristas.

—Usman W. Chohan

Sadly, children’s passion for learning often ends when they encounter a world that seeks to educate them for conformity and obedience only.

—Robert John Meehan

One goes through school...learning little or nothing about goodness but a good deal about success.

--Ashley Montagu



Ideally, what should be said to every child, repeatedly, throughout his or her school life is something like this: 'You are in the process of being indoctrinated. We have not yet evolved a system of education that is not a system of indoctrination. We are sorry, but it is the best we can do. What you are being taught here is an amalgam of current prejudice and the choices of this particular culture. The slightest look at history will show how impermanent these must be. You are being taught by people who have been able to accommodate themselves to a regime of thought laid down by their predecessors. It is a self-perpetuating system. Those of you who are more robust and individual than others will be encouraged to leave and find ways of educating yourself—educating your own judgements. Those that stay must remember, always, and all the time, that they are being moulded and patterned to fit into the narrow and particular needs of this particular society.'

—Doris Lessing

[The public school system is] usually a twelve year sentence of mind control. Crushing creativity, smashing individualism, encouraging collectivism and compromise, destroying the exercise of intellectual inquiry, twisting it instead into meek subservience to authority.

—Walter Karp

As teachers we must believe in change, must know it is possible, or we wouldn't be teaching—because education is a constant process of change. Every single time you 'teach' something to someone, it is ingested, something is done with it, and a new human being emerges.

—Leo Buscaglia

Education has for its object the formation of character. To curb restive propensities, to awaken dormant sentiments, to strengthen the perceptions, and cultivate the tastes, to encourage this feeling and repress that, so as finally to develop the child into a man of well proportioned and harmonious nature—this is alike the aim of parent and teacher.

--Herbert Spencer

Education commences at the mother's knee, and every word spoken within hearsay of little children tends toward the formation of character.

--Hosea Ballou

Tomorrow's education will include placing greater emphasis on character development.

--Ralph Tyler

No matter how good teaching may be, each student must take the responsibility for his own education.

—John Carolus

Nowadays it seems that moral education is no longer considered necessary. Attention is wholly centered on intelligence, while the heart of life is ignored.

--George Sand

Just in general, any government throughout history hasn't really wanted its people to be educated, because then they couldn't control them as easily.

—Maynard J. Keenan

And really, the basis, I think, of achieving some success in what I want to do today comes from my mother's push to get me to read and to make something of myself from the standpoint of an education.

--Sam Donaldson

Creativity is as important now in education as literacy and we should treat it with the same status.

—Sir Ken Robinson

Education is the primary tool of emancipation and liberation for African-Americans in our fight for true equality in this country.

--Earl G. Graves

A war budget leaves every child behind.

—Slogan

Schools are structured in a manner that allows us to deliver a wealth of information and ideas to young people who lack our experience of and sophistication about the world. For the most part, educators assume that, if we cover something, the students have learned it. We talk, they listen. We present, they absorb. At the end of a year, when we have covered everything according to our plan, the students are deemed ready for the next level—at least most of them are. In some cases, students who do not make progress are subjected to another year of the same material, usually presented in the same way, usually with the same books, and often with the same teachers. Then, if they fail for a second time, we usually move them ahead anyway, because keeping them back at this point makes even less sense.

—Ted Sizer

Too much learning, too soon, before the child is ready and dealt out too hard is a 100% guarantee of failure both for the child as he attempts to learn, and for the school which is attempting to teach. Too little learning, too late after the learner is ready for it and needs it, and too lightly presented without depth and emphasis upon its worthwhileness, is a 100% guarantee of producing a whole new generation of mediocre achievers, regardless of their capacities and abilities.

—Genevieve B. Syverson

The elimination of war should be the major task of social education.

--Konrad Lorenz

Education remains the key to both economic and political empowerment. That is why the schools which are in charge of educating African Americans have, perhaps, the longest, the greatest, the deepest challenges of all...to get into the minds of young African Americans so that they who recognize opportunity will come to those who are prepared.

--Barbara Jordan

In the United States, having a French or German accent is to be considered cultured, educated. But if you have a Spanish accent you are ignored, even if you are a Ph.D.

--Hugo Piñeda

Public assistance/welfare, crime and a lack of education is the syndrome of failure in the immigrant community.

--Fransisco Avelar

The whole gangster mentality, it's killing our youth. Black males, we're really just choking ourselves with this whole macho shit, where you can't show any tenderness, no vulnerability, no nothing. You have to be granite, 100 percent. And that's just not natural. And another thing: you have a hundred thousand black kids across this country failing class's on purpose because of peer pressure. And if you speak proper English, and you get straight A's in school, then you're considered a white boy or a white girl. But if you're hanging on the corner, scratching your nuts, drinking, then you're down. So, you know, the whole value system is fucked up; ignorance is being championed over intelligence.

--Spike Lee

Black people need to work on their speaking and writing skills to avoid the pitfalls of exploitation, exclusion, and economic illiteracy. Knowing the language of power and finance is gaining clout, not selling out.

--Gerrard McClendon

Do not call for Black power or green power. Call for brain power.

--Barbara Jordan

When you educate a black man, you empower families, you empower sons and daughters, and you change generations.

--Tyler Perry

Alabama joined other southern states in passing laws allowing or requiring school boards to shut schools to avoid having even a handful of black children sit in classrooms with white ones. Some states helped fund the all-white academies popping up across the South. State officials encouraged white parents to remove their children from public schools, helping to set off the white flight that continues to plague school systems today. Two years after the Brown ruling, not a single black child attended school with white children in eight of the 11 former Confederate states, including Alabama.

--Nikole Hannah-Jones

Black Americans who attended schools integrated by court order were more likely to graduate, go on to college, and earn a degree than black Americans who attended segregated schools. They made more money: five years of integrated schooling increased the earnings of black adults by 15 percent. They were significantly less likely to spend time in jail. They were healthier

--Nikole Hannah-Jones

Black progress did not come at the expense of white Americans—white students in integrated schools did just as well academically as those in segregated schools. Other studies have found that attending integrated schools made white students more likely to later live in integrated neighborhoods and send their own children to racially diverse schools

--Nikole Hannah-Jones

A student, teacher, or counselor would look around to make sure no one was listening and then whisper a story about an Asian kid being punished or even kicked out of the house for a night after getting a B or failing to get into Stanford. I'd heard how new East Asian immigrant parents mistakenly transposed the reality of education in, say, China or Korea, which is that how you do on a single test can determine your entire future.

—Hanna Rosin

What are some possible explanations for such extraordinary performance by Asian Americans? Several come readily to mind, but certainly require further exploration:

- Parents who value their children's education so much that they inculcate the centrality of that education in to every aspect of their everyday lives.
- Parents who actively monitor and supplement what the schools teach their children.
- Parents, and therefore children, who believe that academic effort and hard work are rewarded with accomplishment.
- Parents, and therefore students, who support the schools.
- Parents, and therefore students, who believe in taking the most challenging courses in the greatest numbers.

—Daniel B. Taylor

That is still the case in this country for too many students, the soft bigotry of low expectations. If you don't expect them to learn, if you don't expect them to succeed—then it becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

—Tavis Smiley

During my eleven years as a New York City public school teacher, I saw firsthand the impact that poverty has on the classroom. In low-income neighborhoods like Sunset Park, where I taught, students as young as five years old enter school affected by the stresses often created by poverty: domestic violence, drug abuse, gang activity.

—Sal Albanese

The development of a tree depends on where it is planted.

—Edward Joyner

Theoretically, you can make obviously a powerful argument that centuries of slavery, Jim Crow, discrimination are the primary cause for all those gaps [wealth, education, housing, employment.] That those were wrongs to the black community as a whole, and black families specifically, and that in order to close that gap, a society has a moral obligation to make a large, aggressive investment, even if it's not in the form of individual reparations checks but in the form of a Marshall Plan.

—Barack Obama

To work for better understanding among people, one does not have to be a former president sitting at a fancy conference room table. Peace can be made in the neighborhoods, the living rooms, the playing fields, and the classrooms of our country.

--Jimmy Carter

Imagine if you had genuine, high-quality early-childhood education for every child, and suddenly every black child in America...is getting a really good education. And they're graduating from high school at the same rates that whites are, and they are going to college at the same rates that whites are, and they are able to afford college at the same rates because the government has universal programs that say that you're not going to be barred from school just because of how much money your parents have.

So now they're all graduating,. And let's also say that the Justice Department and the courts are making sure, as I've said in a speech before, that when Jamal sends his résumé in, he's getting treated the same as when Johnny sends his résumé in. Now, are we going to have suddenly the same number of CEOs, billionaires, etc., as the white community? In 10 years? Probably not, maybe not even in 20 years.

But I guarantee you that we would be thriving, we would be succeeding. We wouldn't have huge numbers of young African American men in jail. We'd have more family formation as college-graduated girls are meeting boys who are their peers, which then in turn means the next generation of kids are growing up that much better. And suddenly you've got a whole generation that's in a position to start using the incredible creativity that we see in music, and sports, and frankly even on the streets, channeled into starting all kinds of businesses. I feel pretty good about our odds in that situation.

—Barack Obama

All politics is rich people screwing poor people. Poor people are too stupid to know they're just chess pieces in a game. All the poor white people, all the poor black people, all the Hispanics, they're in the same boat. They got no economic opportunities ... they spend all their time blaming each other because rich people throw words at them like, illegal immigration, and racism and things like that. If poor people ever get smart, and realize like, 'We should band together, rise up, instead of fighting each other,' we probably can make a difference.

—Charles Barkley

Give me full charge of the education of the youth of this nation for the next twenty-five years and I will rear a race of men who would no more fight on the field of battle than they would offer human sacrifices on the altars of the gods.

--John H. Dietrich

Preventing conflicts is the work of politics; establishing peace is the work of education.

--Maria Montessori

If we are to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children.

—Mohandas Gandhi

If we are to reach real peace in the world we shall have to begin with children; and if they will grow up in their natural innocence, we won't have to struggle; we won't have to pass fruitless ideal resolutions, but we shall go from love to love and peace to peace, until at last all the corners of the world are covered with that peace and love for which consciously or unconsciously the whole world is hungering.

—Gandhi

Give peace a chance, yes, but why not get serious and give it a place in the curriculum: peace courses in every school, every grade, every nation. Unless we teach our children peace, someone else will teach them violence.

—Colman McCarthy

My motto for the home, in education as in life, is this: For heaven's sake, let people live their own lives. It is an attitude that fits any situation.

--A. S. Neill

Prejudices, as is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education; they grow there, firm as weeds among rocks.

--Charlotte Brontë

The 1990s are different from the '50s and '60s. The new segregation of the '90s is between the educated haves and the uneducated have-nots.

--Manning Marable

Knowledge of human nature is the beginning and end of political education.

--Henry Adams

The best and deepest moral training is that which one gets by having to enter into proper relations with others....Present educational systems, so far as they destroy or neglect this unity, render it difficult or impossible to get any genuine, regular moral training.

--John Dewey

The main thing needed to make men happy is intelligence..and it can be fostered by education.

--Bertrand Russell

Life is a learned skill, but instead of teaching it, our culture force-fills developing minds with long division and capital cities—until, at the end of the mandatory period of bondage that’s hyperbolically called school, we’re sent into the world knowing little about it. And so, left on our own to figure out the most important parts of life, we make mistakes for years until, by the time we’ve learned enough from our stumbling to be effective human beings, it’s time for us to die.

—Neil Strauss

A useful education served women best....To learn how to grow old gracefully is perhaps one of the rarest and most valuable arts which can be taught to a woman. Yet, when beauty is all that is expected or desired in a woman, she is left with nothing in its absence. It is a most severe trial for those women to be called to lay down beauty, who have nothing else to take up. It is for this sober season of life that education should lay up its rich resources.

—Karen Swallow Prior

My mother was a dominant force in my life. She had a very specific idea about education, which was: you should know everything about everything. It was quite simple. There was no exclusivity, and there really was no judgment.

—Twyla Tharp

Where love and the capacity for love are present in the domestic circle, one might say beforehand that no form of education can fail to succeed.

--Johann Heinrich  
Pestalozzi

The worst feature of the Common Core is its anti-humanistic, utilitarian approach to education. It mistakes what a child is and what a human being is for. That is why it has no use for poetry, and why it boils the study of literature down to the scrambling up of some marketable ‘skill’ [...] you don’t read good books to learn about what literary artists do...you learn about literary art so that you can read more good books and learn more from them. It is as if Thomas Gradgrind had gotten hold of the humanities and turned them into factory robotics.

--Anthony M. Esolen

Experts tell us that 90% of all brain development occurs by the age of five. If we don't begin thinking about education in the early years, our children are at risk of falling behind by the time they start Kindergarten.

—Robert. L. Ehrlich



Schools have always occupied prime space in the excitable American imagination. For decades, if not centuries, politicians have made hay of their supposed failures and extortions. In 2004, Rod Paige, then George W. Bush's secretary of education, called the country's leading teachers union a 'terrorist organization.' In his first education speech as president, in 2009, Barack Obama lamented the fact that 'despite the resources that are unmatched anywhere in the world, we've let our grades slip, our school crumble, our teacher quality fall short, and other nations outpace us.'

—Erika Christakis

The idea that popular education might best be achieved privately in nothing new...The Puritans, who saw education as necessary to Christian practice, experimented with the idea, and their experience is telling. In 1642, they passed a law—the first of its kind in North America—requiring that all children in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts receive an education. The legislators assumed, naïvely, that parents would teach children in their homes; however, many of them proved unable or unwilling to rise to the task. Five years later, the legislators issued a corrective in the form of the Old Deluder Satan Law: 'It being one chief project of that old deluder, Satan, to keep men from the knowledge of the Scriptures,' the law intoned, 'it is therefore ordered... that everie township [of 100 households or more] in this jurisdiction' be required to provide a trained teacher and the grammar school, at taxpayer expense.

—Erika Christakis

The pleasures of learning are indeed pleasures. But in fact the word should be changed. The true name is happiness. There are three other types of happiness, superior to that of learning: the happiness of love fulfilled; the happiness of serving mankind; and the happiness of creation. Though it is beneath these, learning is still a great happiness, and can be a help toward the attainment of those others; and it is an essential part of a complete life. No learner has ever found that he ran short of subjects to explore. But many people who avoided learning, or abandoned it, find that life is drained dry. They spend thirty years in a club chair looking glumly out at the sand and ocean; in a hotel lounge gossiping about the other inmates; in a porch swing awaiting for somebody to drive down the road. But that is not how to live. The chief aim of education is to show you, after you make a livelihood, how to enjoy living; and you can live longest and best and most rewardingly by attaining and preserving the happiness of learning.

--Gilbert Highet

I would rather see a school produce a happy street cleaner than a neurotic scholar.

—A. S. Neill

What is done by the family in the home environment has far greater influence on children than anything a school can do or undo. Unstable homes, with parents in motion day and night and over weekends make the school's job difficult, if not impossible.

--Terrell H. Bell

We ought for our own good to have access to nature and knowledge of it. To my mind, it is monstrous that any child should grow up without some acquaintance with nature, and above all I would say without an opportunity for intimate knowledge of some individual plants and animals.

—J. B. S. Haldane

A primary object should be the education of our youth in the science of government. In a republic, what species of knowledge can be equally important? And what duty more pressing than communicating it to those who are to be the future guardians of the liberties of the country?

—George Washington

A dynamic economy begins with a good education.

—Bob Taft

American women with no high-school diploma have experienced relatively small life-span increases since the 1950s, while the life expectancy of highly educated women has soared since then. Today the best-educated Americans live 10 to 14 years longer than the least educated, on average. Nothing pops out of the data like the link between education and life expectancy. The good news is that the share of the American population that is less educated is in gradual decline. The bad news is that lack of education seems even more lethal than it was in the past.

—Jay Olshansky

Candidates for school board should be hooked up to a lie detector and asked if he's read a book from start to finish since graduating from high school.

—Kurt Vonnegut

The single best yardstick for measuring a person's likely life span is education. If someone walked into my office and asked me to predict how long he would live, I would ask two things: What is your age, and how many years of education did you receive?

—John Rowe

Nature has always had more power than education.

--Voltaire

Thomas Jefferson, among other historical titans, understood that a functioning democracy required an educated citizenry, and crucially, he saw a education as a public good to be included in the 'articles of public care,' despite his preference for the private sector in most matters. John Adams, another proponent of public schooling, urged, 'There should not be a district of one mile square, without a school in it, not founded by a charitable individual, but maintained at the expense of the people themselves.'

In the centuries since, the courts have regularly affirmed the special status of public schools as a cornerstone of the American democratic project. In his vigorous defense of students' civil liberties—to protest the Vietnam War, for example, or not to salute the flag—the Supreme Court has repeatedly held public schools to an especially high standard precisely because they play a unique role in fostering citizens.

—Erika Christakis

'Adolescence,' in short, is not really a process that young people must all go through. A great deal of it is really a deliberate creation of adult social anxieties. In order to maintain the adult dream of a happy clean world of fun-loving middle-class children, we have to assume that a person takes twenty-odd years to grow into a genuine human being. During this period, everything he is 'not ready for' should be kept from him, which in practice tends to mean that all genuine education should be postponed as long as possible....Whatever is socially undesirable, such as violence, is also to be kept from him, on the theory, if that is the word, that if he never reads about violence it cannot occur to him to become violent. Sex and violence, therefore, come to be associated with adult books, books one reads outside of school or after one has finished school, which is a major reason why the popular taste in reading, and entertainment generally, whether adolescent or adult, is so prurient and sadistic. I think a little more emphasis on genuine literature in school might make this tendency less automatic.

—Northrop Frye

Education reformers like Horace Mann believed that every family should be a stakeholder in the public schools, and that the system would be more successful if rich parents enrolled their students alongside poor students. They understood that if too many parents opted out, education would remain a private good. For the most part, their vision has worked. Americans have invested in educating each other's children. We recognize that the benefits of education are shared by society, not just the individual who receives that education, and that we're all stakeholders in these institutions.

—Johann Neem

Although book lists go against my teacherly instincts, I think we could come up with some sort of point system for renewing educators' contracts and certifying congressmen as eligible to stand for reelection: one point, say, for Steve Garvey's autobiography or for books by Dick Francis, John Grisham, and Erma Bombeck; five points for Anne Tyler, Tobias Wolff, and Edward Hoagland; 10 points for Stephen Jay Gould, David Halberstam, Gore Vidal, and Kelvin Trilling; 15 points for books in a foreign language, books on modern physics and mathematics, poetry books, and Edward Abbey.

We could argue about how many points dead authors are worth. I worry about people who scream for something they call standards in the schools and then try to convince kids that the only good author is one who's been dead at least 100 years. I'd also award bonus points for familiarity with Squirrel Nutkin, Miss Nelson, Max, the Scroobius Pip, Henry and Mudge, The Stupids, Ramona, Madeline, Eloise, Amelia Bedelia, The Cat in the Hat, The Pinballs, Anastasia, and the hundreds of their literary fellows.

—Susan Ohanian

The progenitors of public education, like Thomas Jefferson...saw public education, or 'common schools,' as a way to unify the new nation, and to bridge the gaps between rich and poor, immigrant and non-immigrant, Catholic and Protestant. They also saw it as a way to help people become citizens who participate fully in democracy.

—Johann Neem

Have you ever been at sea in a dense fog, when it seemed as if a tangible white darkness shut you in and the great ship, tense and anxious, groped her way toward the shore with plummet and sounding-line, and you waited with beating heart for something to happen? I was like that ship before my education began, only I was without compass or sounding line, and with no way of knowing how near the harbor was. 'Light Give me light' was the wordless cry of my soul, and the light of love shone on me in that very hour.

—Hellen Keller

I'm cynical about students. The vast majority are philistines. I'm cynical about teachers. The vast majority are uninspiring. I'm cynical about the 'deciders' — the school officials who control what students study. The vast majority think they've done their job as long as students comply.

Those who search their memory will find noble exceptions to these sad rules. I have known plenty of eager students and passionate educators, and a few wise deciders. Still, my 40 years in the education industry leave no doubt that they are hopelessly outnumbered. Meritorious education survives but does not thrive.

—Bryan Caplan

The college-for-all mentality has fostered neglect of a realistic substitute: vocational education. It takes many guises—classroom training, apprenticeships and other types of on-the-job training, and straight-up work experience—but they have much in common. All vocational education teaches specific job skills, and all vocational education revolves around learning by doing, not learning by listening. Research, though a bit sparse, suggests that vocational education raises pay, reduces unemployment, and increases the rate of high-school completion.

—Bryan Caplan

There's a growing consensus that the most important input toward student achievement is child poverty and all the factors that go along with it. Unless and until we recommit ourselves to ending child poverty and reducing inequality, not just in schools but in families and communities, I don't see us reinventing ourselves. We can't put the cart before the horse. We've spent too long at this point saying, 'If we improve schools we'll erase poverty.' I think it's really time to try the other way around.

—Anya Kamenetz

In Holland, they have come to precisely the same conclusion. There they have adopted a system of secular education, because they have found it impracticable to unite the religious bodies in any system of combined religious instruction.

Richard Cobden  
(1804-1865)

Online learning has roots in the tradition of distance education, which goes back at least 100 years to the early correspondence courses. With the advent of the Internet and the World Wide Web, the potential for reaching learners around the world increased greatly, and today's online learning offers rich educational resources in multiple media and the capability to support both real-time and asynchronous communication between instructors and learners as well as among different learners. Institutions of higher education and corporate training were quick to adopt online learning. Although K–12 school systems lagged behind at first, this sector's adoption of e-learning is now proceeding rapidly.

In recent experimental and quasi-experimental studies contrasting blends of online and face-to-face instruction with conventional face-to-face classes, blended instruction has been more effective, providing a rationale for the effort required to design and implement blended approaches. Even when used by itself, online learning appears to offer a modest advantage over conventional classroom instruction.

—*U.S. Department of  
Education* (2009)

Over recent years, [there's been] a strong tendency to require assessment of children and teachers so that [teachers] have to teach to tests and the test determines what happens to the child, and what happens to the teacher...that's guaranteed to destroy any meaningful educational process: it means the teacher cannot be creative, imaginative, pay attention to individual students' needs, that a student can't pursue things [...] and the teacher's future depends on it as well as the students'...the people who are sitting in the offices, the bureaucrats designing this—they're not evil people, but they're working within a system of ideology and doctrines, which turns what they're doing into something extremely harmful [...] the assessment itself is completely artificial; it's not ranking teachers in accordance with their ability to help develop children who reach their potential, explore their creative interests and so on [...] you're getting some kind of a 'rank,' but it's a 'rank' that's mostly meaningless, and the very ranking itself is harmful. It's turning us into individuals who devote our lives to achieving a rank, not into doing things that are valuable and important.

It's highly destructive...in, say, elementary education, you're training kids this way [...] I can see it with my own children: when my own kids were in elementary school (at what's called a good school, a good-quality suburban school), by the time they were in third grade, they were dividing up their friends into 'dumb' and 'smart.' You had 'dumb' if you were lower-tracked, and 'smart' if you were upper-tracked [...] it's just extremely harmful and has nothing to do with education. Education is developing your own potential and creativity. Maybe you're not going to do well in school, and you'll do great in art; that's fine. It's another way to live a fulfilling and wonderful life, and one that's significant for other people as well as yourself. The whole idea is wrong in itself; it's creating something that's called 'economic man': the 'economic man' is somebody who rationally calculates how to improve his/her own status, and status means (basically) wealth. So you rationally calculate what kind of choices you should make to increase your wealth—don't pay attention to anything else—or maybe maximize the amount of goods you have.

What kind of a human being is that? All of these mechanisms like testing, assessing, evaluating, measuring...they force people to develop those characteristics. The ones who don't do it are considered, maybe, 'behavioral problems' or some other deviance [...] these ideas and concepts have consequences. And it's not just that they're ideas, there are huge industries devoted to trying to instill them...the public relations industry, advertising, marketing, and so on. It's a huge industry, and it's a propaganda industry. It's a propaganda industry designed to create a certain type of human being: the one who can maximize consumption and can disregard his actions on others. It's massive, and it starts with infants.

—Noam Chomsky

Online learning has become popular because of its potential for providing more flexible access to content and instruction at any time, from any place. Frequently, the focus entails (a) increasing the availability of learning experiences for learners who cannot or choose not to attend traditional face-to-face offerings, (b) assembling and disseminating instructional content more cost-efficiently, or (c) enabling instructors to handle more students while maintaining learning outcome quality that is equivalent to that of comparable face-to-face instruction.

—*U.S. Department of Education* (2009)

you know...i still don't understand why my parents and teacher always said if you drop out of school your gonna regret it...i left school and i have never ounce looked at going back. haha.

—Internet Meme

Access to computers and the Internet has become a basic need for education in our society.

—Kent Conrad

Journalism at its best and most effective is education. Apparently people would not learn for themselves.

—Martha Gellhorn

## **THE SCHOOL LIBRARIAN'S ROLE IN PROMOTING READING**

Strategies to promote reading within the building, attract students to the library, and help students appreciate the library through the initiative of the library staff:

- Book of the day—Each day school announcements will ‘advertise’ a book. The announcement reader can summarize the description on the book jacket to interest students in the book. The library staff will display the book in the library for a day and then check it out.
- Extended library hours —8 a.m. to 4 p.m. with students using the library before school with a pass.
- Racks of paperback books—Create high interest, attractive, and easy-access book displays for students.
- Spontaneous rewarding of students for carrying a leisure-reading book with them during the school day. The principal could ask to see students’ library books at any time and reward them with certificates or other incentives.
- Sponsor reading competitions such as Battle of the Books among homerooms or between schools.
- Conduct research scavenger hunts.

- ❑ Hold a luncheon for select students and give them the first opportunity to preview new books.
- ❑ Encourage teachers to hold events and activities in the library so that students come to view the library as an interesting and popular school destination.
- ❑ Sponsor a paperback book exchange.
- ❑ Create bibliographies for different interests and also for various problems students face.
- ❑ Promote the library and library activities in the school newspaper and parent newsletter.
- ❑ Award certificates or other incentives after a student reads and completes a librarian-created survey/questionnaire.
- ❑ Prepare a brochure or other handout for students and parents explaining library services and policies.
- ❑ Deliver book talks or talks on topics that students can later explore in specific books.
- ❑ Create a bulletin board or display case where students can post their reviews of favorite books they have read. Encourage them, also, to post their reviews on such websites as Amazon.

—Dan L. Miller

Nowhere are the mechanics of the growing geographic divide more evident than in the system of primary and secondary education. Public schools were born amid hopes of opportunity for all; the best of them have now been effectively reprivatized to better serve the upper classes. According to a widely used school-ranking service, out of more than 5,000 public elementary schools in California, the top 11 are located in Palo Alto. They're free and open to the public. All you have to do is move into a town where the median home value is \$3,211,100. Scarsdale, New York, looks like a steal in comparison: The public high schools in that area funnel dozens of graduates to Ivy League colleges every year, and yet the median home value is a mere \$1,403,600.

—Matthew Stewart

My grandmother wanted me to have an education, so she kept me out of school.

—Margaret Mead

The whole theory of modern education is radically unsound. Fortunately in England, at any rate, education produces no effect whatsoever. If it did, it would prove a serious danger to the upper classes, and probably lead to acts of violence.

—Oscar Wilde



This is a world in which a very high level of preparation in reading, writing, speaking, mathematics, science, literature, history, and the arts will be an indispensable foundation for everything that comes after for most members of our workforce. It is a world in which comfort with ideas and abstractions is the passport to a good job, in which creativity and innovation are the key to the good life, in which high levels of education—a very different kind of education than most of us have had—are going to be the only security there is.

—*The National Center  
on Education and  
the Economy*

Men are born ignorant, not stupid; they are made stupid by education.

—Bertrand Russell

Education is a method whereby one acquires a higher grade of prejudices.

—Laurence J. Peter

It is among the commonplaces of education that we often first cut out the living root and then try to replace its natural functions by artificial means. Thus we suppress the child's curiosity and then when he lacks a natural interest in learning he is offered special coaching for his scholastic difficulties.

—Alice Duer Miller

More young children than ever (about two-thirds of 4-year-olds) are in some form of institutional care, and recent trends in early-childhood education have filled many of their classrooms with highly scripted lessons and dull, one-sided 'teacher talk.' In such environments, children have few opportunities for spontaneous conversation.

—Erika Christakis

My father was pretty well fixed, and I being the only male son he tried terribly hard to make something out of me. He sent me to about every school in that part of the country. In some of them I would last for three or four months. I got just as far as the fourth reader when the teachers wouldn't seem to be running the school right, and rather than have the school stop I would generally leave.

Then I would start in at another school, tell them I had just finished the third reader and was ready for the fourth. Well, I knew all this fourth grade by heart, so the teacher would remark:

'I never see you studying, yet you seem to know your lessons.' I had that education thing figured down to a fine point. Three years in *McGuffey's Fourth Reader*, and I knew more about it than McGuffey did.

—Will Rogers

I have regretted all my life that I did not at least take a chance on the fifth grade. It would certainly come in handy right now, and I never go through a day that I am not sorry for the idea I had of how to go to school and not learn anything.

—Will Rogers

You can never be overdressed or overeducated.

—Oscar Wilde

The Framers themselves believed that the fate of the republic depended on an educated citizenry. Drawing again on his studies of ancient republics, which taught that broad education of citizens was the best security against ‘crafty and dangerous encroachments on the public liberty,’ [James] Madison insisted that the rich should subsidize the education of the poor. To combat the power of factions, the Founders believed the people had to be educated about the structures of government in particular.

—Jeffrey Rosen

I loathed every day and regret every day I spent in school. I like to be taught to read and write and add and then be left alone.

—Woody Allen

A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or, perhaps both.

—James Madison

In urging Congress to create a national university in 1796, George Washington said: ‘A primary object of such a national institution should be the education of our youth in the science of government.’

—Jeffrey Rosen

Education either functions as an instrument which is used to facilitate integration of the younger generation into the logic of the present system and bring about conformity or it becomes the practice of freedom, the means by which men and women deal critically and creatively with reality and discover how to participate in the transformation of their world.

—Paolo Freire

The very spring and root of honesty and virtue lie in good education.

—Plutarch

Education...means more than teaching the facts and learning the reasons so we can manipulate life toward our ends. It means being drawn into personal responsiveness and accountability toward each other and the world of which we are a part.

—Parker Palmer

Large numbers of persons move from childhood into adult years with a burden of emotional distress... whatever might be the origins, students' emotional difficulties infect their minds when they are at school and after they leave. This fact... should be a challenge to educators, especially those who say that a major aim of education is to help students to use their minds effectively. Nothing could demonstrate the sincerity of this aim better than an effort to help a student use his resources to cope with conditions that encumber his mind.

—Arthur T. Jersild, Eve  
Allina Lazar, &  
Adele M. Brodtkin

The goals of education are to give people the mental tools to deal effectively with new situations, to place fewer restrictions on their lives caused by fear of difficult problems, and to enable people to deal with new situations and difficult problems rationally rather than emotionally.

—William Glasser

The problem is not that people are uneducated. The problem is that they are educated just enough to believe what they've been taught. And not educated enough to question what they've been taught.

—Internet Meme

There is nothing as stupid as an educated man if you get off the thing that he was educated in.

—Will Rogers

The higher educated they are the bigger hoodlums they are and the harder to manage. The illiterate ones will all work. And you will have no trouble with them. Watch the ones that are smart for they have been taught in school they are to live off the others.

—Will Rogers

The universal aim of education is always to make out of the child a grown-up person who shall not be very different from the grown-up world about him.

—Anna Freud

Education is a means to help people understand the meaning of their lives and become more sensitive to the meaning of other people's lives and relate to them more fully.

—Edgar Z. Friedenberg

The teacher must recognize variety in the student and then respond to each in terms appropriate to his uniqueness. Otherwise education is simply another form of manufacturing—and a cruel one at that.

—*Society's Children*

Imagine the people who believe such things and who are not ashamed to ignore, totally, all the patient findings of thinking minds through all the centuries since the *Bible* was written. And it is these ignorant people, the most uneducated, the most unimaginative, the most unthinking among us, who would make themselves the guides and leaders of us all; who would force their feeble and childish beliefs on us; who would invade our schools and libraries and homes. I personally resent it bitterly.

—Isaac Asimov

Wrote my way out of the hood...thought my way out of poverty! Don't tell me that knowledge isn't power. Education changes everything.

—Brandi L. Bates

The higher educated they are the bigger hoodlums they are and the harder to manage. The illiterate ones will all work. And you will have no trouble with them. But watch the ones that are smart for they have been taught in school they are to live off the others.

—Will Rogers

I've come to believe in my bones that children—especially children in poverty—are desperate for an education to help them discover a sense of meaning and purpose. Yet, we have decided to narrow our focus to academic achievement, which creates an unhealthy fixation on grades as a sole indicator of self-worth.

—Shanna Peoples

...education and wisdom....It is a very painful and very important topic for Koreans. It's an important topic for everybody, but for Koreans? They kind of hold it almost like some sort of bizarre idol, like they're really attached to what it means.

—Min Jin Lee

## [WOMEN] MOST OFTEN CITED IN EDUCATION STANDARDS

Rosa Parks, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, Abigail Adams, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Jane Addams, Norma McCorvey, a.k.a. Jane Roe, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Eleanor Roosevelt, Sacajawea.

—April White

A fundamental goal of education is to enhance students' ability to analyze critically not only their own behavior but also that of others. While we remind ourselves, for instance, that we are all capable of telling lies, the more formidable task is to discern when others are lying to us. To help children develop character, we must ask them to judge others' characters.

We must prepare children to cope with living in a world of uncertainty—not to dissolve in cynical despair, but to function with a healthy sense of suspicion about what they see, hear, and read.

—Jerry Watson

Since the 1980s, arts education has declined disproportionately for certain groups. Black students, and students whose parents have less than a high school diploma, have experienced a 50% and 77% decline in school-based exposure to the arts, while white students and those with college-educated parents have experienced virtually no decrease.

This shameful discrepancy is yet another example of the educational injustice that pervades our system. All children deserve a well-rounded education that inspires and engages them and introduces them to the delights of theater, music, and visual arts. Yet too often, poor children attend schools where their educational experience is reduced to a colorless line up of low-level math and rudimentary literacy.

One reason for this is that low-income children often enter school behind in math and literacy skills. Educators want to ensure their students can catch up, and thus dedicate more time to basic math and reading skills and less time for art and field trips. It is true that students who start school behind benefit from extended, high-quality instruction in math and literacy, but the flip side of this is also true: spending less time on other subjects can actually have a damaging effect on learning.

Too few educators understand that broad and robust background knowledge—built through a rich, comprehensive curriculum that includes study of and exposure to the arts, both in and out of school—is actually vital to helping children become great readers, writers, and thinkers. Furthermore, the engagement that stems from in-school opportunities to discover and pursue co-curricular passions and talents spills over to academic classes.

—Eva Moskowitz (2019)

Consider the research of the sociologist James Coleman, of the University of Chicago. He found that students from similar economic and social backgrounds consistently do better at Catholic high schools than at public high schools.

The immediate explanation is simple: Students at Catholic schools take more rigorous courses in math, English, and history, and they do nearly 50 percent more homework. But why do Catholic schools make these demands when public schools don't?

The difference, Mr. Coleman concluded, lies with parents. 'Parents [of public-school students] do not exercise as much authority over their high-school-age students as they once did,' he recently told a conference at the Manhattan Institute.

Since the 1960s, public schools have become less demanding—in discipline, required coursework, and homework—because they can't enforce stiffer demands. By contrast, parents of parochial-school students impose more control. 'The schools therefore [are] able to operate under a different set of ground rules,' Mr. Coleman said.

—Robert J. Samuelson

This the philosophy I am trying to change—the philosophy, inherent in much of our education, that if you fail a child that will cause him to buckle down and work hard; it will make a new man of him. It just doesn't work that way. Most of us...know that all you learn from failing is how to fail. And in our schools we are teaching many, many children how to fail.

—William Glasser

The pressures upon youth are awesome. The consequences of these pressures have prompted rises in suicide, changes in sexual and adjustment patterns, and alterations in family and interpersonal relationships. Society has changed. The political and economic milieu has been irrevocably transformed. Unsurprisingly, these conditions have produced a new and perplexing world for our young people. Educational experience have reached a point where these also must be changed. Emphasis upon individual, personal, and social objectives is necessary to prevent an education for a one-dimension existence when the future will demand multiple abilities.

The schools must be places where identity, responsibility, and integrity are promoted. Experiences must include opportunities for adulthood and citizenship. Growing up is difficult. Many of us, if it is not too painful, remember it well. As educators, we can, if we will, help young people not only to survive but to enjoy and appreciate these golden, precious days. Perhaps this will include the richest rewards of teaching.

—J. Merrell Hansen

All that is necessary for a student is access to a library.

—Thomas Jefferson

Owing to the shape of a bell curve, the education system is geared to the mean. Unfortunately, that kind of education is virtually calculated to bore and alienate gifted minds. But instead of making exceptions where it would do the most good, the educational bureaucracy often prefers not to be bothered.

In my case, for example, much of the schooling to which I was subjected was probably worse than nothing. It consisted not of real education, but of repetition and oppressive socialization (entirely superfluous given the dose of oppression I was getting away from school). Had I been left alone, preferably with access to a good library and a minimal amount of high-quality instruction, I would at least have been free to learn without useless distractions and gratuitous indoctrination. But alas, no such luck.

Let's try to break the problem down a bit. The education system [...] is committed to a warm and fuzzy but scientifically counterfactual form of egalitarianism which attributes all intellectual differences to environmental factors rather than biology, implying that the so-called 'gifted' are just pampered brats who, unless their parents can afford private schooling, should atone for their undeserved good fortune by staying behind and enriching the classroom environments of less privileged students.

This approach may appear admirable, but its effects on our educational and intellectual standards, and all that depends on them, have already proven to be overwhelmingly negative. This clearly betrays an ulterior motive, suggesting that it has more to do with social engineering than education. There is an obvious difference between saying that poor students have all of the human dignity and basic rights of better students, and saying that there are no inherent educationally and socially relevant differences among students. The first statement makes sense, while the second does not.

The gifted population accounts for a very large part of the world's intellectual resources. As such, they can obviously be put to better use than smoothing the ruffled feathers of average or below-average students and their parents by decorating classroom environments which prevent the gifted from learning at their natural pace. The higher we go on the scale of intellectual brilliance – and we're not necessarily talking just about IQ—the less support is offered by the education system, yet the more likely are conceptual syntheses and grand intellectual achievements of the kind seldom produced by any group of markedly less intelligent people. In some cases, the education system is discouraging or blocking such achievements, and thus cheating humanity of their benefits.

—Christopher Langan

Empower yourselves with a good education, then get out there and use that education to build a country worthy of your boundless promise.

—Michelle Obama

The idea of education has been so tied to schools, universities, and professors that many assume there is no other way, but education is available to anyone within reach of a library, a post office, or even a newsstand.

—Louis L'Amour

I spent three days a week for 10 years educating myself in the public library, and it's better than college. People should educate themselves—you can get a complete education for no money. At the end of 10 years, I had read every book in the library and I'd written a thousand stories.

—Ray Bradbury

My real education, the superstructure, the details, the true architecture, I got out of the public library. For an impoverished child whose family could not afford to buy books, the library was the open door to wonder and achievement, and I can never be sufficiently grateful that I had the wit to charge through that door and make the most of it. Now, when I read constantly about the way in which library funds are being cut and cut, I can only think that the door is closing and that American society has found one more way to destroy itself.

—Isaac Asimov

We fall in love with what we read, and faster perhaps with poetry than anything else by dint of its power...Reading poetry is not only a crucial part of a complete education, but also one of life's great joys.

—*The Wall Street Journal*

The world is full of educated derelicts.

—Calvin Coolidge

Education's purpose is to replace an empty mind with an open one.

—Malcolm Forbes

We should do everything we can to improve our public schools. But our education system can't compensate for the ways our economic system is failing Americans. Even the most thoughtful and well-intentioned school-reform program can't improve educational outcomes if it ignores the single greatest driver of student achievement: household income.

—Nick Hanauer



I'm completely library educated. I've never been to college. I went down to the library when I was in grade school in Waukegan, and in high school in Los Angeles, and spent long days every summer in the library. I used to steal magazines from a store on Genesee Street, in Waukegan, and read them and then steal them back on the racks again. That way I took the print off with my eyeballs and stayed honest. I didn't want to be a permanent thief, and I was very careful to wash my hands before I read them. But with the library, it's like catnip, I suppose: you begin to run in circles because there's so much to look at and read. And it's far more fun than going to school, simply because you make up your own list and you don't have to listen to anyone. When I would see some of the books my kids were forced to bring home and read by some of their teachers, and were graded on—well, what if you don't like those books?

—Ray Bradbury

There is a difference between information and knowledge, and the most important role of the library is not providing access to information; it is supporting, enhancing, and facilitating the transfer of knowledge—in other words, education.

—Kathleen McCook

For all the genuine flaws of the American education system, the nation still has many high-achieving public-school districts. Nearly all of them are united by a thriving community of economically secure middle-class families with sufficient political power to demand great schools, the time and resources to participate in those schools, and the tax money to amply fund them. In short, great public schools are the product of a thriving middle class, not the other way around. Pay people enough to afford dignified middle-class lives, and high-quality public schools will follow. But allow economic inequality to grow, and educational inequality will inevitably grow with it.

—Nick Hanauer

However justifiable their focus on curricula and innovation and institutional reform, people who see education as a cure-all have largely ignored the metric most predictive of a child's educational success: house-hold income.

The scientific literature on this subject is robust, and the consensus overwhelming. The lower your parents' income, the lower your likely level of educational attainment. Period.

—Nick Hanauer

The only way to educate oneself is by making books a life companion.

—Michael Bassey  
Johnson

Poverty creates obstacles that would trip-up even the most naturally gifted student...children who frequently change schools due to poor housing; have little help with homework; have few role models of success; have more exposure to lead and asbestos; have untreated vision, ear, dental, or other health problems;...and live in a chaotic and frequently unsafe environment.

—Lawrence Mishel

Multiple studies have found that only about 20 percent of student outcomes can be attributed to schooling, whereas about 60 percent are explained by family circumstances—most significantly, income. Now consider that, nationwide, just over half of today’s public-school students qualify for free or reduced-price school lunches, up from 39 percent in 2000. Surely if American students are lagging in the literacy, numeracy, and problem-solving skills our modern economy demands, household income deserves most of the blame—not teachers or their unions.

—Nick Hanauer (2019)

I taught elementary school in Boulder, Colorado, and Erie, Pennsylvania. The experiences were night and day. Both schools, in my opinion, had adequate economic resources; the difference was the income and education levels of the students’ parents. In Boulder I wanted for nothing, and going to school each day was a joy. It’s easy to be a great teacher when you have super-prepared children. In Erie I saw firsthand how money in schools doesn’t negate the effects of poverty. All the stressors in the home come right to school, which is something no amount of money can change.

—Tina Brown

The original purpose of the ‘common schools’ established by Horace Mann in the mid-19th century: to instill in children the knowledge and morality necessary for the success of republican government, while ‘embracing children of all religious, social, and ethnic backgrounds.’

—George Packer

*The New York Times’ 1619 Project* is a powerful examination of the legacy of slavery in the United States. Incorporate it as part of class curriculum. Ensure black authors are required reading for students in English and add Henrietta Lacks and black inventors and trailblazers to history classes. Realize black history is American history. Watch the movie ‘When They See Us’ and...have an honest, open discussion about racial bias and how it affects us as a society.....If more white Americans understood the systemic obstacles that black people face on a daily basis, it wouldn’t erase the past or all of the pain, but it would be a positive step in healing the racial divide.

—Tatia Marie Harris

The hard work of democracy, including well-ordered community decision making, required an educated populace. This why he [Thomas Jefferson] waged a campaign for a system of publicly supported education in Virginia for many years. In the late 1770s, while serving in the Virginia General Assembly, Jefferson proposed a bill that would provide at least a rudimentary level of education to all the children in the state—white children, of course. Among his goals was that talented youths would be, as he rather uncharitably put it, ‘raked from the rubbish’ and given additional schooling at public expense. That proposal (along with his advocacy of making land available to the poor) went nowhere; legislators, understanding their constituents’ preferences, balked at raising taxes to pay for a communal effort to educate the state’s children.

—Annette Gordon-Reed

Educating a beautiful woman is like pouring honey into a fine Swiss watch: everything stops.

—Kurt Vonnegut

*The Morrill Land Grant College Act* would distribute federal land to states and localities for the purpose of building public institutions of higher learning dedicated to teaching agriculture and other practical arts—a miracle of democratization in the history of American education.

—Andrew Ferguson

The best case for public education has always been that it is a common good. Everyone, ultimately has a stake in the caliber of schools, and education is everyone’s business.

—Michael Fullan

Education has really one basic factor, *a sine qua non*—you must want it.

—George Edwards  
Woodberry

Our best chance for happiness is education.

—Mark Van Doren

Education: The path from cocky ignorance to miserable uncertainty.

—Mark Twain

Education—whether the object is children or adults, individuals or an entire people—lies in creating motivation.

—Simone Weil

More money is put into prisons than in schools. That, in itself, is the description of a nation bent on suicide.

—Jonathan Kozol

Education: A succession of eye-openers each involving the repudiation of some previously held belief.

—George Bernard Shaw

To furnish the means of acquiring knowledge is...the greatest benefit that can be conferred on mankind.

—John Quincy Adams

Among the many purposes of schooling, four stand out to us as having special moral value: to love and care, to serve, to empower, and, of course, to learn.

—Andy Hargreaves and  
Michael Fullan

Going to our school is an education in itself which is not to be confused with actually getting an education.

—Charles M. Schulz

It is not the *IQ* but the *I Will* that is most important in education.

—Internet Meme

There is a place in America to take a stand: it is public education. It is the underpinning of our cultural and political system. It is the great common ground. Public education after all is the engine that moves us as a society toward a common destiny...it is in public education that the American dream begins to take shape.

—Tom Brokaw

Upon our children—how they are taught—rest the fate—or future—of tomorrow's world.

—B. C. Forbes

Some of the most generous people have no money. Some of the wisest people have no education. Some of the kindest people were hurt the most.

—Steve Wentworth

Education is every day and everywhere, the only thing you have to pay is attention.

—Tim Fargo

I always thought the idea of education was to learn to think for yourself.

—John Keating from  
*Dead Poet's  
Society*

Middle school is a nightmare. It's like prison with homework, or a pitiless social experiment. For three very long years, half-adults with raging hormones and under-developed empathy glands prey on their peers, pouncing on any weakness, securing through cruelty their own place in the Darwinian pecking order. You don't graduate from middle school. You survive it, if you can.

—The A.V. Club

While W.E.B. Du Bois reminds us that the idea of universal, state-supported public education was originally 'a Negro idea,' students and their families are still living in what I call the afterlife of school segregation. Black students remain systematically dehumanized and positioned as uneducable....Overall, schools have historically and contemporarily failed Black children.

—Kihana Miraya Ross

Education begins the gentleman, but reading, good company and reflection must finish him.

—John Locke

I hate it when people confuse education with intelligence. You can have a degree and still be an idiot.

—Internet Meme

An eternal question about children is, how should we educate them? Politicians and educators consider more school days in a year, more science and math, the use of computers and other technology in the classroom, more exams and tests, more certification for teachers, and less money for art. All of these responses come from the place where we want to make the child into the best adult possible, not in the ancient Greek sense of virtuous and wise, but in the sense of one who is an efficient part of the machinery of society. But on all these counts, soul is neglected.

—Thomas Moore

Unless education promotes character making, unless it helps men to be more moral, more just to their fellows, more law abiding, more discriminatingly patriotic and public spirited, it is not worth the trouble taken to furnish it.

—William Howard Taft

To confuse compulsory schooling with equal educational opportunity is like confusing organized religion with spirituality. One does not necessarily lead to the other. Schooling confuses teaching with learning, grade advancement with education, a diploma with competence, and fluency with the ability to say something new.

—Wendy Priesnitz

Every place I go is my class room. Every person I meet is my teacher. Every book I read is my textbook. From some I learn what is worth repeating and from others I understand what is to be avoided, but I am always studying. My education does not end at 3 PM or for summer vacation or when I reach a certain age. I am home-schooled. Watch me learn.

—April Nouse

When you blame others, you are a novice. When you blame yourself, you are learning. When you blame no one, you are educated.

—Epictetus

The problem with the evangelical homeschool movement was not their desire to educate their children at home, or in private religious schools, but the evangelical impulse to ‘protect’ children from ideas that might lead them to ‘question’ and to keep them cloistered in what amounted to a series of one-family gated communities.

—Frank Schaeffer

All education is a form of language education. Knowledge of a subject mostly means knowledge of the language of that subject. Biology, after all, is not plants and animals; it is a special language employed to speak about plants and animals. History is not events that once occurred; it is a language describing and interpreting events, according to rules established by historians. Astronomy is not planets and stars but a special way of talking about planets and stars, quite different from the language poets use to talk about them.

—Neil Postman

It is clearly absurd to limit the term ‘education’ to a person’s formal schooling.

—Murray N. Rothbard

The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn and change.

—Carl Rogers

Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel.

—Socrates

Anyone who reads the newspaper realizes that you can't ignore Asia anymore. American education has always been Euro-centric, and now we're realizing how inadequate our perspective on Asia has been.

—Shuhan Wang

An education which requires a student to understand, more or less, the nature of gravity in physics, but does not ask him to understand, more or less, the nature of his own language is an incomplete one.

—Roderick A. Jacobs

Multiple studies have shown that providing children with nature-based experiences reduces the frequency of ADHD symptoms in both the immediate and longer terms. Another study found that children who received science instruction outdoors learned more than those who received it only in a classroom. Yet despite what we know about nature's positive impact on mental health, attention span, academic outcomes, physical fitness, and self-regulation, outdoor time is too often seen as a quirky and marginal add-on, rather than as central to the learning process itself.

—Erika Christakis

Elite Overproduction—the tendency of a society's ruling classes to grow faster than the number of positions for their members to fill. One way for a ruling class to grow is biologically—think of Saudi Arabia, where princes and princesses are born faster than royal roles can be created for them. In the United States, elites overproduce themselves through economic and educational upward mobility: More and more people get rich, and more and more get educated. Neither of these sounds bad on its own. Don't we want everyone to be rich and educated? The problems begin when money and Harvard degrees become like royal titles in Saudi Arabia. If lots of people have them, but only some have real power, the ones who don't have power eventually turn on the ones who do.

—Graeme Wood  
paraphrasing  
Peter Turchin

Teach the ignorant as much as you can; society is culpable in not providing a free education for all and it must answer for the night which it produces. If the soul is left in darkness sins will be committed. The guilty one is not he who commits the sin, but he who causes the darkness.

—Victor Hugo

Education is teaching our children to desire the right things.

—Plato

The object of education is to teach us to love what is beautiful.

—Plato

The most necessary task of civilization is to teach people how to think. It should be the primary purpose of our public schools. The mind of a child is naturally active, it develops through exercise. Give a child plenty of exercise, for body and brain. The trouble with our way of educating is that it does not give elasticity to the mind. It casts the brain into a mold. It insists that the child must accept. It does not encourage original thought or reasoning, and it lays more stress on memory than observation.

—Thomas A. Edison

There are obviously two educations. One should teach us how to make a living and the other how to live. Surely these should never be confused in the mind of any man who has the slightest inkling of what culture is. For most of us it is essential that we should make a living...In the complications of modern life and with our increased accumulation of knowledge, it doubtless helps greatly to compress some years of experience into far fewer years by studying for a particular trade or profession in an institution; but that fact should not blind us to another—namely, that in so doing we are learning a trade or a profession, but are not getting a liberal education as human beings.

—James Truslow Adams

Education is the sum of what students teach each other between lectures and seminars.

—Stephen Fry

I've noticed a fascinating phenomenon in my thirty years of teaching: schools and schooling are increasingly irrelevant to the great enterprises of the planet. No one believes anymore that scientists are trained in science classes or politicians in civics classes or poets in English classes. The truth is that schools don't really teach anything except how to obey orders. This is a great mystery to me because thousands of humane, caring people work in schools as teachers and aides and administrators, but the abstract logic of the institution overwhelms their individual contributions. Although teachers do care and do work very, very hard, the institution is psychopathic—it has no conscience. It rings a bell and the young man in the middle of writing a poem must close his notebook and move to a different cell where he must memorize that humans and monkeys derive from a common ancestor.

— John Taylor Gatto



A society's competitive advantage will come not from how well its schools teach the multiplication and periodic tables, but from how well they stimulate imagination and creativity.

—Albert Einstein

The word 'education' comes from the root *e* from *ex*, *out*, and *duco*, *I lead*. It means a leading out. To me education is a leading out of what is already there in the pupil's soul.

—Muriel Spark

The function of education, therefore, is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. But education which stops with efficiency may prove the greatest menace to society. The most dangerous criminal may be the man gifted with reason, but with no morals.

—Martin Luther King Jr.

Teaching kids how to feed themselves and how to live in a community responsibly is the center of an education.

—Alice Waters

What matters most in a child's development, they say, is not how much information we can stuff into her brain in the first few years. What matters, instead, is whether we are able to help her develop a very different set of qualities, a list that includes persistence, self-control, curiosity, conscientiousness, grit and self-confidence.

—Paul Tough

In all the works on pedagogy that ever I read—and they have been many, big, and heavy—I don't remember that any one has advocated a system of teaching by practical jokes, mostly cruel. That, however, describes the method of our great teacher, Experience.

—Charles S. Peirce

What is true education? It is awakening a love for truth; giving a just sense of duty; opening the eyes of the soul to the great purpose and end of life. It is not so much giving words, as thoughts; or mere maxims, as living principles. It is not teaching to be honest, because 'honesty is the best policy'; but because it is right. It is teaching the individual to love the good, for the sake of the good; to be virtuous in action because one is so in heart.

—David O. McKay

People who cannot put strings of sentences together in good order cannot think. An educational system that does not teach the technology of writing is preventing thought.

—Richard Mitchell

Schools assume that children are not interested in learning and are not much good at it, that they will not learn unless made to, that they cannot learn unless shown how, and that the way to make them learn is to divide up the prescribed material into a sequence of tiny tasks to be mastered one at a time, each with its appropriate ‘morsel’ and ‘shock.’ And when this method doesn’t work, the schools assume there is something wrong with the children —something they must try to diagnose and treat.

—John Holt

Teaching has been for me an education.

—Howard Nemerov

I couldn’t see how anyone could be educated by this self-propagating system in which people pass exams, and teach others to pass exams, but nobody knows anything.

—Richard Feynman

The teachers are afraid of the principals. The principals are afraid of the superintendents. The superintendents are afraid of the board of education. The board is afraid of the parents. The parents are afraid of the children. The children are afraid of nothing!

—Milton Berle

No doubt to teach one’s own children...takes special qualities. But these are qualities that many people have, or with a little help, can get. ...The home-schooling movement is full of such people, ordinary people doing things that they never would have thought they could do—learning the law, questioning the experts, holding their ground against arrogant and threatening authorities, defending themselves and their convictions... Seeing them, other ordinary people think they can do the same, and soon they do. This is why it may be a little misleading to speak of the homeschooling movement. Most people think of a movement as something like an army, a few generals and a great many buck privates. In the movement for homeschooling, everyone is a general.

—John Holt

Sports, politics, and religion are the three passions of the badly educated.

—William H. Gass

The long-term effects of racism on the achievement gap should not be underestimated. Schooling for whites in this country extends back for several centuries. Though not equally distributed even among whites, free public education has nonetheless an expectation that education leads to success—at least for those in the majority. For people of color no such centuries-long positive history exists. From the slave codes that forbade educating those who were enslaved, to the Jim Crow laws that followed, to the institutional racism that has only been weakened, not eliminated, all have had a devastatingly negative impact on the education of children of color, an impact that continues to this day.

—David Gardner

[Thomas] Edison had very little formal education as a child, attending school only for a few months. He was taught reading, writing, and arithmetic by his mother, but was always a very curious child and taught himself much by reading on his own. This belief in self-improvement remained throughout his life.

—*National Park Service*

Imagine how different U.S. schools and society would be if every child entering 5th grade had 5th grade reading and math skills.

—Robert E. Slavin

American education has always been controlled by local communities more than outside agencies, and that habit will not and should not be broken. All schools are only as good as the communities in which they are located, and the quality of the teachers who work in them.

—William Edwards  
Deming

Money matters a great deal in education, but people matter more. Having classmates who have big dreams and are academically engaged; parents who actively volunteer in the classroom; and great teachers are the key ingredients to an excellent education—even more than high per-pupil expenditure.

—Richard Kahlenberg

The obligation of the American common public school is to educate all the children of all the people and that failure to honor that obligation will eventually endanger the very fabric of American society. The secret is for principals to take seriously and thoughtfully their roles as educational leaders, to resist the popular easy answers... and instead to search for ways to cast all students in active learner roles in programs which increasingly emphasize higher cognitive processes.

—James Albrecht

## THE FOUR [EDUCATION] MYTHS:

- Learning is essentially a function of effort.
- There is a recipe for good schools, as there is for apple pie and shrimp scampi, and the master chefs hang out in state legislatures and governor's mansions.
- Teaching is simple, and the evidence of good—and bad—teaching is clearly visible.
- There truly was a golden age in American education, and it can be recaptured.

The mythology has its roots in a total lack of concern for the unsuccessful learner. Belief in this...mythology increases the likelihood that educators will embrace values and engage in practices which, in turn, will increase the likelihood that unsuccessful learners will continue to be pushed out of our public schools in increasing numbers.

—James Albrecht

The ideals that children hold have important implications for their school experiences. Children who believe in the value of hard work and responsibility and who attach importance to education are likely to have higher academic achievement and fewer disciplinary problems than those who do not have these ideals. They are also less likely to drop out of school. Such children are more likely to use their out-of-school time in ways that reinforce learning. For example, high school students who believe in hard work, responsibility, and the value of education spend about 3 more hours a week on homework than do other students. This is a significant difference since the average student spends only about 5 hours a week doing homework.

—U.S. Department of  
Education—*What  
Works*

Education is education. We should learn everything and then choose which path to follow. Education is neither Eastern nor Western, it is human.

—Malala Yousafzai

Education is about training and success, defined monetarily, rather than learning to think critically and to challenge. We should not forget that the true purpose of education is to make minds, not careers. A culture that does not grasp the vital interplay between morality and power, which mistakes management techniques for wisdom, which fails to understand that the measure of a civilization is its compassion, not its speed or ability to consume, condemns itself to death.

—Chris Hedges

Education is the power to think clearly, the power to act well in the world's work, and the power to appreciate life.

—Brigham Young

Wisdom.... comes not from age, but from education and learning.

—Anton Chekhov

There should be a class on sex education, a real sex-education class. There should be a class on police brutality. There should be a class on apartheid. There should be a class on why people are hungry. But there are not. There are classes on gym. Physical education. Let's learn

—Tupac Shakur

Civilization is in a race between education and catastrophe. Let us learn the truth and spread it as far and wide as our circumstances allow. For the truth is the greatest weapon we have.

—H. G. Wells

It is the mark of a truly educated man to know what not to read.

—Ezra Taft Benson

The mind once enlightened cannot again become dark.

—Thomas Paine

It's an universal law—intolerance is the first sign of an inadequate education. An ill-educated person behaves with arrogant impatience, whereas truly profound education breeds humility.

—Aleksandr I.  
Solzhenitsyn

One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world.

—Malala Yousafzai

What horrifies me most is the idea of being useless: well-educated, brilliantly promising, and fading out into an indifferent middle age.

—Sylvia Plath

Read at every wait; read at all hours; read within leisure; read in times of labor; read as one goes in; read as one goes out. The task of the educated mind is simply put: read to lead.

—Cicero

A person can be educated and still be stupid, and a wise man can have no education at all.

—Jennifer A. Nielsen

A quality education has the power to transform societies in a single generation, provide children with the protection they need from the hazards of poverty, labor exploitation and disease, and give them the knowledge, skills, and confidence to reach their full potential.

—Audrey Hepburn

Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.

—Franklin D. Roosevelt

The principle goal of education in the schools should be creating men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done; men and women who are creative, inventive and discoverers, who can be critical and verify, and not accept, everything they are offered.

—Jean Piaget

Education breeds confidence. Confidence breeds hope. Hope breeds peace.

—Confucius

When I am king they shall not have bread and shelter only, but also teachings out of books, for a full belly is little worth where the mind is starved.

—Mark Twain

A fondness for reading, properly directed, must be an education in itself.

—Jane Austen

Under the United States Constitution, the federal government has no authority to hold states accountable for their education performance...In the free society envisioned by the founders, schools are held accountable to parents, not federal bureaucrats.

—Ron Paul

The first duty of a revolutionary is to be educated.

—Che Guevara

The fact is that given the challenges we face, education doesn't need to be reformed—it needs to be transformed. The key to this transformation is not to standardize education, but to personalize it, to build achievement on discovering the individual talents of each child, to put students in an environment where they want to learn and where they can naturally discover their true passions.

—Ken Robinson

I do not approve of anything that tampers with natural ignorance. Ignorance is like a delicate exotic fruit; touch it and the bloom is gone. The whole theory of modern education is radically unsound. Fortunately in England, at any rate, education produces no effect whatsoever.

—Oscar Wilde

I prefer the company of peasants because they have not been educated sufficiently to reason incorrectly.

—Michel de Montaigne

What grinds me the most is we're sending kids out into the world who don't know how to balance a checkbook, don't know how to apply for a loan, don't even know how to properly fill out a job application, but because they know the quadratic formula we consider them prepared for the world.

With that said, I'll admit even I can see how looking at the equation  $x - 3 = 19$  and knowing  $x = 22$  can be useful. I'll even say knowing  $x = 7$  and  $y = 8$  in a problem like  $9x - 6y = 15$  can be helpful. But seriously, do we all need to know how to simplify  $(x-3)(x-3i)$ ??

And the joke is, no one can continue their education unless they do. A student living in California cannot get into a four-year college unless they pass Algebra 2 in high school. A future psychologist can't become a psychologist, a future lawyer can't become a lawyer, and I can't become a journalist unless each of us has a basic understanding of engineering.

Of course, engineers and scientists use this shit all the time, and I applaud them! But they don't take years of theater arts appreciation courses, because a scientist or an engineer doesn't need to know that 'The Phantom of the Opera' was the longest-running Broadway musical of all time.

Get my point?

—Chris Colfer

If you want to find somebody to blame for the way I am, I guess you'd have to start with the public education system.

—Jeff Kinney

Most problems of teaching are not problems of growth but helping cultivate growth. As far as I know, and this is only from personal experience in teaching, I think about ninety percent of the problem in teaching, or maybe ninety-eight percent, is just to help the students get interested. Or what it usually amounts to is to not prevent them from being interested. Typically they come in interested, and the process of education is a way of driving that defect out of their minds. But if children[’s] ... normal interest is maintained or even aroused, they can do all kinds of things in ways we don't understand.

—Noam Chomsky

Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope. It is a tool for daily life in modern society. It is a bulwark against poverty, and a building block of development, an essential complement to investments in roads, dams, clinics and factories. Literacy is a platform for democratization, and a vehicle for the promotion of cultural and national identity. Especially for girls and women, it is an agent of family health and nutrition. For everyone, everywhere, literacy is, along with education in general, a basic human right.... Literacy is, finally, the road to human progress and the means through which every man, woman and child can realize his or her full potential.

—Kofi Annan

What struck me as I began to study history was how nationalist fervor--inculcated from childhood on by pledges of allegiance, national anthems, flags waving and rhetoric blowing—permeated the educational systems of all countries, including our own.

—Howard Zinn

An educated man is not, necessarily, one who has an abundance of general or specialized knowledge. An educated man is one who has so developed the faculties of his mind that he may acquire anything he wants, or its equivalent, without violating the rights of others.

—Napolean Hill

A novel worth reading is an education of the heart. It enlarges your sense of human possibility, of what human nature is, of what happens in the world. It’s a creator of inwardness.

—Susan Sontag

Education doesn’t make you smarter.

—Aleksandr  
Solzhenitsyn



With ignorance comes fear—from fear comes bigotry. Education is the key to acceptance.

—Kathleen Patel

It is clearly absurd to limit the term ‘education’ to a person’s formal schooling.

—Murray N. Rothbard

Dancing in all its forms cannot be excluded from the curriculum of all noble education; dancing with the feet, with ideas, with words, and, need I add that one must also be able to dance with the pen?

—Friedrich Nietzsche

Education for informed and engaged citizens is fundamental to national security and as important to the country as economic preparedness and competitiveness.

—Paul Carrese

An education is not so much about making a living as making a person.

—Tara Westover

Nothing has saddened me so much in life as the hardness of heart of educated people.

—Mahatma Gandhi

True education does not consist merely in the acquiring of a few facts of science, history, literature, or art, but in the development of character.

—David O. McKay

The secret of freedom lies in educating people, whereas the secret of tyranny is in keeping them ignorant.

—Maximilien  
Robespierre

Being a role model is the most powerful form of educating...too often fathers neglect it because they get so caught up in making a living they forget to make a life.

—John Wooden

Any formal attack on ignorance is bound to fail because the masses are always ready to defend their most precious possession—their ignorance.

—Hendrick Willem  
Van Loon

It is always a much easier task to educate uneducated people than to re-educate the mis-educated.

—Herbert M. Shelton

It is personal. That's what an education does. It makes the world personal.

—Cormac McCarthy

Education doesn't change life much. It just lifts trouble to a higher plane of regard.

—Robert Frost

Educate the children and it won't be necessary to punish the men.

—Pythagoras

The line between education and brainwashing is paper thin.

—Yana Toboso

We have to go from what is essentially an industrial model of education, a manufacturing model, which is based on linearity and conformity and batching people. We have to move to a model that is based more on principles of agriculture. We have to recognize that human flourishing is not a mechanical process; it's an organic process. And you cannot predict the outcome of human development. All you can do, like a farmer, is create the conditions under which they will begin to flourish.

—Ken Robinson

Admission of ignorance is often the first step in our education.

—Stephen R. Covey

There is no fool like an educated fool.

—Margaret Atwood

Let woman out of the home, let man into it, should be the aim of education. The home needs man, and the world outside needs woman.

—Pearl S. Buck

There is no end to education. It is not that you read a book, pass an examination, and finish with education. The whole of life, from the moment you are born to the moment you die, is a process of learning.

—Jiddu

Krishnamurti

Children should be educated and instructed in the principles of freedom. Aristotle speaks plainly to this purpose, saying, ‘that the institution of youth should be accommodated to that form of government under which they live; forasmuch as it makes exceedingly for the preservation of the present government, whatsoever it be.’

— John Adams

Man...is a tame or civilized animal; never the less, he requires proper instruction and a fortunate nature, and then of all animals he becomes the most divine and most civilized; but if he be insufficiently or ill- educated he is the most savage of earthly creatures.

—Plato

The older I grow, the more I am convinced that there is no education which one can get from books and costly apparatus that is equal to that which can be gotten from contact with great men and women.

—Booker T. Washington

No one can ‘get’ an education, for of necessity education is a continuing process.

—Louis L’Amour

Education is not the piling on of learning, information, data, facts, skills, or abilities—that’s training or instruction—but is rather a making visible what is hidden as a seed...

To be educated, a person doesn’t have to know much or be informed, but he or she does have to have been exposed vulnerably to the transformative events of an engaged human life...

—Thomas Moore

I asked her if I was black or white. She replied, ‘You are a human being. Educate yourself or you’ll be a nobody!’

—James McBride

Education that hasn’t been tempered by human affection isn’t worth a damn.

—Daniel Keyes

I want to urge you very strongly to travel as much as you can, and to evolve yourself as an internationalist. It’s as important a part of your education as a radical as the reading of any book.

—Christopher Hitchens

Segregation shaped me; education liberated me.

—Maya Angelou

Education is a process of love formation. When you go to a school, it should offer you new things to love.

—David Brooks

Whatever an education is, it should make you a unique individual, not a conformist; it should furnish you with an original spirit with which to tackle the big challenges; it should allow you to find values which will be your roadmap through life; it should make you spiritually rich, a person who loves whatever you are doing, wherever you are, whomever you are with; it should teach you what is important, how to live and how to die.

—John Taylor Gatto

The greatest education in the world is watching the masters at work

—Michael Jackson

The South believed an educated Negro to be a dangerous Negro. And the South was not wholly wrong; for education among all kinds of men always has had, and always will have, an element of danger and revolution, of dissatisfaction and discontent. Nevertheless, men strive to know.

—W. E. B. Du Bois

Curiosity is the very basis of education and if you tell me that curiosity killed the cat, I say only the cat died nobly.

—Arnold Edinborough

In those days a boy on the classical side officially did almost nothing but classics. I think this was wise; the greatest service we can do to education today is to teach few subjects. No one has time to do more than a very few things well before he is twenty, and when we force a boy to be a mediocrity in a dozen subjects we destroy his standards, perhaps for life.

—C. S. Lewis

I want my children to understand the world, but not just because the world is fascinating and the human mind is curious. I want them to understand it so that they will be positioned to make it a better place

—Howard Gardner

People think of education as something that they can finish. And what's more, when they finish, it's a rite of passage. You're finished with school. You're no more a child, and therefore anything that reminds you of school—reading books, having ideas, asking questions—that's kid's stuff. Now you're an adult, you don't do that sort of thing any more.

You have everybody looking forward to no longer learning, and you make them ashamed afterward of going back to learning. If you have a system of education using computers, then anyone, any age, can learn by himself, can continue to be interested. If you enjoy learning, there's no reason why you should stop at a given age. People don't stop things they enjoy doing just because they reach a certain age. What's exciting is the actual process of broadening yourself, of knowing there's now a little extra facet of the universe you know about and can think about and can understand. It seems to me that when it's time to die, there would be a certain pleasure in thinking that you had utilized your life well, learned as much as you could, gathered in as much as possible of the universe, and enjoyed it. There's only this one universe and only this one lifetime to try to grasp it. And while it is inconceivable that anyone can grasp more than a tiny portion of it, at least you can do that much. What a tragedy just to pass through and get nothing out of it.

—Isaac Asimov

School is one thing. Education is another. The two don't always overlap. Whether you're in school or not, it's always your job to get yourself an education.

—Austin Kleon

Academics are forced to write in language no one can understand so that they get tenure. They have to say 'discourse', not 'talk'. Knowledge that is not accessible is not helpful.

—Gloria Steinem

When you find a writer who really is saying something to you, read everything that writer has written and you will get more education and depth of understanding out of that than reading a scrap here and a scrap there and elsewhere. Then go to people who influenced that writer, or those who were related to him, and your world builds together in an organic way that is really marvelous.

—Joseph Campbell

Thought breeds thought; children familiar with great thoughts take as naturally to thinking for themselves as the well-nourished body takes to growing; and we must bear in mind that growth, physical, intellectual, moral, spiritual, is the sole end of education.

—Charlotte Mason

All education is self-education. A teacher is only a guide, to point out the way, and no school, no matter how excellent, can give you education. What you receive is like the outlines in a child's coloring book. You must fill in the colors yourself.

—Louis L'Amour

Education isn't just about feeding the brain. Art and music feed the heart and soul.

—Julie Garwood

Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mineworker can become the head of the mine, that a child of farmworkers can become the president of a great nation. It is what we make out of what we have, not what we are given, that separates one person from another.

—Nelson Mandela

Education isn't for getting a job. It's about developing yourself as a human being.

—Liz Berry

Once you've decided that something's absolutely true, you've closed your mind on it, and a closed mind doesn't go anywhere. Question everything. That's what education's all about.

—David Eddings

I lack formal education. So I'm left with the feeling that I'm smarter than everyone around me but that if I ever got around really smart people—people who went to universities and drank wine and spoke Latin—that they'd be bored as hell by me. It's a lonely way to go through life.

—Gillian Flynn

At its best, schooling can be about how to make a life, which is quite different from how to make a living.

—Neil Postman

Most insensible, corrupt, cheap, disrespectful young girls run after bad, rude, cocky, nonsensical boys, but a mature, educated, thoughtful, virtuous lady opts for a wise, well bred, experienced, humble, modest gentleman.

—Michael Bassey  
Johnson

Powerful people cannot afford to educate the people that they oppress, because once you are truly educated, you will not ask for power. You will take it.

—John Henrik Clarke

Regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Education can, alone, cause it to reveal its treasures, and enable mankind to benefit there from.

—Baha'u'llah

The COUNTRY is controlled by LAWS>

LAWS are controlled by POLITICIANS>

POLITICIANS are controlled by VOTERS>

VOTERS are controlled by PUBLIC OPINION>

PUBLIC OPINION is controlled by the MEDIA (News, Hollywood, Internet...) & EDUCATION

So. whoever controls MEDIA & EDUCATION, controls the COUNTRY.

—William J Federer

It is quite impossible these days to assume anything about people's educational level from the way they talk or dress or from their taste in music. Safest to treat everyone you meet as a distinguished intellectual.

—Ian McEwan

The only way to atone for being occasionally a little over-dressed is by being always absolutely over-educated.

—Oscar Wilde

Education is transformational. It changes lives. That is why people work so hard to become educated and why education has always been the key to the American Dream, the force that erases arbitrary divisions of race and class and culture and unlocks every person's God-given potential.

—Condoleezza Rice

I certainly wasn't seeking any degree, the way a college confers a status symbol upon its students. My homemade education gave me, with every additional book that I read, a little bit more sensitivity to the deafness, dumbness and blindness that was afflicting the black race in America. Not long ago, an English writer telephoned me, asking questions. One was, What's your alma mater? I told him, Books.

—Alex Haley

Education is beautification of the inner world and the outer world.

—Amit Ray

Fill your mind before you empty your mouth.

—Habees Akande

Every child should have mud pies, grasshoppers, water bugs, tadpoles, frogs, mud turtles, elderberries, wild strawberries, acorns, chestnuts, trees to climb. Brooks to wade, water lilies, woodchucks, bats, bees, butterflies, various animals to pet, hay-fields, pine-cones, rocks to roll, sand, snakes, huckleberries and hornets; and any child who has been deprived of these has been deprived of the best part of education.

—Luther Burbank

The problem in our society and in our schools is to inculcate, without overdoing it, the notion of education, as in the Latin *educere*—to lead, to bring out what is in someone rather than merely to indoctrinate him/her from the outside.

—Joseph Campbell

Education is not confined to books, and the finest characters often graduate from no college, but make experience their master, and life their book. [Some care] only for the mental culture, and [are] in danger of over-studying, under the delusion . . . that learning must be had at all costs, forgetting that health and real wisdom are better.

—Louisa May Alcott

As I ate she began the first of what we later called ‘my lessons in living.’ She said that I must always be intolerant of ignorance but understanding of illiteracy. That some people, unable to go to school, were more educated and even more intelligent than college professors. She encouraged me to listen carefully to what country people called mother wit. That in those homely sayings was couched the collective wisdom of generations.

—Maya Angelou

The most common and the monstrous defect in the education of the day is that children fail to acquire the habit of reading.

—Charlotte Mason

Education is mostly about institutions and getting tickets stamped; learning is what we do for ourselves. When we’re lucky, they go together. If I had to choose, I’d take learning.

—Thomas C. Foster



By the time a student gets to college, he's spent a decade curating a bewilderingly diverse resume to prepare for a completely unknowable future. Come what may, he's ready—for nothing in particular.

—Peter Thiel

he deeper education consists in unlearning one's first education.

—Paul Valéry

The importance of reading, for me, is that it allows you to dream. Reading not only educates, but is relaxing and allows you to feed your imagination—creating beautiful pictures from carefully chosen words.

—Eric Ripert

To Educate is to Free.

—José Martí

You know, sometimes I'll go to an 8th-grade graduation and there's all that pomp and circumstance and gowns and flowers. And I think to myself, it's just 8th grade ... An 8th-grade education doesn't cut it today. Let's give them a handshake and tell them to get their butts back in the library!

—Barack Obama

The primary goal of real education is not to deliver facts but to guide students to the truths that will allow them to take responsibility for their lives.

—John Taylor Gatto

Some people get an education without going to college. The rest get it after they get out.

—Mark Twain

Natural ability without education has more often raised a man to glory and virtue than education without natural ability.

—Marcus T. Cicero

The home-schooling movement has quietly grown to a size where one and half million young people are being educated entirely by their own parents; last month the education press reported the amazing news that, in their ability to think, children schooled at home seem to be five or even ten years ahead of their formally trained peers.

—John Taylor Gatto

Knowledge is power. Information is liberating. Education is the premise of progress, in every society, in every family

—Kofi Annan

Educating yourself does not mean that you were stupid in the first place; it means that you are intelligent enough to know that there is plenty left to learn.

—Melanie Joy

Jefferson worried that the people—and the argument goes back to Thucydides and Aristotle—are easily misled. He also stressed, passionately and repeatedly, that it was essential for the people to understand the risks and benefits of government, to educate themselves, and to involve themselves in the political process.

Without that, he said, the wolves will take over.

—Carl Sagan

Part of being American is respecting all people's right to be whatever they want to be and at the same time respecting your own right to bitch about it, as long as you're educated and can reason your way through your bitching.

—Sara Zarr

What we're learning in our schools is not the wisdom of life. We're learning technologies, we're getting information. There's a curious reluctance on the part of faculties to indicate the life values of their subjects.

—Joseph Campbell

Every relationship is an education. Each new person we welcome into our hearts is a chance to evolve into something radically different than we used to be.

—Brian K. Vaughan

An average person with average talent, ambition and education can outstrip the most brilliant genius in our society, if that person has clear, focused goals.

—Brian Tracy

A public-school system, if it means the providing of free education for those who desire it, is a noteworthy and beneficent achievement of modern times; but when once it becomes monopolistic it is the most perfect instrument for tyranny which has yet been devised. Freedom of thought in the middle ages was combated by the Inquisition, but the modern method is far more effective.

—J. Gresham Machen  
(1923)

There's no education superior to travel. Think of *The Motorcycle Diaries*, or what Montrose St. Millet wrote in *Ages of Exploration*: 'To be still is to be stupid. To be stupid is to die.' And so we shall live. Every Betsy sitting next to you in a classroom will only know Maple Street on which sits her boxy white house, inside of which whimper her boxy white parents. After your travels, you'll know Maple Street, sure, but also wilderness and ruins, carnivals and the moon. You'll know the man sitting on an apple crate outside a gas station in Cheerless, Texas, who lost his legs in Vietnam, the woman in the tollbooth outside Dismal, Delaware, in possession of six children, a husband with black lung but no teeth.

—Marisha Pessl

Public-school education—the specific force that has helped generations of Americans transcend the circumstances of their birth—is profoundly, perhaps irreparable, broken. In my own state of California, only half of public-school students are at grade level in reading, and even fewer are in math. When a crisis goes on long enough, it no longer seems like a crisis. It is merely a fact. Shouldn't the schools that serve poor children be the very best schools we have?

—Caitlin Flanagan  
(2021)

Grit, persistence, adaptability, financial literacy, interview skills, human relationships, conversation, communication, managing technology, navigating conflicts, preparing healthy food, physical fitness, resilience, self-regulation, time management, basic psychology and mental health practices, arts, and music—all of these would help students and also make school seem much more relevant. Our fixation on college readiness leads our high school curricula toward purely academic subjects and away from life skills. The purpose of education should be to enable a citizen to live a good, positive, socially productive life independent of work.

—Andrew Yang

Anarchists know that a long period of education must precede any great fundamental change in society, hence they do not believe in vote begging, nor political campaigns, but rather in the development of self-thinking individuals.

—Lucy Parsons

It's up to you to educate yourself.

It's up to you to learn speaking skills and people skills.

It's up to you to try (and usually fail, but to try again) all sorts of ventures.

The rest is a combination of hard work, being at the right place ...at the right time...with the right thing...oh yes...and more (never ending) hard work.

—Gene Simmons

All abilities are paid for with disabilities....insight into one area involves blind spots in another. i could not have done what i have done as a writer had i been a gifted mathematician or physicist.

—William S. Burroughs

All democracies demand common public education because nothing makes people so much alike as the same education.

—Karl Jaspers

The education and empowerment of women throughout the world cannot fail to result in a more caring, tolerant, just and peaceful life for all.

—Aung San Suu Kyi

We can get too easily bogged down in the academic part of homeschooling, a relatively minor part of the whole, which is to raise competent, caring, literate, happy people.

—Diane Flynn Keith

Laws for the liberal education of youth, especially of the lower class of people, are so extremely wise and useful, that, to a humane and generous mind, no expense for this purpose would be thought extravagant.

—John Adams

Some know the value of education by having it. I know it's value by not having it.

—Frederick Douglass

One of the essential problems for education is that most countries subject their schools to the fast-food model of quality assurance when they should be adopting the Michelin model instead. The future for education is not in standardizing but in customizing; not in promoting groupthink and deindividuation but in cultivating the real depth and dynamism of human abilities of every sort.

—Ken Robinson

As a woman, I know you're young but you gotta hear it now, the most valuable part about you is your brain. Get an education, don't let anybody tell you that your body or the size that you wear or any of that bullshit matters because it doesn't. Your brain matters, so be the smart girl in the room because to be funny you have to be smart, because you have to get the joke

—Sophia Bush

An educated man should know everything about something and something about everything

—Veronica Wedgwood

The best anti-poverty program is a world-class education.

—Barack Obama

A classical work of literature can never be completely understood. But those who are educated and educating themselves must always desire to learn more from it.

—Friedrich Schlegel

The aim of education is to develop resources in the child that will contribute to his well-being as long as life endures; to develop power of self-mastery that he may never be a slave to indulgence or other weaknesses, to develop [strong] manhood, beautiful womanhood that in every child and every youth may be found at least the promise of a friend, a companion, one who later may be fit for husband or wife, an exemplary father or a loving intelligent mother, one who can face life with courage, meet disaster with fortitude, and face death without fear.

—David O. McKay

It isn't a coincidence that governments everywhere want to educate children. Government education, in turn, is supposed to be evidence of the state's goodness and its concern for our well-being. The real explanation is less flattering. If the government's propaganda can take root as children grow up, those kids will be no threat to the state apparatus. They'll fasten the chains to their own ankles.

—Llewellyn H.  
Rockwell Jr.

Of all the purposes of education, I think the most useful is this: It prepares you to keep yourself entertained. It gives you a better chance of an interesting job.

—Roger Ebert

[A woman's] education should be as varied and perfect as possible. If for no other reason to enable her properly to educate and rear her own children. Whatever grand truths are planted in the mother's mind may take root in the next generation, and there grow, blossom, and shed their perfume on the world. The child receives the mother's very thought by intuition. If the mother's mind is weak and narrow in its range, the child is affected by this fact long before it finds meaning in the mother's words. But if the mother's mind is cultured and refined by study until her thoughts are grand and far-reaching, the child's soul will grow and expand under the mesmeric influence of these thoughts, as the plant grows under the influence of the sun.

—Karen Andreola

Education is unfolding the wings of head and heart together. The job of a teacher is to push the students out of the nest to strengthen their wings.

—Amit Ray

Education is a thing you get past and forget about as quickly as possible. This is particularly true of elementary and secondary education, of course.... I began to remember what it had been like: the tremendous excitement of the first couple of years, when kids imagine that great secrets are going to be unfolding before them, then the disappointment that gradually sets in when you begin to realize the truth: There's plenty of learning to do, but it's not the learning you wanted. It's learning to keep your mouth shut, learning how to avoid attracting the teacher's attention when you don't want it, learning not to ask questions, learning how to pretend to understand, learning how to tell teachers what they want to hear, learning to keep your own ideas and opinions to yourself, learning how to look as if you're paying attention, learning how to endure the endless boredom.

—Daniel Quinn

Education is, quite simply, peace-building by another name. It is the most effective form of defense spending there is.

—Kofi Annan

The assault on education began more than a century ago by industrialists and capitalists such as Andrew Carnegie. In 1891, Carnegie congratulated the graduates of the *Pierce College of Business* for being fully occupied in obtaining a knowledge of shorthand and typewriting rather than wasting time upon dead languages. The industrialist Richard Teller Crane was even more pointed in his 1911 dismissal of what humanists call the life of the mind. No one who has a taste for literature has a right to be happy because the only men entitled to happiness... is those who are useful. The arrival of industrialists on university boards of trustees began as early as the 1870s and the *University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business* offered the first academic credential in business administration in 1881. The capitalists, from the start, complained that universities were unprofitable. These early twentieth century capitalists, like heads of investment houses and hedge-fund managers, were, as Donoghue writes motivated by an ethically based anti-intellectualism that transcended interest in the financial bottom line. Their distrust of the ideal of intellectual inquiry for its own sake, led them to insist that if universities were to be preserved at all, they must operate on a different set of principles from those governing the liberal arts.

—Chris Hedges

With self-confidence, self-education and self-discipline, you can master the act in any chosen field.

—Lailah Gifty Akita

Education stuffs you full of ideas without the coinciding experience that gave rise to those ideas in the first place, giving you incorrect perspective and notions.

—Arthur Schopenhauer

There's no such thing as neutral education. Education either functions as an instrument to bring about conformity or freedom.

—Paulo Freire

Education becomes most rich and alive when it confronts the reality of moral conflict in the world.

—Howard Zinn

No matter how much I admire our schools, I know that no university exists that can provide an education; what a university can provide is an outline, to give the learner a direction and guidance. The rest one has to do for oneself.

—Louis L'Amour

If you are investing in your education and you are learning, you should do that as early as you possibly can, because then it will have time to compound over the longest period. And that the things you do learn and invest in should be knowledge that is cumulative, so that the knowledge builds on itself. So instead of learning something that might become obsolete tomorrow, like some particular type of software [that no one even uses two years later], choose things that will make you smarter in 10 or 20 years.

—Alice Schroeder

I love to read. My education is self-inflicted

—Groucho Marx

Sit down and read. Educate yourself for the coming conflicts.

—Mother Jones

The best way to ensure an effective educational system is not by standardizing our curricula and tests but by standardizing the opportunities available to all students?

—Ibram X. Kendi

The wiser a man is, the more he stands ready to be educated.

—Joe Abercrombie

A child who passes through many hands in turn, can never be well brought up. At every change he makes a secret comparison, which continually tends to lessen his respect for those who control him, and with it their authority over him. If once he thinks there are grown-up people with no more sense than children the authority of age is destroyed and his education is ruined.

—Jean-Jacques Rousseau

Today you can buy the Dialogues of Plato for less than you would spend on a fifth of whiskey, or Gibbon's Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire for the price of a cheap shirt. You can buy a fair beginning of an education in any bookstore with a good stock of paperback books for less than you would spend on a week's supply of gasoline.

—Louis L'Amour

The end of education is character.

—Sathya Sai Baba

One of the great failings of the American education system (in our view) is that young people can graduate from university without any understanding of poverty at home or abroad.

—Nicholas D. Kristof

The soul of him who has education is whole and perfect and escapes the worst disease, but, if a man's education be neglected, he walks lamely through life and returns good for nothing to the world below.

—Plato

The man who seeks to educate himself must first read and then travel in order to correct what he has learned.

—Casanova

Like many highly educated people, I didn't have much in the way of actual skills.

—J. Maarten Troost

Thinking about thinking has to be a principal ingredient of any empowering practice of education.

—Jerome S. Bruner



I had always insisted that a good education was a synthesis of book learning and involvement in social action, that each enriched the other.

—Howard Zinn

We are to regard education as a service industry, like a laundry, parents are the customers, teachers the washers, children the dirty linen.

—Stephen Fry

I am beginning to suspect all elaborate & special systems of education. They seem to me to be built upon the supposition that every child is an idiot who must be taught to think. Whereas, if the child is left to himself, he will think more and better, if less showily. Let him come and go freely, let him touch real things and combine his impressions for himself...

—Helen Keller

Education should be the process of helping everyone to discover his uniqueness.

—Leo Buscaglia

Real education means to inspire people to live more abundantly, to learn to begin with life as they find it and make it better,

—Carter G. Woodson

An uneducated thief may steal goods from the train but an educated one may steal the entire train. We need to compete for knowledge and wisdom, not for grades.

—Shiv Khara

They know that as long as they keep us undereducated, or with an inferior education, it's impossible for us to compete with them for job openings. And as long as we can't compete with them and get a decent job, we're trapped. We are low-wage earners. We have to live in a run-down neighborhood, which means our children go to inferior schools. They get inferior education. And when they grow up, they fall right into the same cycle again. This is the American way.

—Malcolm X

I have often reflected upon the new vistas that reading opened to me. I knew right there, in prison, that reading had changed forever the course of my life. As I see it today, the ability to read awoke inside me some long dormant craving to be mentally alive. I certainly wasn't seeking any degree, the way a college confers a status symbol upon its students. My home made education gave me, with every additional book that I read, a little bit more sensitivity to the deafness, dumbness, and blindness that was afflicting the black race in America.

—Malcolm X

People are all born ignorant but they are not born stupid. Much of the stupidity we see today is induced by our educational system, from the elementary schools to the universities. In a high-tech age that has seen the creation of artificial intelligence by computers, we are also seeing the creation of artificial stupidity by people who call themselves educators.

—Thomas Sowell

Read all the important books. Educate yourself, then you'll see the world in a different way.

—Helon Habila

It was neither possible nor necessary to educate people who never questioned anything.

—Joseph Heller

Most often people seek in life occasions for persisting in their opinions rather than for educating themselves.

—André Gide

An education isn't how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don't. It's knowing where to go to find out what you need to know; and it's knowing how to use the information you get.

—William Feather

The U.S. is the only nation to fund elementary and secondary education based on local wealth. Other developed countries either equalize funding or provide extra funding for individuals or groups felt to need it. In the Netherlands, for example, national funding is provided to all schools based on the number of pupils enrolled, but for every guilder allocated to a middle-class Dutch child, 1.25 guilders are allocated for a lower-class child and 1.9 guilders for a minority child, exactly the opposite of the situation in the U.S. where lower-class and minority children typically receive less than middle-class white children. Regional differences in per-pupil costs may exist in other countries, but the situation in which underfunded urban or rural districts exist in close proximity to wealthy suburban districts is probably uniquely American.

Of course, even equality in per-pupil costs in no way ensures equality in educational services. Not only do poor districts typically have fewer funds, they also have greater needs.

—Robert E. Slavin

Social control has spawned grouping practices that expose only some students to important content and enlightened instruction. In the early grades, students are divided into three groups—for example, canaries, robins, and sparrows. The canaries get the best curriculum, the sparrows the most mundane. By 12th grade, the groups are still intact. Now, the canaries are doing advanced placement coursework, the sparrows are taking auto mechanics or clerical training, and the robins are getting something in between. Such patterns indicate either that remediation was never the goal of these grouping practices, or that schools do not know how to remediate.

—Walter Parker

We learn by practice. Whether it means to learn to dance by practicing dancing or to learn to live by practicing living, the principles are the same. In each, it is the performance of a dedicated precise set of acts, physical or intellectual, from which comes shape of achievement, a sense of one's being, a satisfaction of spirit....Practice means to perform, over and over again in the face of all obstacles, some act of vision, of faith, of desire. Practice is a means of inviting the perfection desired.

—Martha Graham

We are not educated well enough to perform the necessary act of intelligently selecting our leaders.

—Walter Cronkite

If you hate violence and don't believe in politics, the only major remedy remaining is education.

—George Orwell

Once you educate the boys, they tend to leave the villages and go search for work in the cities, but the girls stay home, become leaders in the community, and pass on what they've learned. If you really want to change a culture, to empower women, improve basic hygiene and health care, and fight high rates of infant mortality, the answer is to educate girls.

—Greg Mortenson

I am concerned that too many people are focused too much on money and not on their greatest wealth, which is their education. If people are prepared to be flexible, keep an open mind and learn, they will grow richer and richer through the changes. If they think money will solve the problems, I am afraid those people will have a rough ride. Intelligence solves problems and produces money. Money without financial intelligence is money soon gone.

—Robert T. Kiyosaki

First and most importantly, money can allow schools to extend the length of the school day and the school year, with after-school and summer school programs. Wealthier schools can spend a great deal of money on professional development and help teachers enhance their teaching skills. Schools that don't have money can't do that, or they have to rely on free services. Higher pay scales allow wealthier districts to attract good teachers and retain their star performers. Districts without money are always worried about losing their teachers to wealthier districts, and rightfully so.

—Glenn 'Max' McGee

I would rather entertain and hope that people learned something than educate people and hope they were entertained.

—Walt Disney

## **SEVEN CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE SCHOOLS**

- A safe environment conducive to learning
- Clear school goals
- Instructional leadership from the principal
- A climate of high expectations
- A high percentage of time on task
- Frequent evaluation of student performance
- Community support

—Daniel U. Levine and  
Robert J.  
Havighurst

The obligation of the American common public schools is to educate all the children of all the people, and failure to honor that obligation will eventually endanger the very fabric of American society. The secret is for principals to take seriously and thoughtfully their roles as educational leaders, to resist the popular 'easy answers' and to search for ways to cast all students in active learner roles in programs which increasingly emphasize higher cognitive processes.

—James Albrecht

A democratic society depends upon an informed and educated citizenry.

—Thomas Jefferson

Information is the currency of democracy.

—Thomas Jefferson

School is in business to cause and promote learning. It should therefore model for all institutions what it means to be a learning organization. A school is not merely place that expects students learn; it must encourage and support everyone's learning.

For a school to be a model learning organization, all faculty members should be professional learners: They should engage in deep, broad study of the learning they are changed to cause. What works? What doesn't? Where is student learning most successful, and why? How can we learn from that success? Where are students struggling to learn, and why? What can we do about it? Effectively tackling these questions is what the 'professional' in 'professional practice' means.

—Grant Wiggins and  
Jay McTighe

Achievement gaps among different groups of students have concerned government and education leaders for many years. In the 1960s, President Lyndon Johnson's 'War on Poverty' focused directly on inequalities in the educational achievement of economically disadvantaged students and their more advantaged counterparts. The *Economic Opportunity Act of 1964*, which established the *Head Start* program, and the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965*, which created the *Title I* and *Follow Through* programs, were specific attempts to address these gaps in educational attainment. The *No Child Left Behind* [2001] legislation revived these concerns.

—Thomas R. Guskey

Educated professionals pass on their money, connections, ambitions, and work ethic to their children, while less educated families fall further behind, with less and less chance of seeing their children move up. By kindergarten, the children of professionals are already a full two years ahead of their lower-class counterparts, and the achievement gap is almost unbridgeable. After seven decades of meritocracy, a lower-class child is nearly as unlikely to be admitted to one of the top three Ivy league universities as they would have been in 1954.

—George Packer

Educate your children to self-control, to the habit of holding passion and prejudice and evil tendencies subject to an upright and reasoning will, and you have done much to abolish misery from their future and crimes from society.

—Benjamin Franklin

No man should bring children into the world who is unwilling to persevere to the end in their nature and education.

—Plato