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*"Statesmen may plan and speculate for Liberty, but it is Religion and Morality alone,
which can establish the Principles upon which Freedom can securely stand."*
John Adams

White House Celebrates School Choice at Rose Garden Event

On Monday, the White House [hosted](#) a back-to-school event in the Rose Garden to highlight the administration's work in education, with a particular focus on expanding school choice through the [Education Freedom Tax Credit](#). President Trump delivered remarks to highlight the administration's education priorities and accomplishments, including expanding school choice, supporting prayer in public schools, downsizing the Department of Education, and renewing a focus on patriotic education. He emphasized his commitment to school choice by pointing to the efforts to expand the use of 529 saving accounts for K-12 expenses, as well as the establishment of the EFTC. Established through the Working Families Tax Cut Act, commonly known as the One Big Beautiful Bill that became law last year, the EFTC created the nation's first national school choice tax credit program. The EFTC provides a dollar-for-dollar federal tax credit of up to \$1,700 for donations to scholarship granting organizations (SGOs), which in turn provide scholarships to families for qualified educational purposes, including private school tuition. "We want every parent to have the power to send their child to a high-quality school that shares their values. It's so important," [stated](#) the President. He concluded his remarks by [stating](#), "In everything we do, we're empowering our nation's parents. We're restoring high standards and the pursuit of excellence. And we're proving that the golden age of American education is just beginning."

Secretary of Education Linda McMahon also spoke about the Department's efforts to return power to the parents and reduce federal control in education. She highlighted the initiatives to withhold federal funding from DEI programs, and grant waivers and Ed-Flex authority to states, both of which are intended to give states and local communities greater flexibility in determining education policies. She also emphasized the efforts to strengthen parental rights and expand school choice through the EFTC. "We are breaking the grip of the education monopoly in D.C. and putting the future of our children back into the hands of those who know them, love them, and are best positioned to help them reach their God-given potential," [stated](#) McMahon in her remarks.

Dr. Jamison Coppola, AACCS government affairs director, [represented AACCS](#) at the event joined by families from one of our AACCS schools. "We are grateful for the administration's unwavering commitment to school choice and returning the rightful role of parents in their children's education. For Christian school families, the Education Freedom Tax Credit represents an important step toward making the education they value and choose more accessible," remarked Dr. Coppola. "We are excited to see how this new opportunity will open doors for more families to pursue a faith-based education and give parents greater freedom to choose the schools that align with their convictions and their children's needs."

Cyber Defense Agency Provides Cybersecurity Resource Package for Schools

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, or CISA, has [released](#) its K-12 Cybersecurity Foundations Resource Packet to help schools and districts “develop and sustain effective cybersecurity programs.” The packet includes a Getting Started Guide, an Implementation Guide, a video series, and quick reference materials. The [Getting Started Guide](#) provides an overview of cybersecurity threats and provides four objectives that school leaders should focus on when they are beginning a new cybersecurity program or operating on a small budget. These include protecting students’ and personnel’s login credentials, safeguarding student and personnel devices and assets, performing and verifying backups, and establishing an initial incident response capability. The [Implementation Guide](#) builds on these objectives and offers more in-depth guidance to strengthen cybersecurity in these four areas. The Implementation Guide also adds two additional objectives: utilizing available cybersecurity training and awareness campaigns, and protecting sensitive data. The videos in the series outline the purpose of each guide and explain the objectives. As described on the CISA website, the resource packet is “based on current cybersecurity best practices and frameworks” and is intended to provide “cost-effective, actionable and tailorable steps K-12 institutions can take to develop and maintain effective cybersecurity programs.”

EEOC Settles With Christian Employer Over Gender Identity Dispute

The Christian Employers Alliance has scored significant protections for its members under a settlement with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. In 2024, the Biden administration released its Enforcement Guidance on Harassment in the Workplace. This guidance interpreted a prohibition on sexual harassment to include a person’s perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. In its public comments, the AACS warned that the guidance raised significant First Amendment religious and free-speech violations. In 2025, CEA [sued](#) the EEOC over this guidance and argued that the mandate exceeded the government’s authority. Under President Trump, the new EEOC board rescinded that 2024 guidance. Last week, the EEOC [agreed](#) to a partial settlement that prevents the agency from prosecuting CEA members “on issues of pronouns, bathrooms, and dress codes in the workplace under gender identity or transgender mandates.” Alliance Defending Freedom, which represented CEA, celebrated the settlement. “All employers, including those in the Christian Employers Alliance, have the constitutionally protected freedom to conduct their business in a manner consistent with their deeply held religious beliefs,” [said](#) Matt Bowman, senior counsel and director of regulatory practice at ADF. ADF continues to litigate the remaining portion of the case as the CEA [challenges](#) a Biden-era rule that requires employers to provide employees with abortion accommodations.

In Case You Missed It:

[Weekly Market Update](#) provided by Jeff Beach of the [AACS Investment Team at Merrill Lynch](#)

[Practical Legal Help for Christian Schools: ADF Ministry Alliance](#)

[Register Now for the AACS National Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.—September 14-16, 2026](#)

[William Wilberforce: The Inspiration Christians Need to Step into Politics](#)

[4 Pieces of Back-to-School Advice for Parents](#)

[The Next Frontier of Universal School Choice: Removing Barriers to Expand Educational Options](#)

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