

Commentary from Move On Petition: *Voices of our Community*

<p>Stop destroying children's lives! (#1463)</p>	<p>EMU's association with the EAA lends legitimacy to an illegitimate organization. If EMU's leadership looks at the evidence for EAA's fabrications, they will see that EMU is on the wrong side of history in this matter. (#1449)</p>	<p>As the retired Coordinator of Registration at EMU, and adjunct faculty in the School of Social Work, I urge the Regents to drop the EAA immediately. Nobody with expertise in education would go near such a disaster in the first place. EMU should not allow its national reputation to be dragged through the mud and used to promote a purely corporate for-profit goal. Children need to read real books, not the EAA's phony versions of books. The kids aren't fooled--they know they are being used for private gain. We must save public education or our democracy will be doomed. (#1451)</p>
<p>Disappointed in my alma mater, I have stopped donating due to your continued participation in the EAA. (#1457)</p>	<p>It is troubling that the people on the ground with expertise in education were valuable enough to use as made up supporters of EAA, but not given the actual opportunity to be heard. I am an alumn of EMU, an educator, and I am saddened that my employment value has been diminished due to a small group's decisions and false representation. Please speak out, back out, and give back the value of those of us associated with EMU! (#1434)</p>	<p>The EAA is failure...close it down and send Covington out the door! It appears that the EAA has willfully failed to provide IEP services to special needs children, has de-certified students without parent notification or consent and has failed to provide due process to the children's parents and or guardians. EMU must sever its ties with the EAA management and shut the failed system down. (#1441)</p>
<p>The recent MEAP scores show an emerging pattern of worsening grades within the EAA. This experiment was designed to fail. It has done that. End it. (#1442)</p>	<p>This is not how I want tax dollars for education spent. Education is not a private business. (#1444)</p>	<p>VERY SAD TO SEE EMU ACTING IN SUCH A PARTISAN AND UNPROFESSIONAL MANNER! (#1448)</p>
<p>By being apart of the EAA you are killing your on Teacher Education Program! (1432)</p>	<p>Don't ruin EMU's teacher education reputation by participating in the EAA (1429)</p>	<p>they were warned 2 years ago (#1388)</p>
<p>Support public schools and drop the EAA (#1454)</p>	<p>Integrity matters. It's time to break ties with the EAA for the good of students and the institution you represent. (#1438)</p>	<p>EMU has such a strong reputation for training educators/teachers, so please don't hurt this reputation with the EAA! (1425)</p>
<p>I am a proud public educator, finishing my 25 year. I graduated from EMU twice. (1433)</p>	<p>Faculty should be included! (#1392)</p>	<p>Shame on EMU and the State of Michigan for ever backing such a poor excuse for an educational system. (#1390)</p>

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<p>EAA is built on fundamental fraud fostered by Gov. Snyder and his handlers. It should be vehemently avoided at all costs. When you lie down with dogs (Snyder), you come up with fleas. (#1407)</p>	<p>class of 1973 (MA in G and C) END THE AGREEMENT!!! (#1380)</p>	<p>As an Eastern grad and teacher I am extremely saddened by the universities continued attempts to support a program that undermines public education. This is not what is best for children. (#1369)</p>
<p>I graduated from the EMU College of Education in 1993 and was always proud of it's reputation for high-quality teacher training *until* the day I heard it was partnering with the EAA. My first thought was, "What happened to the strong education department? Has it degraded that far??" I now know the decision to partner with the EAA was not made with the approval or input of the faculty, but I doubt most of the public are aware of this. In terms of quality, the EMU College of Education will continue to be equated with the EAA in the public mind until this association is severed. (1374)</p>	<p>As an EMU graduate I totally encourage the severing. (#1360)</p>	<p>My alma mater should not support the EAA. I went to Eastern when I decided to be a teacher so why would EMU support an Authority that is so destructive to teachers and students? (#1375)</p>
<p>Perhaps the original reasons for partnering with the EAA schools were worthy, but to continue a relationship that is clearly destructive to EMU and which provides ongoing validation of bad faith and bad practices is not in the best interests of anyone and is an embarrassment to those of us with degrees from EMU. (#1364)</p>	<p>I sign as a former Michigander, a proud graduate of a Michigan university and as someone who is deeply concerned about the treatment of children under the EAA (#1363)</p>	<p>Once again the interests of the faculty, students, &amp; community are overlooked and negated from the decision making! How is this possible?! (#1366)</p>
<p>Thank you for taking this up. Hopefully EMU will see that few people will want to associate with the university or have a teaching credential from this institution if it is in collaboration with a government that wants to see the teaching profession further boiled down into disrespected profession it already has been turned into by the media and Lansing. (1340)</p>	<p>I will not have a pre-student teacher or student teacher from EMU until this university withdraws from its participation of the EAA. We will be encouraging all AAPS employees and surrounding school districts to follow. (#1349)</p>	<p>As an EMU alumni, I am so disappointed in my University. There is more to the bottom Line than money. But money always wins. Shame! (#1345)</p>
<p>I'm embarrassed that EMU could take part in a group so anti-teacher considering how it hurts so many of its own graduating class. (1335)</p>	<p>End corporate fascism (#1333)</p>	<p>Please reconsider your decision to enter into the local agreement that creates the EAA. It is hurting students! (#1419)</p>

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<p>I moved myself and my children 4 hours because EMU was "the best place" to get my teaching degree. 4 years later, (my loans and financial aid MAXED out) I am finally a senior who is scheduled to student teach in the fall. In the last 4 years, I have come to think of this area as my home. I absolutely love Michigan and it is my dream to teach here. I feel EMU is jeopardizing my goals and dreams in a very unjust manner. I ask that Dr. Susan Martin and the EMU Board of Regents to please support my goals, my fellow students goals and the goals of the College of Education. Please don't ruin our schools reputation. I want to be proud of my degree! The way things currently stand, I am cringing in embarrassment. I'll be just devastated if I'm pushed out of this beautiful diverse area. Please sever ties with the EAA! 1313. Maureen McCormack from Middletown Springs, VT signed this petition on Jan 4, 2014. <a href="http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/eastern-michigan-university">http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/eastern-michigan-university</a> The secretive move of the EAA sounds like a fascist move and one to put an end to promptly. (#1319)</p>	<p>The feelings of the community MUST be listened to. Student teachers from EMU are being punished for something beyond their control. Don't jeopardize YOUR students' education. Remember: EDUCATION FIRST (#1328)</p>	<p>Not only am I signing this petition but I have also decided not to pursue my masters degree through Eastern Michigan this fall unless the affiliation with the EAA ends. (#1308)</p>
<p>The EAA is a bad idea for everyone. No positive outcome for stakeholders. (#1323)</p>	<p>EMU alumni (#1290)</p>	<p>AAPS teacher; MA Ed, EMU, 1984. I will do all I can to support the protests against EMU for affiliating with the EAA. (#1295)</p>
<p>It is making it very difficult to student teach and could jeopardize my future teaching career. I am being turned away from districts that I have previously student taught in, due to the fact that I am a Eastern Student Teacher. (1273)</p>	<p>EMU college of ed Alumni (#1288)</p>	<p>This will limit my placement opportunities as I move through my graduate program in Speech-language Pathology. Local school districts do not want to be affiliated with the EAA. (#1277)</p>
<p>I am not faculty, but a graduate of EMU. This relationship needs to be SEVERED!! (1260)</p>	<p>Student In the Initial Teacher Preparation Program (#1274)</p>	<p>Education is not a pawn for law makers to use to further their own agenda (#1242)</p>

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<p>With all the bad publicity Eastern Michigan University is getting revolving around violence and theft, this, is one that is being neglected. You may not see it now or understand it but the EAA will kill the dreams of children and steal them of their right to "dream big". Please end this relationship with the EAA because what EMU should be know and understand by now is that being the "person" who stood by watched and didn't say anything when a crime is being committed is just as affective and damaging as the pulling it. Don't be the bystander, stop this violence on our children's education. (#104)</p>	<p>It's with a heavy heart that I sign this petition. As an EMU Alumni and current educator in a public school, it's disappointing to learn of the disrespect being shown to the educators at EMU and the public school educators who devote their hearts and souls to educating our youth. Shame on the politicians and political powers at Eastern that took it upon themselves to make a bad situation worse for all. (#1235)</p>	<p>If educational innovation in the interest of improved outcomes for the children in the EAA is the objective, then the researchers and teacher educators at EMU need to be active participants in shaping the EAA. Otherwise the "partnership" is hypocrisy. (#52)</p>
<p>As an EMU College of Education alumna, I am ashamed that EMU would even consider participating in an agreement with the EAA! Shame on the administrators who decided this! (#929)</p>	<p>My daughter-in-law is finishing up her student teaching and graduating from EMU this month. How dare you undermine the reputation of this fine institution, which has stood for education quality for over a century. My grandfather graduated from what is now EMU back when it was Michigan State Normal College. It then was at the forefront of teacher education and has remained so - until now. Don't ruin EMU's good name. (#878)</p>	<p>PLEASE respect and preserve the integrity of education faculty! We are already fighting the Teach for America group; now this. We have expertise far beyond what is believed or honored and we know how to do our jobs. The United States is spiraling in the wrong direction concerning education, with the EAA being another example</p>
<p>I am an EMU alumnus, both undergrad and Masters level. EMU MUST sever ties with EAA. I do not want my educational degrees sullied by ties to this abhorrent organization, which is designed by ALEC as one step in the privatization of public education in MI! (#835)</p>	<p>I am embarrassed of the university that I recently graduated from. It's an outright shame that the regents does not support the faculty (which produces some of the finest teachers in country, I might add) or the students. Can't wait for the EMU foundation to start soliciting donations. Thanks (935)</p>	<p>I am a public school teacher and also my daughter attends EMU. I will have a very hard time letting her continue to attend a university that makes the conscious decision from this point forward to align itself with the Educational Achievement Authority! (#801)</p>
<p>I'm a graduate alumni from EMU. The leadership of this university embarrasses me. No more support. (#784)</p>	<p>I'm an Eastern Alumni and have always been proud to say so, don't make me change that to embarrassed. End the relationship with the EAA now! (#767)</p>	<p>It is surprising and sad to me that EMU has taken this step against public education. I received a master's degree at EMU in education. I expect better from this university. (#741)</p>

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<p>As an alumni and teacher, I will strongly encourage my building to boycott emu student teachers. Let them student teach at EAA schools. (#726)</p>	<p>It's morally wrong to have accepted money from former education students and then support a program that removes them!</p>	<p>Worked for the company for 4 months. EAA is NOT for education! (#719)</p>
<p>We need to renounce the agreement to participate in the EAA. It puts not only my future but the future of other potential teachers at risk. (#689)</p>	<p>I am a proud graduate of EMU in education. I feel that I received an excellent education and did my student teaching with one of the best. The University risking the chance for future teachers to learn from the best is criminal and disgraceful. Please sever the agreement with EAA immediately. (#627)</p>	<p>As an EMU grad in Ed Leadership, I am appalled that EMU would enter into this nefarious agreement which can only harm public education in this state. EMU must retract their involvement and take the moral high ground instead of the politically expedient and highly damaging path to downgrading public schools in MI. (#568)</p>
<p>I am disheartened by the trend administrators have taken in the move to exclude the teaching professionals in the decision making processes in many universities. This is never a good idea and has to stop. Dictatorship is never in the interest of the students or the institution, it is in the interest of the dictator! (560)</p>	<p>The EAA continues to advance an anti- academic position that has become increasingly strident. The College of Education at EMU has a dedicated and effective faculty with a long tradition of public service. The EAA has little interest in continuing this practice. (#523)</p>	<p>A public university should not be involved in the EAA because of governor appointed board members. They are not representing EMU they are personally influenced and motivated by their relationship with Governor Snyder. (#476)</p>
<p>I am an alumni of EMU (1974) and I totally disagree with what you are doing. The university has been going down hill and this is another example. (#507)</p>	<p>I received my MS from EMU and am a AAPS teacher. I trained EMU student teachers in my classroom for almost 20 years and sadly have stopped taking them because of this. (#505)</p>	<p>Let's follow the tenets of our motto: "Education First" and allow educators to have input in the process. (#460)</p>
<p>I graduated from EMU just a year ago and I want the same experience and quality of education for future educators! (#1237)</p>	<p>EMU risks losing students, particularly those who are going into teaching. After all, why would your alma mater graduate you and then help you lose your job??? (#359)</p>	<p>EMU alum, no more donations till EMU gets out of the EAA. (#345)</p>
<p>Save Public Schools and stop the systematic destruction of them. Have some loyalty to the millions of your College of Ed. Graduates who have continued to bring your institution a level of success through their years of professionalism and service! Do you have no shame? (#82)</p>	<p>If the university believes in the expertise of its faculty, it is obligated to accept the Education faculty's assessment that participating in the inter-local agreement hurts the communities we want to support and will do damage to our professional institutional reputation. (#287)</p>	<p>One of our teachers left our school system to teach at an EAA school. She was faced with 55 students in a classroom with little resources and limited support. She indicated to a colleague that students were mistreated by security in the building. She cried often in the evenings until she quit. She indicated it was a horrible place to work. (#210)</p>

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<p>When one sees the name of Eastern Michigan University (EMU) associated in the agreement that led to creating the Education Achievement Authority (EAA) that purports to be in the best interest of education, one believes that the professionals at EMU trained in the field of education will be actively involved in that venture. Why else would there be an association with EMU? Apparently, it was for the name recognition and not for the valuable expertise available at EMU. This situation is worse than not utilizing available resources. It appears that since the learned educators at EMU were not, and apparently were never intended to be, included in this agreement that created the EAA, the EMU staff were used. They just were not used as valuable resources but as marketing tools and misled ones at that. I was not in favor of this agreement when I first learned of it. I was also concerned of the damage along the way. I am not happy that my concerns have partially come to fruition. Eastern Michigan University is a highly respected institution. For the sake of its students, educators, staff and future associations, EMU should sever its participation in the agreement that created the Education Achievement Authority. (#156)</p>	<p>The best part of EMU, and the part that not only keeps me here, but also keeps me considering it for grad school, are the professors. Entering into the EAA without faculty consideration or consent is wrong. EMU should be nurturing its finest assets: the teachers. The President and the Provost should not be going above their heads and agreeing to something that is hurting students of education. Please sever participation with the EAA immediately. Thank you.</p>	<p>We sign this petition with great intent. We are educators who interact with hundreds of students each year. We would most certainly hesitate to recommend students to EMU due to its affiliation with the EAA. (#330)</p>
<p>The College of Education has always been highly respected throughout the country, but this partnership is already tarnishing that well earned reputation. Don't let it destroy our College of education! (#125)</p>	<p>I stand with EMU faculty. As an EMU graduate with a Bachelor and Masters in Art Education, I find the EAA to be at great odds with what a great educational university should be about. Eastern does a great disservice to its educational students by being affiliated with this organization. (#74)</p>	<p>As an alumni of EMU and a proud educator please don't allow the EEA to ruin Eastern's wonderful teachers program! (#175)</p>

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<p>Eastern Michigan University's College of Education has values that are inconsistent with those represented within the EAA. (#194)</p>	<p>As a faculty member in the College of Arts &amp; Sciences, I support my colleagues in the College of Education and feel that prior consultation with faculty is essential before entering into significant institutional commitments such as this one. (#298)</p>	<p>I respectfully ask the EMU governing board to reconsider the commitment to the EAA. Please support Michigan Public schools through excellent teacher education. This will elevate the profession to a higher standard and society and students will benefit. (#570)</p>
<p>It is making it very difficult to student teach and could jeopardize my future teaching career. I am being turned away from districts that I have previously student taught in, due to the fact that I am an Eastern Student Teacher. (#1273)</p>	<p>As an Eastern Alum, and a public school employee, I am disappointed with EMU's involvement in the EAA. (#1356)</p>	<p>If you would like to keep up on what is happening, visit <a href="http://www.electablog.com/tag/ea">http://www.electablog.com/tag/ea</a>. The posts there are in reverse chronological order. There you will find numerous interviews with teachers speaking out about the reality of the situation inside the EAA. It's eye-opening and hair-raising. (#1357)</p>
<p>Let's follow the tenets of our motto: "Education First" and allow educators to have input in the process. (#460)</p>	<p>EMU without EAA. Education First! (#381)</p>	<p>Michigan State Normal College (#380)</p>