

## A4PEP's 2024 Update #2

**Forum: Schoolhouse Burning, Feb 25. 1:00-2:30 p.m.**

**Join us on Zoom at**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88203550889?pwd=bG4vM1VqUEMxVUVJcS9RM01jYWWE5QT09>

Please join A4PEP for our forum on Sunday, February 25, for a presentation and discussion with **Derek Black**, who wrote the outstanding book, [Schoolhouse Burning: Public Education and the Assault on American Democracy](#). Derek Black is a Professor of Law at one of the nation's foremost experts in education law and policy. His research appears in the nation's top legal journals, including Yale Law Journal, Stanford Law Review, New York University Law Review, Cornell Law Review, and dozens more. His research has been cited several times in the federal courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court; he has led expert testimony on school funding, vouchers, and education policy. This forum should be a lively presentation and discussion about the state of our schools and ways we can change the future of public schools.

Attend the forum, and your name will be entered into a drawing for a free copy of Derek Black's book!

### **Charter Schools Bill**

A4PEP has been advising State Representative Lorena Garcia on her bill to address the need for improved accountability and transparency in charter schools. This bill will probably be introduced by the end of February. The bill includes provisions to deal with the following issues of concern with charter schools:

- Budget transparency
- Waivers from state law, such as reporting on educator effectiveness
- Provision of and paying for services for students with special needs
- Conflicts of interest of charter school leaders
- Impacts of charter schools on districts with declining enrollment

### **Did you see our last forum?**

In case you missed our forum "These Numbers Don't Lie" on Feb. 4 regarding what the data used to rate our schools and districts actually shows and how it relates to student poverty, student learning needs, and district funding – you can now watch the recording of the forum and view the PowerPoint presented at the forum [on A4PEP's website!](#)

### **And did you see the one before that?**

In case you missed our forum "It's Time to Play Fair" on Jan. 21 regarding the misuses and flaws of standardized testing and more equitable ways to assess the education of all students – you can watch the recording of the forum [on A4PEP's website.](#)