WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

In Maricopa County, too many students are missing the opportunity for a quality education. #Demand2Learn is working to eliminate practices that push children out of classrooms.

When it comes to accessing a quality education, not all students are treated equally.

Lacking resources and training, some schools have adopted harsh disciplinary policies such as “zero tolerance” and other exclusionary practices that push students out of school: asking them to voluntarily withdraw, suspending them, expelling them, or referring them to law enforcement for minor offenses. Not only have these extreme policies proven to be harmful to children, they also disproportionately affect children of color, English Language Learners, and students with disabilities.

WHAT'S THE ACLU DOING TO FIX IT?

The #Demand2Learn campaign is focused on eliminating practices that disproportionately push children out of school. We’re partnering with school leaders to develop model schools that are committed to increasing student retention by 2020.

Meanwhile, we’re working with families, providing them with training and organizing opportunities to advocate for reforms that will help children stay in school. We’re also demanding changes at the state level, including better reporting and transparency about school disciplinary practices.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We want anyone who cares about public education in Arizona to help with our work.

For more information, please contact us at demand2learn@acluaz.org or visit www.demand2learnaz.org.