



WHY NEPC WON'T TWEET – OR THREAD



The decision to close the @NEPCtweet account was straightforward but not easy.

We truly valued NEPC's 13 years on Twitter, sharing our work with our 7,500 followers and engaging in often-interesting discussions. Yet after the company's change in ownership and shift in policies, our continued presence on Twitter (now "X") became impossible. Disinformation and conspiracy theories, as well as bigotries of all sorts, have moved from tolerated to celebrated.

NEPC cannot, at this point, find a sensible alternative. We may still decide to open a Mastodon or Bluesky account, but their current limited reach and other constraints mean that active participation will have minimal benefits.

Meta's new platform, Threads, presents a unique set of concerns. Because Threads is attached to Instagram, the Meta privacy policy is the Threads privacy policy. And it's a "privacy nightmare"—the privacy policy is so weak that Meta [can't launch Threads in the EU](#).

We remain concerned that Threads and other Meta platforms are used by school-aged children and accordingly raise the sorts of privacy harms that [NEPC has long investigated and condemned](#). NEPC has, for example, recently published analyses of the [Summit Learning Platform](#) and the [Along platform](#), both of which are associated with Meta and the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative.

NEPC is committed to working with top scholars to provide a bridge between high-quality research and public deliberations about education policy and practice. Our mission statement reads in part: *We are guided by the belief that the democratic governance of public*

education is strengthened when policies are based on sound evidence and support a multi-racial society that is inclusive, kind, and just. The social platform now known as “X” is the antithesis of these values.

Please visit us at nepc.colorado.edu. And if you haven't yet done so, we hope you'll sign up to receive our newsletters and publication announcements at <https://nepc.colorado.edu/newsletter-signup>.

This newsletter is made possible in part by support provided by the Great Lakes Center for Education Research and Practice: <http://www.greatlakescenter.org>

The National Education Policy Center (NEPC), a university research center housed at the University of Colorado Boulder School of Education, sponsors research, produces policy briefs, and publishes expert third-party reviews of think tank reports. NEPC publications are written in accessible language and are intended for a broad audience that includes academic experts, policymakers, the media, and the general public. Our mission is to provide high-quality information in support of democratic deliberation about education policy. We are guided by the belief that the democratic governance of public education is strengthened when policies are based on sound evidence and support a multiracial society that is inclusive, kind, and just. Visit us at: <http://nepc.colorado.edu>