

**Subject:** Schools adopt pilot programs to stow cellphones

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## TEACHING AND LEARNING

### Schools adopt pilot programs to stow cellphones



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programs to  
stow  
cellphones

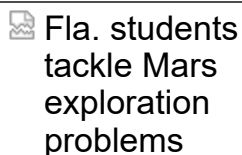
(Angela Weiss/Getty Images)

As cellphone use in classrooms becomes a growing concern among educators, schools like Clark County School District in Las Vegas are implementing pilot programs requiring students to stow their phones in nonlocking pouches during class time.

Despite pushback from some parents, advocates argue that such measures are necessary to combat distractions and foster a more focused learning environment, citing the detrimental effects of excessive phone use on academic performance and mental health. **Full Story:** [The Wall Street Journal](#) (3/15)



## Fla. students tackle Mars exploration problems




(Pixabay)

Fifth- and sixth-grade students from 36 schools in Florida are leveraging their STEM knowledge to explore space exploration-themed problems as part of Destination Mars, an after-school program sponsored by Boeing. The program, which is intended to encourage students' interest in space while building their academic skills, includes activities such as operating model solar rovers and designing research bases in Minecraft. **Full Story:** [Florida Today \(Melbourne\) \(tiered subscription model\)](#) (3/15)



## Hawaii students develop wildfire education project

Samsung's annual Solve for Tomorrow competition, offering a total of \$2 million in prizes, celebrates US students' innovative STEM projects that address real-world challenges. Wai'anae Elementary School in Hawaii was a state finalist with a project that students developed about wildfire education after the tragic fires in Lahaina.  **Full Story:** [KHNL-TV/KGMB-TV \(Honolulu\)](#) (3/14)



### [Webinar] Driving Student Success with Career-Connected Learning



What are the experts saying about how to engage K-12 students in career-connected learning that builds future-ready skills and expands career pathways? In this summit on March 14th, leaders in education will come together to discuss how to engage students in meaningful learning that boosts student outcomes. [Register Free](#)

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## Improve connection by learning to "read" people

Get a better read on people to enhance communication and connection by watching for emotional cues in their body language -- if they fidget or cross their arms -- using empathy to understand their point of view and asking open-ended questions to learn more about them, writes Steve Keating. Check your own biases and preconceptions and stay open-minded in all your interactions, Keating advises. **Full Story:** [LeadToday](#) (3/13)



### Build Engaging, Hands-On Summer Programs


**Register to get access** to our on-demand webinar with former school administrator and current LEGO® Education solution architect, Dr. Caitlin Boline, to learn how you can build and support engaging summer programs in STEM/STEAM for your K-12 students.

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## TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

### Study: AI boosts student success in STEM

 Study: AI boosts student success in STEM

(Pixabay)

Utilizing AI interventions enhanced academic achievement for college students in STEM fields, according to a recent study by researchers from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Researchers say that by deploying personalized messages, the AI model prompted increased effort among students, resulting in significantly higher course pass rates, paving the way for a forthcoming smartphone app aimed at providing tailored support and guidance to STEM undergraduates.

**Full Story:** [The 74](#) (3/13)





## Close Reading E-Books Guide Students to Success

*ACT Now!* from Doug Fisher and Nancy Frey combines mini-lessons for Grades 3-8 with interactive student e-books that develop annotation, collaborative conversations, and evidence-based responses. These unique resources are also available in Spanish for Grades 3-5. [FREE Sampler](#)

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The Wall Street Journal

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### Self-Care Is More Than a Buzzword

We must take care of ourselves—and each other—even when it's hard. EL columnist Jennifer Orr discusses the importance of self-regulation in the March issue.

### Elevating the Teaching Profession

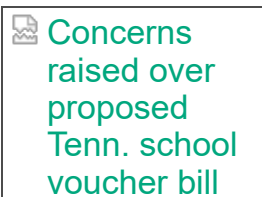
Our profession has an image problem—at a crucial time. Let's fix that. Read strategies in the new issue of Educational Leadership.

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## POLICY WATCH

### Concerns raised over proposed Tenn. school voucher bill



(Seth Herald/Getty Images)

Tennessee teachers and parents are concerned that a proposed private school voucher program will ultimately hurt public schools through lost funding and could cause students with disabilities who would not be accepted by private schools to fall through the cracks. A group of concerned educators and family members

rallied at the state Capitol building this week to push back against the bill, which is currently moving through the state legislature. **Full Story:** [WSMV-TV \(Nashville, Tenn.\)](#) (3/12), [WZTV-TV \(Nashville, Tenn.\)](#) (3/12)



### Advocates back universal school meals in R.I.

Despite pushback from the governor's administration due to budget concerns, the Healthy School Meals for All Coalition continues to advocate for legislation providing free meals to all Rhode Island public school students. Proponents stress the importance of universal

meals in addressing food insecurity, improving attendance, mental health and test scores and combating stigma associated with free and reduced-price meals. **Full Story:** [The Providence Journal \(R.I.\)](#) (3/14)



- **ALA: Book challenges surge, sparking concern**

National Public Radio (3/14)


- **Calif. implements transitional kindergarten program**

The Hechinger Report (3/16)

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## FACULTY LOUNGE

### How to boost CTE through community connections

 How to boost CTE through community connections

(Pixabay)

Community engagement helps enrich authentic learning experiences, particularly in career and technical education -- from guest speakers in the classroom to immersive job experiences, writes Kelly Williams, an instructional coach and former high-school teacher. In this article, Williams offers strategies for the smooth integration of community connections into the CTE curriculum, facilitating career exploration and equipping students with essential postsecondary readiness skills along with making industry contacts. **Full Story:** [Edutopia](#) (3/14)



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*I'm all about growing the women's game, and I'm glad I've*

*given something that little girls can scream about at the top  
of their lungs.*

Caitlin Clark,  
college basketball player, NCAA Division I all-time leading scorer across men's and  
women's basketball  
March is Women's History Month



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