

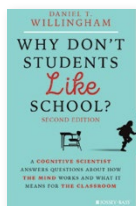
7 BOOKS TO HELP PARENTS UNDERSTAND EDUCATION

BY DANIEL BUCK

*Research Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and
Director of the Conservative Education Reform Network (CERN)*

Whether it be at a parent-teacher conference or in Congress, to advocate for change in any institution requires thorough knowledge of it. Understood so, it's imperative that parents, not just teachers, read books about education. Below are a handful of great places to start your study.

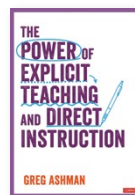
For Instruction Geeks



Why Don't Students Like School?

By Daniel Willingham

In the past few decades, humanity's understanding of our own cognitive architecture has advanced rapidly. Willingham's book is a brisk, readable primer on what we know.



The Power of Explicit Teaching and Direct Instruction

By Greg Ashman

A short, accessible read that covers both instructional best practices and the differences between rigorous and junk educational science.

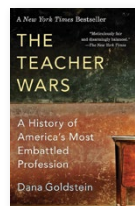
For Historians



Left Back: A Century of Battles Over School Reform

By Diane Ravitch

A good (if long) single volume that covers both the history of education and the policy debates that belabor it generation after generation.

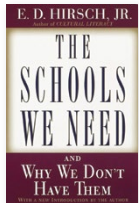


Teacher War

By Dana Goldstein

This book assumes the inherent good of labor unions and public education, but the history in it is impeccable regardless of the author's biases.

For the Ambitious

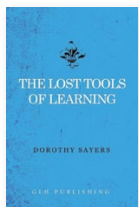


The Schools We Need

By E.D. Hirsch

Chock full of philosophy, history, and research, no other single book so well covers what ails American schools and what needs to be done to improve them.

For the Erudite

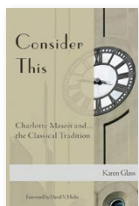


Lost Tools of Learning

By Dorothy Sayers

Classical education is exploding in popularity. Just an essay, Lost Tools of Learning is the best introduction for the curious.

For the Homeschooling Curious



Consider This

By Karen Glass

An introduction to the thought of one of homeschooling's luminaries, Charlotte Mason.