



Four Weeks of Power

Virtual Organizing Training Series organized by AROS & the Midwest Academy

[Register here](#)

History teaches us that **authoritarian movements only succeed when people comply in isolation and that they fail when communities organize and refuse.** [Free the Future](#) is providing training for individuals and organizations– to say NO and resist, and to build the public schools we deserve.

Join [Four Weeks of Power](#), an organizing training program that covers the basics of grassroots organizing skills with a focus on base building, building strong committees, and planning effective actions. Through four (4) two-hour sessions, participants will learn best practices for holding one-to-ones, conducting outreach, building strong local committees, and developing leadership, **so we can build a broader, stronger base of parents, educators and students taking action to defend and transform public schools.**

WHEN

The training dates are: Thursdays; April 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th from 7-9pm ET / 4-6pm PT. Please register for all four sessions [here](#). While it isn't mandatory to attend four sessions, it is **highly encouraged**. The content of these sessions build on one another, delivering a comprehensive overview of organizing over the breath of the series. We have also made it flexible, so you can choose which ones make sense for you and what you need most support with. When you register on mobilize, please indicate which sessions you will be attending.

WHAT

Week 1: Intro to Organizing in the Political Moment

Our first session grounds us in the political moment we're in, unmasking the billionaires and autocrats driving the austerity agenda, and why we need to lean into organizing in this political moment. We know the power of organizing in the face of authoritarianism; and so this session will provide an introduction to community organizing in the context of the rising authoritarianism we're seeing in real time.

Week 2: Building our Base - Outreach and One-to-One Relational Meetings

Session 2 focuses on the key skills needed to successfully grow a base of committed parents, educators and students that can take action to defend public education. We'll cover the rigor, time and discipline needed to do effective outreach in order to build a crew to meet this moment. and we'll learn and practice the skills that are central to one-on-one conversations that allow you to connect more deeply with the people in your community and on your team, and understand what motivates your base to take risks and move into action. This session will help us identify your team's strengths and develop the skill of delegating tasks in order to build your power locally.

Week 3: Building a Powerful Team: Creating and Sustaining an Organizing Committee

This session will do a deep dive on how to build and sustain a local team of leaders that vibe together and relate well, in order to build towards mutual accountability and support. Building strong teams helps us build the local power we need to advocate for the public schools our communities deserve, and build collective muscle in the face of growing authoritarianism.

Week 4: Planning Powerful Actions

This session will anchor us in the components of an effective campaign so we can better analyze our power, develop strategy, and brainstorm effective tactics that have a lasting impact. We'll define power, and how we can effectively wield our power through small and big actions. This session helps us better understand power mapping and targets, understanding which actions make sense for our team and community, and the logistics of planning a successful action.

WHO

This training is open to organizers and community leaders who want to deepen their organizing skills and build local teams to fight to protect and transform public education. It's open to AROS member organizations as well as individuals. **This training is FREE of charge.**

4 Weeks of Power is coordinated and led by [Midwest Academy](#), [NYU Metro Center](#) and organizers and leaders from [Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools](#) (AROS) member groups.

HOW

[APPLY HERE](#) or reach out to Maria Bautista at mb6633@nyu.edu