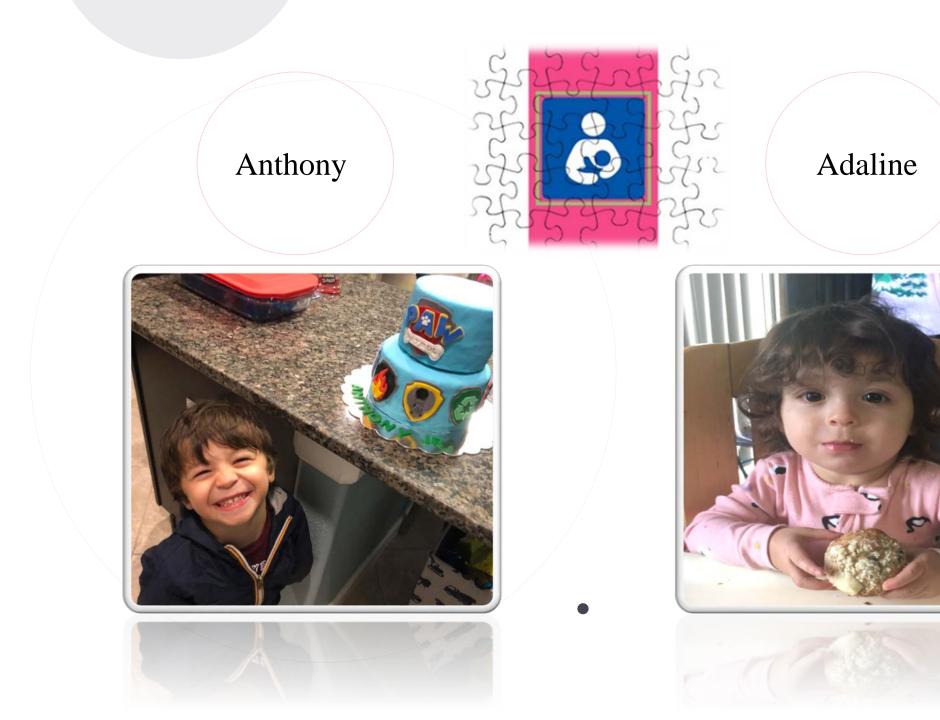
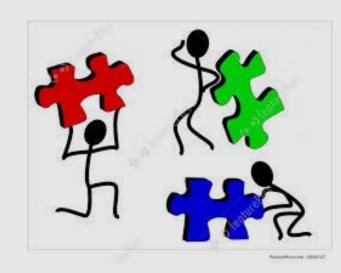
# Teachers, pumping, and the law

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## **Talking Points**

• Pumping Teachers

o Policy

#### o Questions & Answers

## **Pumping Teachers**

- Approx. 3.8 million K-12 public and private teachers in the U.S.<sup>1-2</sup>
  - 77% are female<sup>3</sup>
  - Approx. 3 million female teachers
  - 44% under 30 years old

Scenario: A teacher has breastfed her child during her dismal FMLA period. After 6-12 weeks postpartum she returns to work and wants to pump for breast milk for her child... it's simple right she can pump two to three times a day with no issue, right?

How does she bridge the gap to learn about pumping as a teacher?





- Planning to pump logistics
  - Where? When? Time? How?
- Womenshealth.gov<sup>4</sup> suggests
  - Lunch time, planning periods, or between classes
  - Ask a colleague to cover
  - Classroom, conference room, private offices, resource room, storage area, lounge, or breastfeeding space
- o Atypical days
  - Field trips, half days, and standardized testing





#### **Experiences from teachers**

Kindergarten Teacher: "My boobs were so full that I just began leaking everywhere. I started thinking, I'm here teaching these babies basic life skills and I don't even have the time to provide my own baby with food for survival."<sup>5</sup>

New Jersey teacher: I am a substitute teacher for special needs children. I got the time I needed but I was Never supplied an area to pump in. I had to do it in the handicap bathroom a lot. I wasn't even Allowed to do it in the nurses office. Eventually the time allowed wasn't enough and I stopped responding to the pump.<sup>6</sup>

*Kentucky teacher:* 

I teach in a public high school...my issues were finding coverage for my classes so I could pump and I also needed a private space...I got walked in on often...I pumped in an engineering closet. I also was questioned multiple times about how leaving for 20 minutes was not best for my students and how will you make up for that lost instructional time. I also had to plan activities that took 20 minutes (read and responds, etc.). It was extremely tiring and taxing, but I pumped for a full year...Also storing milk...I had to use a mini fridge in my room which was a fire code issue or something, but I did it anyway.<sup>6</sup>

## Pumping Policy

& law	
pumping,	
Teachers,	

#### Exempt vs. Nonexempt

Salary	Paid on a salary basis	Receives salary or hourly wages
Wage	Makes at least \$23,660 a year	Paid at least the federal minimum wage
Job Position	High level responsibilities that impact company operations	Have non- managerial positions

#### o Nursing Mothers Amendment - March 23, 2010

- For 1 year after the birth of a child
  - Reasonable time, location other than bathroom, prohibits discrimination for 1 year after the birth of the child

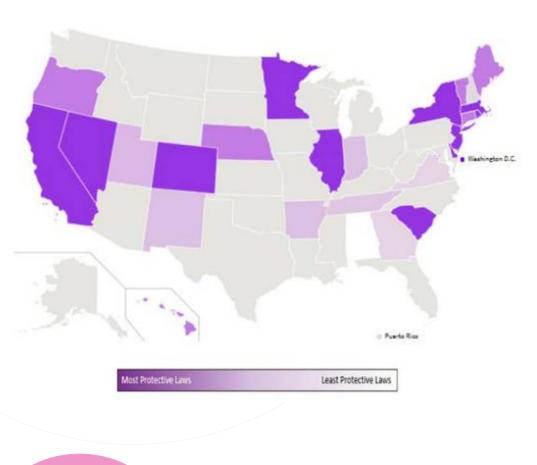
#### o Exempt vs. Nonexempt

o Differs from state-to-state and district-to-district





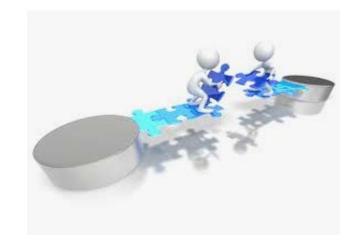
#### **50 State Survey of Workplace Lactation Laws**



\* Florida does not have workplace protection laws

## Closing the gap

- Acknowledging the issue
- Awareness campaign
- o Federal, state, and district attention
  - Handouts
  - Visual campaigns
- o Connections









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5. Murphy, A. (2018). Pumping at work: Supporting staff in our schools. Retrieved from https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aSQTJlJgEqp5zyNl10oPYPlrXE7VPFiU/vie w

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