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Honesty Lunch & Learn

Youth Voice and Student Leaders
Building Intergenerational Power for Ohio Education
Welcome!

Piet van Lier (he/him/his)
Co-Founder
Honesty for Ohio Education

Honesty for Ohio Education
We Are

Coalition
Nonpartisan, Statewide, Diverse Stakeholders

Pillars
Educate • Advocate • Build Community

Priorities
Statehouse • State Board of Ed • Schools

Resources
News, Info, Events, Programs, Organizing
Statehouse Briefing

Building STUDENT Power for Ohio Education
● Kris Crider, OSA
● Clovis Westlund, Honesty
● Arianna Kelawala, OPAWL

Q&A

TAKE ACTION

Resources
STATEHOUSE

National extremist agenda imported into Ohio

GOAL:
- Disrupt, dismantle, defund public education
- Create flight to privatized education
- Distract from REAL education issues
- Perpetuate othering, discrimination, hate

HOW:
- Weaponize race, identity, faith
- Villainize educators and staff
- Cast chilling effect on education
- Pass extremist legislation

Censorship & Curriculum
- SB 83/HB 151 - Higher Ed Destruction Act
- HB 103 - State Overhaul of K12 Social Studies
- SB 17 - Free market capitalism in financial literacy
- SB 117 - “Intellectual Diversity” Centers in OSU & UT

Anti-LGBTQ+
- HB 6 - Trans athlete ban
- HB 8 - Unsafe Student Act - forced outing of students
- HB 68 - Gender-affirming healthcare ban
- HB 113 - Detrans Awareness Day
- HB 183 - K12 & Higher Ed Restroom Ban

Education Governance
- SB 1 & HB 12 - State takeover of public education

Education Funding / Private Schools
- HB 1 - State taxation bill, guts local govt & school funding
- HB 10 - Phase-in of Fair School Funding Plan
- SB 11 & HB 11 - Universal voucher programs

Educator Profession
- SB 14 - US veterans as unlicensed teachers
- HB 48 - Professional misconduct & indoctrination
Building STUDENT Power

State Budget
Honesty Welcomes

Kris Crider (she/her/hers)
Organizing Fellow
Ohio Student Association
State Budget & Equitable School Funding
ORGANIZING STUDENTS & BUILDING POWER SINCE 2012.

OSA

OHIO STUDENT ASSOCIATION

*Thanks to Policy Matters Ohio and Honesty for Ohio Education for most of the content in these slides!
The Ohio Student Association

OSA is a political home for young people in Ohio. We are a statewide grassroots organization led by young people and anchored by student-led chapters on college campuses across the state.

Here's what we do:
● Organize young people to build independent political power
● Craft strategic campaigns and take direct action to win on the issues that impact us and our communities
● Grassroots organizing training and political education
OSA’s Big Vision

- Free public higher education for all Ohioans
- Racially just and equitable higher education system in Ohio
- Full cancelation and an end to student loan debt
- Increase attainment of higher education in Ohio to 70% of adults having a degree
- An electorate that more accurately reflects the population of young people in Ohio, and a powerful voting bloc of young people who are voting strategically together to advance these aims
The Problem Facing Higher Education

- Black, white, or brown, we all deserve a higher education system where a debt-free degree is possible for everyone regardless of race or how much their parents earn.
- When the barriers to higher education are this high, we exclude and punish young people for wanting a better life for themselves and their families. Punitive policies such as transcript withholding make it harder for struggling students to pay off their education debt and move on with their lives.
- From Cleveland to Cincinnati, Akron to Columbus, we all benefit when all of us have a fair shot at getting an excellent college education that helps us fulfill our potential and pursue our dreams.
• Governor introduces budget framework to spend state revenue (our tax dollars)
• They have BILLIONS, and it must be balanced
• Starts with House version
• Then goes the Senate version
• Conference committee reconciles the two versions of the bill
• Full floor vote by June 30th
Higher Education: Our Asks

- **State Share of Instruction:** We need more! The governor’s proposed 3% boost was a step in the right direction, but the House version cut that. Neither would keep up with inflation.
- **Access Challenge:** We are happy to see the governor propose $40 million to support students facing barriers to getting a degree. The House cut that entirely; the Senate should restore this line item.
Higher Education: Our Asks

- **Ohio College Opportunity Grant:** The House made huge cuts to the governor’s long-overdue increases. These cuts would mean little will change, and we continue to advocate that OCOG be restructured into a first-dollar grant to be used for things beyond just tuition (like books, housing, etc.) and expanded to include community college and regional campus students.

- **Prioritize Enrollment and Education over Debt Collection:** End transcript withholding and get the Ohio Attorney General out of the debt collection process.
Rally at SCOTUS for Student loan debt cancellation
SB 83 Protest
Ohio Student Association

OSA brings together young Ohioans from different backgrounds and with different experiences to build independent political power and organize around the issues we care about.

Join OSA

MEMBERSHIP FORM

OR use link bit.ly/3C78Bbm
Stay in the loop!

www.ohiostudentassociation.org
OhioStudentAssociation
@OHIOstudents
@OhioStudents
Building STUDENT Power

Academic Freedom
Honesty Welcomes

Clovis Westlund (they/them)
Student Organizer
Honesty for Ohio Education

Honesty for Ohio Education
How I Began

High School

LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER
GREATER CLEVELAND

College

HB 616 - Don't Say Gay, Don't Say Race Bill

Does EdChoice promote accessibility or segregation — or both?

By Clarice Westlund
Published December 19, 2022, 10:45 AM EST

LISTEN
College continued

Anti-Trans Legislation in the 2020s: Politics, Power, and Impact

December 6, 2022
Categories: Anti-Trans, SB 83, YWCAOhio
By: Chris Westlund, Leadership & Social Justice Intern

SB 83 - The Higher Education Destruction Act

Outraged Ohio college students made it clear, Senate Bill 83 'irredeemable'| OSU student

Clovis Westlund Guest Columnist
Published 5:30 a.m. ET April 15, 2023 | Updated 10:45 a.m. ET April 26, 2023
What now?

Academic freedom, DEI, and labor rights at Ohio public higher education institutions are under attack, all in the name of student rights without the real voices and experiences of students being valued in the policy process.

01 How Students can Build Power

02 How Adults, Faculty, and Allies can support Student Power

03 How Students can join the fight against SB 83
Building STUDENT Power
Multicultural Curriculum
Honesty Welcomes

Arianna Kelawala (she/her/hers)
Campaign Organizer
Educating for Ohio’s Future
OPAWL
Educating For Ohio’s Future x Youth Organizing
How Did I End Up Here?
Why is it important to bring students in?

- Young people reach other young people better than anyone else can.
- Young people bring new, creative ideas to the forefront.
- Students are the future- if we give them opportunities to get involved, take on leadership roles, and shine now? Imagine how powerful they can be in a few years.
How can we meaningfully bring students in?

- Build meaningful relationships with students
- Assess what barriers students might face to getting involved—what time are your meetings? How can you make your spaces more student friendly?
- Make sure you’re looking at the type of students you’re bringing in. Are they from marginalized identities? If not, why?
What is HB 171?

Update Ohio’s K-12 model curriculum for social studies to include age- and grade-appropriate instruction in the migration journeys, experiences, and societal contributions of a range of communities in Ohio and the U.S., including:

- African American communities;
- Asian American and Pacific Islander communities;
- Arab, African, and North African immigrant, refugee, and asylee communities;
- Appalachian communities;
- Jewish communities;
- Latin American communities;
- Native American communities.
How we are bringing students in:

- Giving them access to leadership roles and trainings to build important advocacy skills
- Asking student organizations to endorse our campaign and join the Educating for Ohio’s Future Coalition
- Making our spaces accessible by doing evening meetings, working around school schedules, providing transportation to events, etc
JOIN US

STATEHOUSE DAY

Legislative training will be provided for all attendees. Meals, snacks, and out-of-town transportation will also be provided!

Tuesday, June 13, 2023
Ohio Statehouse
1 Capitol Sq, Columbus, OH
10 AM - 4 PM

educatingforohiosfuture.org
Let's Talk!
What can you do?
TAKE ACTION!

Statehouse
- Learn About Bills & Policy
- Prepare Testimony
- Engage Legislators
- Share Info & Action Alerts
- Submit LTEs & Op-Eds
- VOTE!!!

State Board of Ed
- Follow SBOE Activities
- Attend SBOE Meetings
- Engage SBOE Members
- Submit LTEs & Op-Eds
- VOTE!!!

Local Schools
- Research Your District
- Attend Board Meetings
- Engage Brd, Admin, Tchrs
- Organize Community
- Submit LTEs & Op-Eds
- VOTE!!!
Coming Up...

Legislative Advocacy Training, Hosted by OPAWL  
Wed, June 7, 6pm | Virtual REGISTER

Statehouse Day! Educating for Ohio's Future  
Tues, June 13, 8:30-5pm | REGISTER

SBOE Monthly Meeting, Mon & Tues, June 12 & 13 | ODE or The Ohio Channel

Rally for Honest Education, Hosted by Bainbridge UCC  
Sat, June 17, 11am | Bainbridge Community UCC, 17751 Chillicothe Rd, Chagrin Falls
Stay Connected

JOIN the Honesty Mailing List
FOLLOW @Honesty4OhioEd
ATTEND Events & Programs
SHARE Alerts, Newsletter, Info
INVITE Us to Your Community/Org

Honesty for Ohio Education
Resources

Honesty for Ohio Education
- Mailing List HERE
- Legislation Tracker HERE | Flyer HERE
- Website HERE
- Social Media: FB • Instagram • Twitter

State of Education
- Track Actions Across US K-12 | CRT | HE
- Roots of Critical Race Theory Campaign HERE
- Executive Order on Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping HERE

Statehouse
- Honesty Legislation Tracker HERE
- Ohio Legislature Site HERE

State Board of Education
- Each Child Our Future Strategic Plan HERE
- Whole Child Framework HERE
- Education Resources HERE
- Anti-LGBTQ+ Resolution HERE
- Anti-Racism and Equity Resolution HERE
- Gerrymandering SBOE Districts HERE

Local Schools
- 2022 KIDS COUNT Data Book HERE
- 2022 KIDS COUNT Ohio Data Profile HERE
- Finding Unity and Common Ground HERE
- ACLU Ohio Student Rights Handbook HERE
Thank You