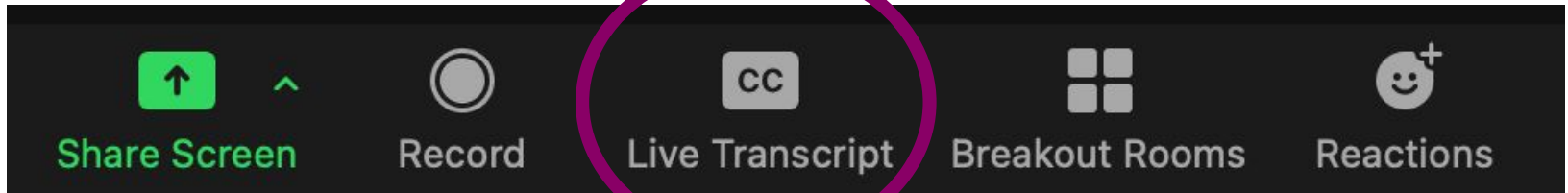


CLOSED CAPTIONING

Click on **CC icon** to enable captioning



Honesty Lunch & *Learn*

Why School Board Elections Matter

Understanding the Importance of School Boards & Candidates



Welcome!

Cynthia Peeples (she/her)

*Founding Director
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



Agenda

State of Education

Overview of Local School Boards

Panel with Elected School Board Members

Q&A

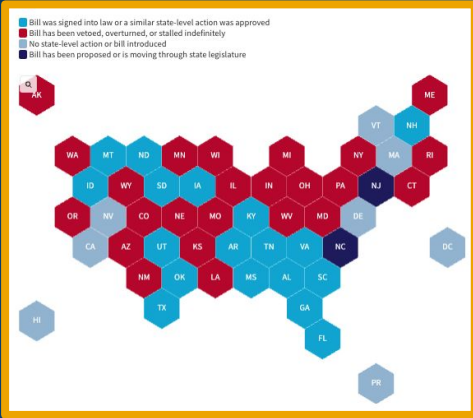
TAKE ACTION

Resources

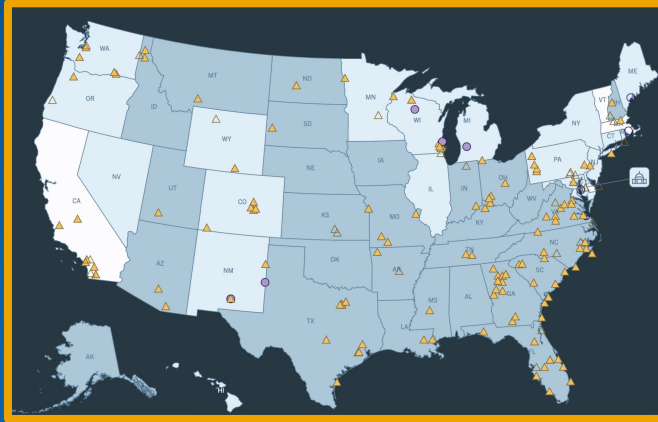
The background is a monochromatic blue-tinted image of a grand, classical building. The central feature is a circular rotunda with a series of tall, narrow windows. Two American flags are positioned on tall poles, one on the left and one on the right, flanking the rotunda. Below the rotunda, a portico with several columns is visible, each topped with a decorative pediment. The overall image has a soft, ethereal quality due to the blue tint and slight blurring.

State of Education

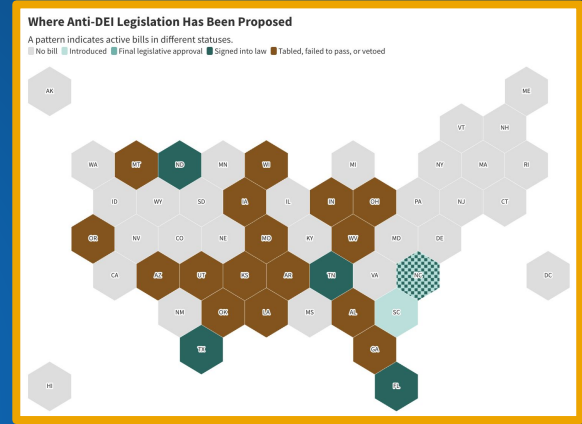
K-12 Censorship Bills



K-12 Anti-CRT Bills



Higher Ed Destruction Bills



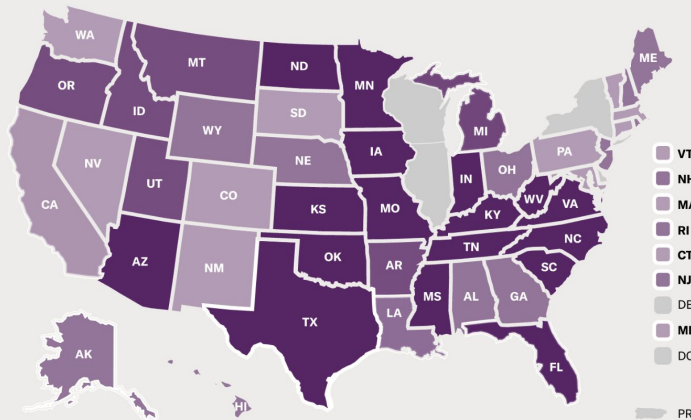
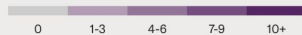
2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACLU is tracking **492** anti-LGBTQ bills in the U.S.

Choose a state on the map to show the different bills targeting LGBTQ rights and take action. While not all of these bills will become law, they all cause harm for LGBTQ people.

[View past legislative sessions.](#)

Bills per state



Anti-LGBTQ+

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

2024-25 State Budget

SB 1 - State Takeover of Public Education

SB 11 - Universal Vouchers

SB 171 - Partisan Thought Centers at 5 universities

Academic Standards & Curricula

HB 103 - State Overhaul of K12 Social Studies Standards

HB 171 - Multicultural K12 Social Studies Curricula

SB 83/HB 151 - Higher Ed Destruction Act

Anti-LGBTQ+

HB 8 - Forced outing of students

HB 68 - Gender-affirming care and sports ban

HB 183 - Restroom Ban

HB 245 - Drag show and gender expression ban

Staff, Conduct, Governance

HB 214 - Alignment of district values and staff values

HB 240 - Chaplains as unlicensed school counselors

HB 206 - Indefinite expulsion policy

HB 235 - State Board of Education Restructure

Why School Board Elections Matter

The Importance of Local School Boards

Honesty Welcomes

Cheryl Ryan

*Director, Board & Management Services
Ohio School Boards Association*





The Ohio School Boards Association

Why School Board Elections Matter

Lunch & Learn for
Honesty for Ohio Education
Friday, September 1, 2023



OSBA VISION



Leading the way as the

RESPECTED VOICE

of Ohio public education.



How does OSBA assist boards of education?

- ❖ Promotes the importance of public education and the role of the board of education.
- ❖ Provides professional development for board members and administrators.
- ❖ Builds supportive networks based on member needs and interests related to association participation.



How does OSBA assist boards of education?

- ❖ Serves as an advocate for the legislative platform -- adopted by a vote of the association's full membership at annual Capital Conference.
- ❖ Keeps members up-to-date about current and future educational trends and legislation as well as changes or additions to Ohio educational laws, Revised Code or policy.
- ❖ Assists in matching training or management resources of need or interest to the district with appropriate OSBA or affiliate partner expertise.



Why School Boards Matter

- In Ohio, public school boards are locally elected. Those elected therefore represent the values, culture and priorities of their community.



Why School Boards Matter

- Like most other boards of directors, the multiple members of a school board help assure staff and community members that multiple perspectives will be considered when making or implementing policy.



Why School Boards Matter

- Ohio currently has 712 public school districts
 - Large, medium and small
 - Rural, suburban, semi-urban, urban
 - Like-minded and not like-minded
 - Diverse priorities and needs
 - Diverse socio-economic positions



Why School Boards Matter

- School board membership in Ohio has traditionally been non-political
 - Decisions can be made based on what's really best for all students in the district
 - Decisions can be made representing the will of the full community



Why School Boards Matter

- School board membership often leads individuals to seek higher office. School board service is critical to future positions and success.



Board of Education Powers and Duties

Under the laws of the State of Ohio, the Board acts as the governing body of the public schools.

Within the extent of its legal powers, the Board has responsibilities for operating the District in accordance with the desires of local citizens who elect its members.



Five Standards for High-Achieving Boards

1. Responsible school district governance
2. Commitment to high expectations
3. Conditions for success
4. Accountability
5. Community engagement



Key School Board Member Responsibilities

- Adopt and maintain governance policies
- Select and employ the superintendent and treasurer
- Approve the annual budget and appropriations
- Provide for the resources necessary to finance the operation of the District



Key School Board Member Responsibilities

- Provide safe, modern and appropriate facilities to support student achievement
- Consider superintendent and treasurer recommendations
- Establish monitoring, assessment and evaluation processes
- Set goals and evaluate progress toward goals
- Inform the public about progress and needs and engage community members for greater district investment



We hope board candidates...

Have done or do attend meetings of their school boards.

Make efforts to learn about the district's current goals and priorities.

Manage and participate in honest, factual, positive and professional election campaigns.

Are more interested in problem-solving than in criticizing.





How else can I help?





Let's Talk!

Locally Elected School Board Members

Let's Talk

Sam Shim (he/his)

Programs

Honesty for Ohio Education



Honesty Welcomes



Renda Cline
Mansfield City Schools



Dion Manley
*Gahanna-Jefferson
Public Schools*



**Kareem
Moncree-Moffett, PhD**
Cincinnati Public Schools

What's next?

VOTE!

VOTE

2023 General Election

Tuesday, November 7, 2023

Voter Registration Deadline Tues, Oct 10

Military & Overseas Voting:	Sept 22-Nov 6
Early In-Person Voting:	Oct 11 - Nov 5
Absentee Mail-In Voting:	Oct 11 - Nov 6, Nov 7*
ELECTION DAY:	Nov 7, 6:30am-7:30pm

www.VoteOhio.gov

VOTE *3 Easy Steps*

1

**Make a
Voting Plan**

2

**Research
Candidates, Issues**

3

Go VOTE!

VOTE

1

Make a Voting Plan

Register to Vote: Register, update, or check your voter registration **DO IT NOW**

Choose Method: **Early In-Person**

Oct 11 - Nov 5

Local BOEs

Bring Voter ID

Use Sample Ballot

Mail-In

Request Ballot NOW

Oct 11 - Nov 6, Nov 7*

Mail & Local BOEs*

Use Sample Ballot

Election Day

Nov 7, 6:30am - 7:30pm

Check Polling Location

Bring Voter ID

Use Sample Ballot

Get Involved:

Become a Poll Worker, Election Protection, voter registration drives, tabling, clipboards

HELP others make a voting plan!

www.VoteOhio.gov

2 Research Candidates & Issues

Candidates

Local BOE
Vote411.org

Voter Guides

LWV Voter Guide
Vote411.org

Forums/Debates

*Research candidates ahead
of event, bring questions**
LWV Candidate Forums
Equality Ohio
Ohio Debate Commission
Local Media Interviews
Town Halls

Other Sources

School Board meetings
Candidate Website
Candidate Social Media
Trusted Endorsements
***Honesty Candidate
Questions**

PRO TIP: Create a sample ballot!

www.VoteOhio.gov

VOTE

3

Go VOTE!

3 Ways to Vote in Ohio

- Early In-Person Voting
- Mail-In Voting
- Election Day Voting

REMINDERS

- Check voter registration
- Request absentee ballot NOW
- Bring voter ID
- Bring sample ballot

HELP at least 5 other people VOTE!

- Students
- New voters
- Newly naturalized citizens
- Voters with disabilities
- Shelterless voters
- Incarcerated voters
- Homebound voters

www.VoteOhio.gov

Learn more to **DO** more

Coming Up...

SBOE Monthly Meeting

Sept 18-19 | ODE, 25. S Front St, Columbus or watch on **The Ohio Channel**

Community Discussion About Education

Sept 29-30 | House Three Thirty, Akron | Hosted by Akron NAACP, Partners

14th Annual Trans & Ally Symposium - Coming Together

Sept 29-Oct 1 | Baldwin Wallace | Hosted by Trans Ohio, Baldwin Wallace

Banned Book Week! Oct 1 - 7

Advocate for Education Day

Oct 7 | University of Cincinnati | Hosted by School Board School, Partners

SBOE Monthly Meeting

Oct 10-11 | ODE, 25. S Front St, Columbus or watch on **The Ohio Channel**

Find more at **Honesty Events**

Stay Connected

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



Resources

Honesty for Ohio Education

- Mailing List [HERE](#)
- Legislation Tracker [HERE](#)
- Website [HERE](#)
- Social Media: [FB](#) ● [Instagram](#) ● [Twitter](#)

GOTV

- [Vote411.org](#)
- [VoteOhio.gov](#)

State of Education

- Track Actions Across US [K-12](#) | [CRT](#) | [HE](#) | [LGBTQ+](#)
- Roots of Critical Race Theory Campaign [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

