

Thank you Chair Brenner and committee members.

I am Lisa Chaffee, Director of Ohio Parents Rights In Education.
I am here today to implore you to pass HB8.

The U.S. Supreme Court has described parental rights as “beyond debate as an enduring American tradition.”

Time and time again our right to choose how we raise our children and educate them are being ripped away from us. We are told by teachers and administrators essentially that because we do not have a degree in education that we should just sit down and shut up. I will simply not do that.

We have seen evidence over the past few years of schools admitting to undercover journalists hiding information from parents including how critical race theory is taught in the classroom, what is included in DEI but most egregiously withholding information regarding a students mental and emotional health status from parents. Primarily this is occurring when the student identifies as part of LGBT.

On Oct 29, 2022 I received a phone call from the father of a 13 year old Hilliard student in utter distress. The day prior he received a call from the school instructing him to pick his daughter up and take her to the hospital for an emergency psych evaluation because she was suicidal. As it turns out his daughter for several weeks had been displaying signs of severe anxiety and depression, even leaving class to sit in the hall to cry. On that day her friend noticed she was suicidal and took her to the counselor who then administered the suicide survey in front of the friend (major HIPPA violation) and then called the parents. His daughter revealed that her “friends” had been trying to convince her that she was really a boy, started calling her by a boys name and a teacher even joined the fray by encouraging her to go down the transition path. She simply wanted to fit in but she really didn’t think she was a boy. So for several weeks teachers knew this child was struggling but did not notify her parents all because they thought she was transgender and that her parents would hurt her if they found out. They were wrong! These activist

teachers literally robbed the parents of the opportunity to shower their daughter with love. And it almost cost this child her life.

https://www.theohiopressnetwork.com/news/ohio/parents-we-knew-nothing-about-this/article_e62d7530-74d8-11ed-b700-57baea756aba.html

We have proof that schools have policies to hide information from parents. They tell students their parents are not safe to talk to. They encourage students to transition and give them resources on how to hide it from the very people that love them the most.. They tell girls who are tomboys that they want to be a boy. They are causing harm to students by withholding information from their parents. The people who love them more than anyone else on earth. These activist teachers are making assumptions and we all know what assuming means.

Activist teachers are having conversations with students they are not qualified to have nor should they be having on moral grounds. The topics of sex and sexual identity are between children and parents.

We do not co-parent with the government!

HB 8 is not attacking any group of people. It is simply protecting the constitutional rights of parents to raise our children the way we want to. Teachers/Counselors do not get to decide if our values are right or wrong or impose their personal beliefs on our kids.

We need to hold these schools accountable and we need your help in doing so.

This primary role of the parents in the upbringing of their children is now established beyond debate as an enduring tradition. *Wisconsin v. Yoder*, 406

U.S. 233 (1972). The fundamental liberty interest of natural parents in the care and management of their child does not evaporate simply because they have not been model parents or have lost temporary custody of their child to the state. *Santosky v. Kramer*, 455 U.S. 745, 753 (1982). In *Meyer v. Nebraska*, the Court held that the right of parents to instruct their children was within the liberty of the 14th Amendment.

The right of parents to direct the education and upbringing of their children takes precedence over any policies implemented by schools.

This is an email from an administrator in Hilliard.

There was a question after most folks left today, which I think is a great question for everyone so I want to address it here as well. The question centered on mandatory reporting versus the youth agency and confidentiality stressed in the training. I want to clarify that mandatory reporting remains mandatory when you're talking about harm or intent to harm self or others -- and in most cases, this is unrelated to an LGBTQIA+ identity. If the identity is a KEY part of an issue at hand, continue to keep that in conversation with the student. "We need to discuss this with this person for this reason." Don't "out" the student without their knowledge, and don't fall into the trap of assuming every conflict ties back to an LGBTQIA+ identity. Identities generally don't increase risk factors -- the way other people respond to someone's identity DOES. Whatever information might be shared, make sure it's on a Need-To-Know basis, and that the student is part of these conversations, that it's not done behind their back."

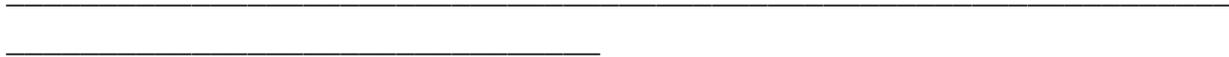
As always, please reach out with any questions! Go CATS!

-Jake

Jacob Grantier (he/him)

Assistant Principal

Hilliard Davidson High School



<https://www.ncfamily.org/the-constitutional-right-to-parent/>

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2017/07/03/im-pediatrician-transgender-ideology-infiltrated-field-produced-large-scale-child-abuse/>

<https://www.ascd.org/el/articles/why-parental-rights-laws-are-necessary>