

Truth in American Education

*The philosophy of the classroom today
will be the philosophy of government
tomorrow. Abraham Lincoln*

Parent and Community Action Plan

Are you satisfied with the programs in your schools? If you aren't, here are some things you may do.

Take Care of Your Child First	<p>Do whatever it takes to ensure your child receives a solid education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Test your child's math skills▪ Tutor your child yourself▪ Hire a tutor▪ Enroll your child in a learning center▪ Put your child in a private school▪ Home school your child<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Single subject, multiple subjects, complete▪ Display and maintain a positive attitude about education
Educate Yourself About the Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Learn about issues of concern in education▪ Research the literature, talk with people involved, and correspond with others▪ Learn about different education programs▪ Ask questions
At the School Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Become familiar with the textbooks and programs used in your schools▪ Talk with your child's teacher(s)▪ Talk with the principal▪ Apply/volunteer to serve on school site council
At the School District Level	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Talk with district personnel—curriculum director, superintendent for elementary schools, middle schools, secondary schools, superintendent▪ Talk with school board members individually▪ Express your concerns at school board meetings▪ Write to your school board members (see related links below)▪ Advocate for rigorous programs▪ Apply/volunteer to serve on textbook adoption or textbook review committee▪ Request adoption of solid programs (recommend specific programs)▪ Request that schools offer a real solid program as an alternative to reform programs if a solid one isn't in use or adopted▪ Write letters to elected officials and legislators (see related links below)

- Generate and circulate a petition ([click to see sample](#))
- Run for a seat on your school board
- Identify, Endorse, and Campaign for school board candidates meeting your criteria

At the State Level

- Become familiar with education standards in your state (soon likely to be the CCSS)
- Learn about your state assessments and the new assessments being developed by the consortia to test the CCSS
- Advocate for rigorous programs
- Become familiar with exemplary standards from other states ([CA](#), [IN](#), [MA](#))
- Write letters to elected officials and legislators (see related links below)
- Write letters to state board of education members (see related links below)
- Testify before legislative education committees
- Testify before state board of education

In the Community

- Network with other concerned parents & community members
- Join or start an advocacy group (beware well financially backed pseudo grassroots organizations promoting and supporting a reform agenda)
- Educate others and bring level of awareness regarding problems
- Organize a local conference/forum regarding education issues
- Become familiar with issues, experiences, and efforts in other areas around the country
- Develop website for local effort
- Write letters to the editor (see related links below)
- Inform local media
- Advocate for rigorous programs
- If an alternative program is available, let other parents know there is a choice
- Initiate a petition for a change in adoption or at least a good alternative program ([click to see sample](#))

Other Measures

- Campaign and vote against school levy and bond issues until desired changes are made
- Campaign for and elect school board candidates worthy of your support

Delphi Technique

Learn to recognize the Delphi Technique and ways to counter it.

- [The Delphi Technique — What Is It?](#)
- [The Delphi Technique — How to Disrupt It](#)
- [The Delphi Technique: Let's Stop Being Manipulated!](#)
- [The Delphi Technique. What Is It?](#) Informed Residents of Reading MA

<p>Edu-Speak</p>	<p>Ever wonder what that school administrator said? Learn to decode the language of the educrats.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Edu-speak, the dictionary ▪ Education Terminology Every Parent Must Understand ▪ Education Buzzwords: Image and Reality by Kevin Killion ▪ Translating Educational Jargon by Phillip Paeltz
<p>Taping Phone Calls and In Person Conversations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Practical Guide to Taping Phone Calls and In-Person Conversations in the 50 States and D.C.
<p>Additional Information for Parent Action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dealing with Problems in Your Child’s Public School A Common Sense Guide ▪ Parental Rights in Education
<p>Writing Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Moving the School Choice Debate Forward with Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor by George Clowes Senior Fellow at The Heartland Institute September 16, 2005 ▪ How to Write Letters to the Editor ▪ Tips on Writing Letters to the Editor
<p>Writing Letters to Elected Officials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tips on Writing Your Elected Officials ▪ Writing Letters to Elected Officials ▪ Section 1. Writing Letters to Elected Officials The Community Tool Box

Source: [Mathematically Sound Foundation Taking Action](#)

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