

Supporting Public Education - BRAINSTORMING SESSION 2.5.14

Category	IDEAS
I CAN	
teacher	tell my Childs teacher I don't judge her/his performance on test scores
teacher	Thank a teacher - affirm good teaching, not testing
School	Visit and participate in my school and embrace its strengths and weaknesses and be a partner
School	Advocate For CTE (Career and Technical Education)
School	Get to know OUR schools
tests	encourage students to "Bubble A" - civil disobedience/sabotage
tests	opt out
Friends	discuss topic with Library as possible book-read topic
Friends	correct people's misconception/misinformation of public schools (multiple groups)
Friends	share info and book with friends (multiple groups)
Friends	invite friend to see schools
Friends	Fire up my friends
Friends	organize Moms
	I can learn Bruce Perry's model for promoting self-regulation as info for developmentally respectful interventions
	learn more about what happens in schools and Columbus
school	encourage people to volunteer more in the schools
school	volunteer at schools
general	speak up
unknown	continue gathering books? For A.G.
community	reach out to non-teachers, it business leaders
community	look for resources in the community, i.e. social services, mental health, etc
Political	Communicate with School Bd
Political	Go to next BOE mtg and offer personal testimony re: my kids experience with testing
Political	Go to legislator's office with supporting info (local, st, fed) (multiple groups)
Political	write a letter to candidates for city, state, national office (multiple groups)
Political	write to Obama
Political	Make sure our next superintendent holds our community's beliefs
Political	educate people about "The Principles that Unite Us"
Political	build coalition with community members
Political	be an informed voter
Media	Encourage people to write about this book discussion experience
Political	Work on a campaign
	Prepare fact sheet for speakers at public meetings
	Join Diane Ravitch / Jan Resseger blogs
community	Join or create a group in our community to solve our own educational issues
	be a voice for the voiceless through different lenses of life and profession
	tell the truth
	continue to search out what works
	write more about education on blog
WE CAN	
political	find out where candidates stand on ed issues
political	incorporate questions about education in forums that showcase candidates
community	include GREATER CLEVELAND congregations to become part of dialogue/advocacy for education
community	advocate for parent responsibility
political	Lobby BOE to discontinue unmandated tests

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political	Lobby BOE to pass resolution against high stakes testing and define what a meaningful education looks like
political	Lobby BOE to pass resolution against charter schools
political	Lobby BOE to adopt "The Principles that Unite Us"
Teacher	Teacher appreciation letter campaign
Teacher	Show support of school/teachers
	hugging buildings
testing	student walk-out during MAP testing
	parent walk in during MAP testing
	Align with other community groups
	Lobby for equitable funding
	Continued Community ed/awareness
	Encourage BOE to hire new superintendent who is opposed to corporate reform
	institutional invalidation of tests through tests taking
	Organize public gathering to mail back our kids test results "Invalid measure of my childs ed"
	encourage district to find ways to support families
	sponsor several short reviews of testing, blame, and privatization
	Reach out beyond CHUH to organizing opposition to unregulated charters
	explore ways to engage/empower families
	create a statement of principles identifying what we are FOR not AGAINST: use on district website as way to show strengths of our community's public schools
	work to implement school programs that foster grit, etc
	bring in known public speaker
	organize a book discussion for another book
	institute a grassroots movement
	write a group letter
	continue the conversation (book/article studies) invite legislators
	Feed the media (change the narrative)
****	Join march on US dept of Education this summer
	invite people to March 5th: Fudge, Portman, brown, Schultz, Wheeler
	tighten relations between community organizations and school/religious organizations
	visit school activities/events and engage with parents about concerns
	maintain community interaction with administration
	bring breakfast to teachers
	ask teachers- what would make you feel appreciated
	community take proactive role regarding charters in CHUH
	pull out of race to the top
	not engage in high stakes testing
	find out where the rejection should go. When and where do we say NO
	charter a bus to lobby in Columbus
	create a facebook/socail media page
	hold a rally
Action steps:	chuh believes in whole child: we have/maintain arts/sports, etc. the word needs to get out about this, ie publicizen our efforts to neutralize the testing movement.
	organize teacher boycotts of unnecessary testing
	offer alternative assessments, eg: portfolios
	shift the narrative around trusing teachers and tenure
	adopt a school - companies send workers into schools to volunteer
	push Federal Government to go back to addressing "equity"