

IDEA 25 Parent Power Talking Points: Preserving the public good of public schools: Enabling all* parents to be a part of the politics of public education

Current reform ideas, particularly with IPS, support a business model of education. Yet, our schools have a public, not a private purpose. Therefore, it is impossible for Marion County public schools and *OpportunINDY* to engage any parent, guardian, grandparent and family at the highest levels without opening districts to public ownership, and thus the actual participation of parents and their community in determining the destiny of their own public schools.

Hence, the work of local public schools and *OpportunINDY* with parents must be understood as one of the most significant democratic acts all stakeholders, and teachers in particular, can perform. Parents together with teachers must create a political community to challenge any undemocratic structures of public schooling. This is a civic purpose of public education.

<http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Parent-Power-Talking-Points-Why-urban-parents-resist-school-participation-and-what-to-do-about-it.pdf>

<http://parentsacrossamerica.org/parent-involvement-talking-points-parent-powerpaa-indiana/>