

## Jasmine-Shaheed Young

In July of 2019, led by Jasmine-Shaheed Young, the [RISE Indy](#) (RI) PAC (Political Action Committee) was formed. Interestingly, RI came out of the gate as an organization talking out of both sides of its mouth. Trying to [bypass controversy, RI portrayed itself as non-partisan](#) in a 12.09.19 *Chalkbeat* feature. That didn't last long. RI could not camouflage which side of the corporate school reform debate the group was on; it was on the Republican and neo-liberal/corporate Democrat side.

### Conflict of interests

*Chalkbeat* did mention the connections of the 3 Shaheed sisters to corporate school reform in the story. Yet, it evidently conveniently left out that Jasmine Shaheed-Young is the wife of Mr. [Ahmed Young](#), Chief of Staff/General Counsel of IPS. Young was also former director of Hogsett's Office of Education Innovation (OEI). Note RI staff member Jasmine Burditt worked under Ahmed at the OEI.

The [staff](#), [board](#), and a bevy of so-called "[advisors](#)" all seem to be made up of Marion county's upper class (Al Hubbard, Co-Founder of [E&A Companies](#) and Marianne Glick, board chair of the [Glick Family Foundation](#)), top business people, politicians (both Republicans and corporate Democrats), various re-cycled charter school supporters, professors, faith community people, and mainly well intended millennials. Most RI folks know there's money to be made as an edupreneur here in Indy.

Nonetheless, from the standpoint of this analysis, many RI supporters have no clue as to whose [interests they serve](#) --notably around the privatization, *of all things*, the public schools of a democracy, as well as enabling the [global corporate educational reform movement](#).

And what is interesting is that the Rise board has none other than [Gary Borden](#), Managing Director Public School Allies (PSA). Remember, PSA is the [well-funded political arm](#) of the City Fund that influences (i.e., "buys") school board elections. Remember, the City Fund is were former Mind Trust employees David Harris and Kameelah Shaheed-Diallo work now.

### Connecting the dots: The big picture for RI people and everyone else

Here is a story explaining how RI is connected to big money and local/national political power players: "[Out-of-state education reform money floods into Indiana communities](#)."

Here's "[The tangled web: A more detailed analysis of the RISE Indy/Hoosiers for Great Public Schools "follow the money" diagram](#)."

### Stand for Children and RISE Indy share 4 false beliefs about the traditional public schools

Since RI is in the privatization of public education movement, the organization obviously supports Stand for Children Indiana (SfC). From the perspective of this analysis with commentary, like SfC, RI is making 4 major mistakes regarding their political analysis of public education:

- 1) pushing the meme that traditional public schools are broken and need fixing <http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Public-schools-are-broken-and-need-fixing.pdf>
- 2) creating "the other" <http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Without-the-other-Stand-for-Children-would-have-no-reason-to-exist.pdf>
- 3) emphasizing closing the Achievement Gap for communities of color in high poverty areas <http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/The-racial-politics-of-the-Achievement-Gap.pdf>
- 4) disenfranchising communities of color: <http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Disenfranchising-communities-of-color-Stand-for-Childrens-anti-democracy-ploy-at-work.pdf>.

## RISE Indy and money

### RISE Indy PAC

Here is link to RISE INDY PAC Indiana 2019 and 2020 campaign financial records

<https://campaignfinance.in.gov/PublicSite/SearchPages/CommitteeDetail.aspx?OrgID=7250>

### 2020 Annual Report

1100 W 42nd St # 335 <sup>1</sup>

Indianapolis, IN 46208

Phone: 646-660-5131

Status: Active

Organization Date: 07/15/2019

Beginning Balance: \$18,000.00

Less Total Expenditures: \$720,122.10

Plus Total Contributions: \$763,117.03

Ending Balance: \$60,994.93

Debts Owed By Balance: \$0.00

Debts Owed To Balance: \$0.00

## The major role RI had in buying school board seats of the 2020 IPS school election

Let's look at the [\\$136,638.15 spent on the 2020 IPS election](#) by RI. Note too, the \$74,201.00 donated to now IPS Commissioner Kenneth Allen who ran against then Commissioner Liz Gore who had a mere \$18,200, yet who [lost to Allen by just 2 percentage points](#).

Take a close look at the report by Tom Ultican, [School board elections 2020: the good, the bad, and the ugly](#), where IPS is the "ugly" election!

## What is really bad for RI...and the Shaheed sister's regime? It's critical attention from national and local media, groups, and individuals

### National

- AlterNet's Jeff Bryant, [Worse than Betsy DeVos: The disturbing story of 2020 school board elections](#) where he compares Indianapolis to Stockton, CA
- Tom Ultican, [School board elections 2020: The good, the bad, and the ugly](#).
- [Diane Ravitch: Indianapolis: Stop the billionaires from capturing our school board](#).
- [Diane Ravitch publishes John H. Loflin's "Indianapolis public schools for sale."](#)

### State

- School Matters: K-12 education in Indiana, [2020 IPS candidates spent big to win](#)

### Local

- [Indy's education gangstas rule 2020 elections: The "Billionaire's School Board" now rules IPS](#)
- A 12.06.20 commentary from the [IPS Community Coalition: Buying the 2020 election of the IPS school board](#) IPSCC notes, "Buying elections with hundreds of thousands of dollars from pro-charter billionaires from outside of Indiana is a direct threat to local democratic control of our IPS school board."

- [Who needs \\$123K to run for school board in a district with just 31,000+ students? Has someone lost their way? Is our IPS up for sale again?](#)
- [WFYI: Why is there so much money fighting in the IPS school board race?](#)
- BlackIndyLive.com [Billionaire donors in IPS school board race raise eyebrows, causes concern](#)

“What does Former Presidential Candidate Michael Bloomberg, Walmart Heiress Alice Walton, and Netflix Founder Reed Hastings have in common? Not only are they all billionaires, but all three have contributed over \$500,000 dollars to back candidates in the 2020 Indianapolis Public School Board Race.”

- <https://www.facebook.com/Mr.Wildstyle/posts/10157845859288031>

“A preliminary investigation by Black Indianapolis Live correspondent, Wildstyle Paschall, showed that as of one week ago RISE Indy, with the help of their billionaire donors, had raised \$559,000 to assist their endorsed school board candidates in securing seats on the board.”

Local researcher and writer Mr. Wildstyle’s post had 26 Like, 35 Wow and 20 Angry emoji—plus 110 comments and 126 shares.

- [Does Indianapolis actually want an entirely privatized school system?](#)
- [Political groups give over \\$200,000 to charter friendly candidates for IPS board](#)

John Harris Loflin  
 Researcher  
 Parent Power—Indianapolis  
 Education Community Action Team  
 johnharrisloflin@yahoo.com

---

1. Note the address of RI at 1100 W. 42<sup>nd</sup> St. This is Indiana Interchurch Center (IIC) building. IIC is where the Center for Interfaith Cooperation (CIC) is located. Tellingly, RI Advisory Council member Charlie Wiles is the executive director of the CIC and Judge David Shaheed, father of the 3 Shaheed sisters under discussion, is on the CIC board of directors.