

## **Disenfranchising people of color: Stand's anti-democracy ploy at work**

Elected school boards are the bedrock of American democracy” -- Thomas Ultican

What is especially peculiar about Stand is its successful maneuvers at organizing parents to actually disenfranchise themselves!

Stand spends lots of time and money to convince, mostly parents of color, to give over their power and right as citizens, voters, taxpayers, and parents/guardians to elect their very own school board and instead support a corporate agenda of privately selected school boards.

Considering the years of death, intimidation, personal sacrifice, and relentless work by Black citizens to secure their right to vote, Stand throws all of that under the bus—while altogether astonishingly, Stand smiles and parents applaud!

### **How Stand's disenfranchisement ploy works**

Normally a citizen/voter/parent can go up to a school board member and question their vote: “If you don't change what you're doing I won't be voting for you and I will organize others to not vote for you.” With charter/Innovation school boards, this level of democratic accountability can't happen because the public does not vote in or out privatized school's board members. So, they can't question how that school board member votes, or spends the taxes that may come from the same citizen/voter/parent.

The response by pro-privatization entities is that the public/parents or guardians can go too the privatized school's authorizer with issues of accountability. Although this is the case, why would a critically conscious citizen go to the fox guarding the henhouse with issues around the hens and the coop?

Under Stand's parent advocacy scheme (e. g., Stand University for Parents/Stand UP <http://stand.org/bachelors-program>), the value of parents will depend upon how well they are able to get their children to assimilate towards the cultural normative dogma of whiteness.

Finally, here in Indy, bringing in R&B stars like John Legend to enable the gas lighting of trustful parents actually bends this SfC endorsement practice toward the unethical: <http://vorcreatex.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/John-Legend-RB-star-meets-Indy-Stand-University-parents.pdf>.