

Honesty & Integrity

- Students deserve an honest and reflective education.
- Educating students about diverse perspectives is the best tool educators can provide students to prepare them to successfully interact in a interconnected society and economy.
- Efforts to oppose honesty in education are part of a carefully coordinated national campaign by disingenuous organizations resulting in divisive and dishonest attacks on educators, our communities, and public schools.
- Neither NEA nor OEA advocates for teaching race theory as part of the PK-12 standard curriculum. Critical race theory is not taught in the classroom as part of the PK-12 learning standards. It is an academic theory taught at graduate levels that examines the influence of racial inequalities on our laws and social structures.
- OEA strongly advocates for teaching the truth and protecting our members against fear and intimidation for doing their jobs.



Inclusivity & Equity

- Every student deserves a high-quality education to prepare them to engage with and shape the future of our interconnected society and economy. This means creating an educational environment that invites diverse experiences and multiple perspectives, as well as providing the resources and materials for all students to engage fully with the standards-based curriculum.
- In our locals, we support our members professionally in their efforts to create inclusive learning environments, celebrate diversity, and advocate for policies and programs that equitably meet all students' needs.
- Educational fairness dictates that we ensure all students can relate to and engage with the learning material and standards laid out for them. This requires including all students' experiences in their instruction.
- Those profiting from this controversy can't point to a single instance of any offending instruction happening in an Ohio K-12 classroom. Because it's not happening.
- No students are being taught to be ashamed of their ancestry or family background. Quite the opposite; they are being empowered to be proud of who they are, regardless of where they come from.

Professionalism & Respect

- Educators are professionals who teach to the standards adopted by the state board of education.
- OEA educators respect the diverse experiences and backgrounds their students bring into the classroom and use appropriate instructional strategies and materials to ensure students are working toward those standards.
- Educators must be trusted to teach the state's learning standards and district curriculum as they have been prepared and entrusted to do without censorship or intimidation.
- Bills introduced in Ohio and other states under the premise of barring the teaching of controversial issues regarding race (often characterized as anti-critical race theory bills) divert attention away from meeting the needs of our students. Instead they are meant to instill fear and intimidation in a way that undermines our profession, public education, and democracy.
- These claims emphasize the importance of your union and OEA's Legal Services Program, which ensures protection for members subject to job action for teaching the truth and advocating for equity.
- Those stoking this divisive rhetoric are trying to tell educators how to teach our kids. Political operatives with no teaching experience should stay out of our kids' classrooms and leave the teaching to the certified professionals.