

Resolution on Social Justice and Critical Race Theory in Perrysburg Schools

Whereas, The Perrysburg Board of Education was introduced to, but never formally adopted the Program of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion as a Policy in the Perrysburg School System; and

Whereas, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the surface reads and sounds like something everyone should be in favor of, it is a precursor to introducing Social Justice which leads to Critical Social Justice which leads to Critical Race Theory; and

Whereas, Social Justice is defined by the Oxford Dictionary as a noun: chiefly politics and philosophy; justice at the level of a society or state as it regards to the possession of wealth, commodities, opportunities, and privileges. See Distributive Justice; and

Whereas, Social Justice has evolved to generally mean State redistribution of advantages and resources to disadvantaged groups to satisfy the right to social and economic equality. Further, inequality equals injustice unless it accrues to the benefit of a minority; and

Whereas, the goal of Social Justice and Critical Race Theory is redistribution of wealth, commodities, opportunities, and privileges to groups and therefore inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States which guarantees rights to the individual;

Whereas, Under the guise of social justice, many have advocated for policies that embrace discrimination based on race and sex; and

Whereas, The Perrysburg Board of Education understands and affirms that The Perrysburg School System is ethically and morally bound to remain apolitical; and

Whereas, The Perrysburg Board of Education understands and affirms that advocating for “Social Justice” is not considered education; and if it was to be included in curriculum, it would serve as an endorsement and would therefore be considered indoctrination, which has no place in public education; and

Whereas, The Perrysburg Board of Education affirms that the use of taxpayer educational dollars to promote “Social Justice” would be inconsistent with the purpose for which those funds are collected and would therefore be considered an unethical and inappropriate use of those funds; and

Whereas, In his famous “I Have a Dream Speech”, Reverend Martin Luther King said, “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character”; and

Whereas, The Perrysburg Board of Education Policy supports the U.S. Constitution including the First Amendment, protecting citizens from compelled speech, the Fourteenth Amendment, providing equal protection under the law, and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 which prohibits discrimination based on race (Title VI) and sex (Title IX). CRT is an oppressor/oppressed ideology that targets both the oppressor race and secondarily the sex of the oppressor; and

Whereas, The Perrysburg School System in May of 2021 offered a 21-Day Racial Equity and Social Justice Mini-Challenge to the teachers at Ft. Meigs Elementary, which used educational tax dollars to promote social justice, contained racially discriminatory content, and included elements of Critical Race Theory; and

Whereas, The Perrysburg Schools' Superintendent stated that the Perrysburg Board of Education would not vote to teach Critical Race Theory or the 1619 Project which led the Citizens of the Perrysburg School District to believe that Critical Race Theory or the 1619 Project would not be taught in Perrysburg Schools; and

Whereas, Evidence of Critical Race Theory being taught in Perrysburg classrooms has been collected and that evidence has been shown to Perrysburg School Board Members; and

Whereas, Critical Race Theory teaches not to judge a person by his/her character but by the color of their skin, which is a direct contradiction of Reverend Martin Luther King's dream; and

Whereas, Critical Race Theory is an ideology based on false assumptions about the United States of America and its population; and

Whereas, The definitional foundation of Critical Race Theory involving an artificial distortion of the traditional definition of "racism" is fatally flawed; and

Whereas, Critical Race Theory is a divisive ideology that assigns moral fault to individuals solely on the basis of an individual's race and, therefore is itself a racist ideology; and

Whereas, Critical Race Theory assigns generational guilt and racial guilt for conduct and policies that are long in the past; and

Whereas, Critical Race Theory violates the fundamental principle of equal protection under the law; and

Whereas, Critical Race Theory views social problems primarily as racial problems and, thus, detracts from analysis of underlying socio-economic causes of social problems; and

Whereas, The Perrysburg Board of Education has authority to require teachers to teach the curriculum approved by the Board and to limit what is taught in the Perrysburg School System; and

Whereas, The "Resolution to Promote Academic Excellence in K-12 Education for Each Ohio Student Without Prejudice or Respect to Race, Ethnicity, or Creed", passed by the Ohio State Board of Education dated Oct 14, 2021, affirmed the Boards' condemnation of any standards, curriculum, or training programs for students, teachers, or staff that seek to divide or to ascribe circumstances or qualities such as collective guilt, moral deficiency, or racial bias, to a whole race or group of people, otherwise known as Critical Race Theory; therefore

Be it Resolved, That the Perrysburg Board of Education declares Social Justice shall not constitute the basis for any instruction or program within the Perrysburg School System. This is inclusive of any standards, curriculum, reading lists, training programs, clubs, organizations, or materials for students, teachers, or staff; and

Resolved, That the Perrysburg Board of Education rejects Critical Race Theory (CRT), including the praxis of CRT, and CRT shall not constitute the basis for any instruction or program within the Perrysburg School System. This is inclusive of any standards, curriculum, reading lists, training programs, clubs, organizations, or materials for students, teachers, or staff; and

Resolved, That no Perrysburg School System buildings, infrastructure, property, communications, or monies shall be used in support of or for the promotion of Social Justice or CRT; and

Resolved, That the Perrysburg School System shall not apply for or accept any funding, of any kind, in support of Social Justice or CRT; and

Resolved, That the Perrysburg School Policy barring the teaching or promoting of Social Justice or Critical Race Theory shall be disseminated to all School Employees and shall be effective immediately; and

Resolved, That instances where Social Justice or Critical Race Theory have been placed in curriculum or lesson plans, those curriculum or plans shall not be followed with regard to teaching of Social Justice or Critical Race Theory until such time that they are removed; and

Resolved, That the Perrysburg School System shall not affiliate with or contract with any organization or company that is involved in the promotion of Social Justice or Critical Race Theory. If there is a question as to whether an organization or company meets this criteria, the question shall be brought to the Perrysburg Board of Education at a Regular Meeting. The Board Shall make a decision no sooner than the next Regular Meeting so as to allow for public input; and

Resolved, That the following specific elements of Critical Race Theory shall not be taught:

1. Racism is racial prejudice plus power, a concept that is often used to argue that (i) only individuals classified as “white” people can be racist because only “white” people control society and (ii) individuals in ethnic minorities cannot be racist because they do not control society.
2. Racism is ordinary or normal, the usual way society does business.
3. “Convergence Theory”, which states that white people are incapable of righteous actions on race and only seek to undue racism when it benefits them.
4. The “voice-of -color” thesis, according to which only minority status brings with it a presumed competence to speak about race and racism. A concept often used to discredit opposing arguments on the basis of the opposing person’s race.

Furthermore, the following doctrines derived from Critical Race Theory cannot be taught:

- A. An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist and/or sexist, whether consciously or unconsciously.
- B. Individuals are either a member of the oppressor class or the oppressed class because of race or sex.
- C. An individual is inherently morally or otherwise superior to another individual because of race or sex.
- D. An individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment due to the individual’s race or sex, or an individual should receive favorable treatment due to the individual’s race or sex.
- E. An individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race or sex.
- F. An individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex bears responsibility for actions committed in the past or present by other members of the same race or sex.
- G. Meritocracy or traits such as, but not limited to, a hard work ethic or the scientific method are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race or sex to oppress members of another race.
- H. The advent of slavery in the territory that is now the United States constituted the true founding of the United States, or the preservation of slavery was a material motive for independence from England

;and

Resolved, That any School System Employee, student, or parent shall report any instance of Social Justice or Critical Race Theory within the Perrysburg School System to the School Administration. Perrysburg School Administration shall investigate the report to determine if the Board Policy barring the teaching or presence of Social Justice or Critical Race Theory has been violated. Upon finding a violation of the Board Policy, action shall be taken to ensure that the violation is corrected and to prevent future violations by any and all means available; and

Resolved, That all content adopted by this resolution shall be placed in the Perrysburg Schools Policy Manual.