



Resolution #23-03-01

Quality Education: “Essential Safeguard of Democracy”

WHEREAS, the Republican Party is waging an ongoing, extensive, deliberate, well-funded, national effort to undermine and defund public schools for the purpose of privatizing education and thereby weakening our Democracy; and

WHEREAS, as President Franklin Delano Roosevelt stated, “Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely; and the real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education”; and

WHEREAS, elected trustees of school districts must ensure all students are educated equitably because our children are future citizens who need to be “prepared to choose wisely,” yet in Orange County, some trustees are undermining public schools and educators by banning books, omitting required curriculum, discriminating against LGBTQ+ students and staff, avoiding public oversight by ignoring the Brown Act, usurping authority beyond their purview, filing frivolous lawsuits, and violating their official responsibilities by wasting tax dollars taken from students to spend on their extremist agendas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Orange County believes education laws need to be followed by all school boards and districts and enforced by authoritative agencies, and community members should monitor the actions and decisions of their local and county school boards and participate in their school board meetings, Local Control Accountability Plan surveys, district committees, Parent Teacher Associations, elections of school board members and trustees, and other efforts to guide school board decisions, as well as ensuring school boards spend our tax dollars legally and judiciously to prepare our students “to choose wisely”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Democratic Party of Orange County recognizes that electing and supporting school board members and trustees who commit to following state and federal education laws, to protecting public education funds, and to respecting the Constitutional rights of students and staff, is crucial for our country to develop informed citizens and voters to preserve and strengthen our democracy.

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