

# WHEN IT COMES TO OUR STUDENTS, WHO DO YOU TRUST?



OUR UNION...

- **ADVOCATES** for smaller class sizes
- **ADVOCATES** for safe learning conditions
- **ADVOCATES** for fully funded public schools
- **ADVOCATES** for quality professional growth and evaluation tools
- **ADVOCATES** for educator voice in education policy
- **ADVOCATES** for collective action
- **ADVOCATES** for employment rights
- **REPRESENTS** 44,000 Oregon educators in every community

VS



THEIR FREEDOM FOUNDATION...

- **OPPOSES** smaller class sizes
- **OPPOSES** investing in infrastructure
- **OPPOSES** increased funding for public schools
- **OPPOSES** fair evaluations for educators
- **OPPOSES** educators having a voice in education policy decisions
- **OPPOSES** union members' right to organize
- **OPPOSES** local collective bargaining and other worker rights
- **REPRESENTS** extremist out-of-state political groups and corporate foundations

Since 1858, the Oregon Education Association and its local Affiliates have been representing our state's public school employees and advocating for Oregon's public schools and students.

Now, extremist political groups like the Freedom Foundation (AKA, Choice for Teachers) are attacking our right to advocate for students. They claim they're on the side of workers, but it's clear the Freedom Foundation doesn't support us. They are fighting against us and aim to silence our voice and what's important to us and our students. In their world, CEOs and corporate special interests—not educators—make decisions about public education.

# **THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION'S AGENDA: WEAKEN PUBLIC-SECTOR UNIONS IN FAVOR OF CORPORATIONS AND WEALTHY CEOS**

"Stop what you're doing and make sure the focus is on unions — defunding them, marginalizing them, dismantling them, all of that."

— Tom McCabe,  
Freedom Foundation CEO, quoted  
by Anne Marie Gurney



"... large declines in union membership experienced by states like Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana ... The Freedom Foundation is happy to oblige."

— Freedom Foundation website

The Freedom Foundation is funded by wealthy corporate foundations, including political groups affiliated with the billionaire Koch brothers. The Foundation's agenda is clear: weaken public-sector unions and swing the balance even more in favor of corporations and wealthy CEOs.

OEA members are powerful advocates for what students need to be successful — qualified educators, small class sizes, and sustainable, meaningful investments. The Foundation opposes those things and makes inflammatory statements like *"Teachers' Union Bargaining To Steal Materials From Children."*



**KOCH BROTHERS**



An IRS complaint has been filed against the Freedom Foundation alleging it is an overtly partisan organization engaging in activities prohibited for nonprofit organizations.

## **WHY THIS MATTERS FOR EVERY STUDENT AND EDUCATOR:**

"The "Freedom Foundation's" mission is to weaken us, divide us, silence us, and limit our ability to stand up for our students and public education. We know that when you take educator voices out of the conversation, it hurts students. We'll continue to work together for what's best for our students and public education."

— Hanna Vaandering, OEA President

