



PJTN OHIO QUARTERLY REPORT
2nd QUARTER 2021
APRIL – JUNE 2021

FROM: Michael Goldstein, State of Ohio Director and General Counsel, PJTN
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TO: Laurie Cardoza-Moore, President PJTN

SUBJ: PJTN STATE OF OHIO DIRECTOR QUARTERLY REPORT Q2, APRIL – JUNE 2021

DATE: July 1, 2021

The PJTN Ohio team has been very active and engaged. In addition, Mike and Kathy continue to be involved, together and individually, with presence and participation with numerous groups and other Ohio leaders.

For the entire quarter, Mike and Kathy have continued to work with a small group of influential Ohioans who focus primarily on education with the most focus on critical race theory, but also on comprehensive sexuality education and social emotional learning. These are highlights from the second quarter:

The month of April and beyond involved contacts with Ohio legislators to discuss bills targeting critical race theory and included research into the legislative language that other states have used. Mike has been the key author and has worked diligently on language for legislation against divisive concepts (critical race theory) which gained attention in the Ohio Senate. Mike and Kathy, along with several others, were involved in an April Zoom conference and subsequent communications with Ohio Senators. There was an attempt to get some of our language into the Ohio budget bill, but that attempt was ultimately unsuccessful. Efforts with the Ohio Senate concentrating on our own language are ongoing and have the potential to produce a Senate bill. Mike and Kathy have also been in contact with Representatives in the Ohio House who are primary sponsors of separate legislation; some specifics of that effort are detailed below.

In early April, Kathy was appointed by the Geauga County Commissioners to serve on the Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services. This is unrelated to PJTN but is an effort toward county involvement that can potentially help to move the needle locally. All conservative appointments to local boards and efforts toward moral and traditional values-based approaches are of significance.

April 30 – Kathy began working with a small group of Lake and Geauga County leaders who have concern for and interest in education in Ohio. Kathy’s role with this group has mostly been to educate and encourage others in becoming active participants in local and state education issues.

On several dates in May, Mike was an invited guest on two local radio programs – Live with Pastor Al and the Bob Frantz Authority. Mike well represented PJTN on these programs. Both talk show hosts sought Mike’s comments on the dangerous attacks on Israel. Mike was able to speak with knowledge and authority on the rocket fire from Gaza and the dangerous historical and immediate situation in Israel. Mike eloquently and knowledgeably countered the narrative and supported and defended Israel. These were excellent broadcasts.

May 11 – Mike and Kathy had a phone conference with the leader of Empower U who has become engaged in the battle against critical race theory in Ohio. Empower U has since begun to organize an effort to support conservative candidates for school boards in Ohio. This was a good preliminary contact.

May 18 – Mike and Kathy both participated in testimony in opposition to Ohio H.B. 73 which would reduce the end-of-course testing for American History and American Government. Kathy traveled to Columbus to present verbal testimony before the Ohio House Primary and Secondary Education Committee. Mike submitted excellent written opponent testimony. This effort was in partnership with Ohio Christian Alliance whose President was instrumental in initial legislation in 2012 establishing the Founding of America Documents Curriculum for grades 8-12 which requires teaching of the Constitution, the Ohio Constitution, the Federalist Papers, the Anti Federalist Papers and the Northwest Ordinance. There has been an effort since the passage to weaken the teaching and testing of these critical subjects.

May 19 – By invitation of House Members, Mike and Kathy traveled to Columbus for two purposes. First was to attend a presentation to Ohio legislators by the Vice Chair of the Ohio State Board of Education. This was a presentation against the narrative of critical race theory from a woman whose success story began in the deep south during the time racial divide. Mike and Kathy were also invited to a meeting with numerous Representatives and Legislative Aides immediately following the presentation. This meeting specifically addressed H.B. 327; a bill to oppose divisive concepts in K-12, state universities, and state agencies which had just been initially drafted at the time. We also learned that there was a competing and similar bill being introduced from another Representative; subsequently we believe this competing bill will likely be merged with H.B. 327 as the process continues.

May 22 – Mike, representing PJTN, was one of two speakers at Medina County Friends and Neighbors (MCFAN). Mike expanded on the topic of critical race theory that had been the topic of several preceding meetings. Mike added depth and knowledge to the overall discussion and his comments were very well received by a large group of attendees.

May 25 – By invitation of a local pastor, Kathy participated in a small, local meeting of pastors and potential candidates for Chardon school board positions that will be on the November ballot. There were two speakers including an Ohio State Representative and former member of the Ohio State Board of Education. This meeting has yielded two candidates for local school board to challenge two sitting members.

May 26 – Mike and Kathy were invited by the State Representatives and primary sponsors of H.B. 327 to participate in a phone conference with multi-state legislators from states that have passed anti-critical race theory legislation. This was a very informative and valuable conference call.

June 9 - Kathy had previously represented PJTN as an Ohio leader in the founding meeting of Liberty Action Network in Baltimore, Ohio on March 27. Liberty Action Network is a coming together of conservative leaders from across Ohio. Liberty Action Network has grown in the second quarter. On June 9, Kathy participated, along with other leaders, in a Zoom conference for the Northeast Region launch of Liberty Action Network.

June 23 – Mike and Kathy both testified in Columbus as proponents for Substitute H.B. 327 before the House State and Local Government Committee. We transported seven people in the Goldstein van to testify; ourselves, the Northern Region Board Member for Protect Ohio Children, and four active community members from the Rocky River School District. There were many powerful proponent testimonies. Mike and Kathy have both received positive input from the Primary Sponsors and other supportive Committee Members. The Ohio legislature is now recessing until September, so no further official action will transpire. We do hope to meet with the Primary Sponsors of Sub H.B. 327 the district over the summer recess to discuss possible strengthening language that we have worked hard to develop.

June 30 – Mike was part of a four-person radio panel discussion on The Bob Frantz Authority discussing proponent testimony for H.B. 327. Bob Frantz dedicated a one-hour segment of his program to this discussion. Panelists were an Ohio Representative who is one of the Primary Sponsors of H.B. 327, and three who presented strong proponent testimony – Mike representing PJTN, a Member of the Ohio State Board of Education, and a Board Member of Protect Ohio Children. It was an excellent segment where Mike was able to present some highlights of his testimony on the Marxist history of critical theory beginning with the Frankfurt School and the progression to critical race theory, along with sharing some of his general and legal knowledge.

Respectfully submitted,

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