



PROCLAIMING JUSTICE TO THE NATIONS

ROADMAP FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT TEAM LEADERS

Background – You, and many like-minded others, have been educating yourself about the myriad of problems which are destroying our country and our way of life. In fact, with our increased knowledge, many of us have concluded that it is time for us to take action. You, I believe, are ready to become a PJTN Watchman activist, and a leader in the fight for our school districts’ curriculum, textbooks, and the minds and hearts of our children and grandchildren.

Selecting Your Team – You need a place to start. Please understand that you cannot do this alone. You must put together a team. This will have dual beneficial effects. It will allow you to delegate and share the work among several other people; and the people you choose will create a critical mass of influence in the community to overcome the likely resistance of the school board.

Your team must be made up of folks who live in your school district. It would be very beneficial if some of them have children or grandchildren in the district schools, but it is not essential. We have learned from personal experience that local school boards pay almost no attention to concerned citizens who live outside their district.

Here is how to start finding similarly concerned citizens, parents and grandparents who live in your district. There are several groups and many people in your county. There are also many churches with members. Some of their leaders and members live in your school district, and the leadership of these groups, taken as a whole, can direct you to their members who do live in your district. If you ask, they will probably be happy to introduce you. Please contact our office at the number below, or your state director for more information.

You should call these group leaders and set up meetings with them. Please state XYZ’s name as your referral source. Try to get some of them to meet with you together as a group so you don’t have to have a whole bunch of initial meetings. You also will want to ask the leaders whether you can come to their membership meetings and have ten minute to talk about your concerns, recruitment of members for your team, and what you hope to accomplish. If you do

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Franklin, TN 37068

Office: (615) 778-0202

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this, pass around a signup sheet. Make sure you get names, addresses (you will want to confirm whether they live in your school district), phone numbers (including mobiles), and email addresses. **ASK THEM TO PRINT!** A sketchy email address is useless to you. Worse, it will waste your valuable time.

We will also help you create a page on our website for promotion of upcoming events and use our social media platforms to help recruit more individuals who want to get involved in this mission.

After you have your volunteer team, call them together for a team organizational meeting.

Keep recruiting members! Encourage early members to bring in friends and family. You will have losses. Some will not do any work. Others may just stop coming to meetings. But keep their names on the roster of committee members, because numbers count. But you will constantly need more workers, and also more total people on the list.

Team Tasks – To Start:

- The team must select a committee name, ie: **PJTN Williamson County, TN (insert your county/state here) Citizens for Transparency in Our Schools**. The board will brush off individual committee members. When speaking at publicly held meetings and interview with the press the number of members who are part of your group.
- Obtain the policies, procedures and regulations of the local school board and the state Board of Education. These may be available on the board's website, but they also should be available at the board office. We will need to be able to navigate effectively under their rules. Also, we can exploit discrepancies between those rules and the actual practices of the schools and the school board in any particular case. It is very important that we learn their complaint and hearing procedures.
- Obtain copies of all the books and publications at issue. Also obtain a copy of the entire curriculum, which will be in the office of the Board and/or the Superintendent. If the school has assigned these books, then the school has them. Ask the principal for copies, or the superintendent if the principal resists. If they slow-walk you, get them from the library or some other source. But document any resistance from the school. Document every contact with the school and the board, including date and time, names, and contact information, the purpose of the contact, and what took place.
- You will assign books to committee members to analyze. Proclaiming Justice to the Nations (PJTN) will send you the criteria you should look for and write your report about. All reviewers must look for the same things so the resulting report to the board is consistent and well laid out; not a hodge-podge.

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- From these book analyses the committee will draft its report, recommendations or demands, and file a complaint with the board if it does not take immediate action to comply. We will press the board to follow its own complaint and hearing procedures, and to take the action which the committee demands.

If the committee needs legal representation to push the issue, PJTN will put you in touch with a public interest law firm which has helped us in the past. There is no charge for their services.

And speaking of money, your committee will have to do some fundraising. You will probably need to do some mailings. PJTN is a 501c3 organization, all contribution made to PJTN are 100% tax deductible. When you have public meetings, you will have to provide coffee and pastry, although your own members can bake. You may have to rent a meeting venue from time to time when you invite the public for a briefing, unless you can get space donated. If the committee stays small (which I don't recommend), it may be able to meet in members' homes.

For the sake of the students and their families, and for our country, I hope you can get started soon.

Thanks,

Mike

Michael S. Goldstein, Esq.

State of Ohio Director
Proclaiming Justice to the Nations
P.O. Box 682711
Franklin, TN 37068-2711
(216) 209-2600
mikeg@pjtn.org

3386 Belvoir Blvd.
Beachwood, OH 44122
(216) 209-2600
mike@b-simple.com