

Fordham Institute Rhetoric: “...No One ‘System’ Has Any Inherent Right to Educate Students.”

An interesting statement in Fordham’s February 14 Ohio Gadfly Daily—Ohio’s Enrollment Slump and What That Means for Policymakers—is: “State policymakers should value and respect the decisions of Ohio’s parents, remembering that, contrary to anti-choice rhetoric, no one ‘system’ has an inherent right to educate students.”

The Ohio Constitution erases that Fordham rhetoric:

Article VI, section 2: “The General Assembly shall make such provisions, by taxation, or otherwise, as, with the income arising from the school trust fund, will secure a thorough and efficient system of common schools throughout the State; but, no religious or other sect, or sects, shall ever have any exclusive right to, or control of, any part of the school funds of this State.”

Section 3 of Article VI reinforces the “one” system concept. “Provision shall be made by law for the organization, administration and control of the public school system of the state supported by public funds: provided, that each school district embraced wholly or in part within any city shall have the power by referendum vote to determine for itself the number of members and the organization of the district board of education, and provision shall be made by law for the exercise of this power by such school districts. “

Privatizers seem to have no regard for the Constitution. They seem to believe that State officials can make policy, without regard to the fundamental document—the Constitution.