

Public school teachers have positive influence on students

As reported earlier, the names of 874 teachers were posted on a board at the Coalition booth at the 2024 Ohio State Fair. These teachers were identified as a “favorite teacher” of fairgoers that visited the booth.

Typically, fair booth visitors, with a smile, immediately identified a teacher. (Persons of all age groups participated.) In many cases it was difficult for the fairgoers to pick only one teacher, inasmuch as they had a fondness for several teachers.

This “booth experience” demonstrates that despite the manifold attacks on public schools, most students seem satisfied with the public school they attend.

Students and their parents often have a wholesome, special bond with teachers. I recall a statement made by a parent about one of her child's teachers. The teacher had been teaching in the district for 4 years and was considering a job elsewhere. The parent said if the teacher leaves the district, I will always believe that God sent him here to teach my son. (The teacher had the student in his classes all four years.) Teachers often receive those kinds of commendations.

It is disheartening that legislators, governors, and other public officials often attack and neglect the public common school system, while giving full support to private and privately-operated schools.