

You Are Not Alone!

How to approach your school about viewpoint diversity

Parents

Unite

What you need to know:



Understand The Basics

- Learn about parents' and students' rights in education. ([FIRE](#) and [Undoctrinate](#))
- Understand accreditors' impact on educational culture in regards to diversity of thought and freedom of speech.
- Read up on the state of diversity of thought in schools.



Know Your School

- Understand your school's mission, vision, and values.
- Review your school's handbook, enrollment contract, and all communication thoroughly.
- Learn how school-wide decisions are made.
- Connect to other parents in your school and region to find out how these issues are affecting families.

What you need to ask:



Educator Training

- What school-wide training have you provided to your teachers in the past 2 years?
- What professional development are you planning to offer/require of your teachers?
- What training on how to encourage critical thinking and facilitate free discourse do you provide?
- How do you equip teachers to handle topics that could be considered inflammatory?



Curriculum Questions

- How do you represent a balance of perspectives within the classroom?
- Are the topics you cover age-appropriate and aligned with the curriculum?
- How do you ensure students are encouraged to share their unique perspectives?
- When would you find it appropriate to discount a student's perspective in front of the class?

What you can do:



You Can Speak Up

- Express concern when you believe an educator only represented one perspective.
- Follow the appropriate chain-of-command, beginning with the teacher and following up with others as it is necessary and/or appropriate.
- Contact Parents United if you need support speaking up in your community!



Influence Change

- Suggest your school adopt a free-speech statement like the Chicago Statement.
- Ask your school to pursue speakers and trainings that include a breadth of perspectives.
- Put your school in touch with us.



Connect Now

Visit our website, learn more, and connect with other parents.