



## What parents need to know about the dangerous Stand for Children group

Stand for Children is a toxic organization that mutated from a grass-roots Oregon group that supported public schools to a destructive national force pushing the corporate education reform agenda with lavish funding from the Gates Foundation, WalMart, etc.

A true wolf in sheep's clothing, SFC dishonestly uses the rhetoric of education equity to undermine democratic public schools, teachers unions and true parental voice.

### **What does Stand really stand for?**

- Closing neighborhood schools
- Expanding charter schools
- Evaluating teachers using unreliable standardized test scores
- Replacing teachers with “online learning”



**Who does Stand really speak for?** *Not parents. Not children.* SFC is a front for corporations, hedge funders and investment bankers who have thrown their wealth behind a national campaign to destroy teachers unions and privatize our public schools. Bill Gates, the Walmart family, New Profit Venture Fund, J P Morgan Chase, etc. have donated millions to SFC over the past years, allowing it to expand to Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Texas, Oklahoma and Washington.

**What does Stand do?** Their main focus is on pushing state legislation to support their goals of privatization and union busting. In their first year in Illinois, they raised \$3 million to donate to select state candidates and hire 11 lobbyists to push Senate Bill 7 which allowed the Chicago Public Schools to have the final word on any teacher issue where the union disagreed. Their leader, Jonah Edelman, later boasted publicly that they were able to “jam this proposal down their throats.”

### **Warning to parents from a former SFC member:**

“My fear is that unwitting parents and community members will join Stand because they want to rectify the problems they see every day in their children’s public schools, such as underfunding, lack of arts programs, large class sizes and cuts to the school year, only to find that they get *roped into very different goals*. . . I worry we will lose a truly democratic discussion and action on education weighted in favor of corporate reforms.”

*Parents Across America member and former Oregon Stand member Susan Barrett*

**For more information, take a look at** [www.parentsacrossamerica.org](http://www.parentsacrossamerica.org) blog posts by former Oregon SFC members Susan Barrett and Tom Olsen, and Rethinking Schools, Fall 2011 issue, “For or Against Children,” by Ken Libby and Adam Sanchez.