



Florida Citizens Alliance champions K-12 education reform in Florida. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit, FLCA's mission is to improve Florida's K-12 education by uniting and empowering teachers, students, and parents. 100% of donations go directly toward the three pillars of our mission: promoting legislative action, engaging local communities with our KIDS FIRST teams, and providing alternative education resources through our Liberty Scholar initiative.

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History of FLCA

Florida Citizens Alliance (FLCA) is a 501(c)3 non-profit pursuing K-12 education reform in Florida. FLCA's mission is to improve Florida's K-12 education by uniting and empowering teachers, students, and parents. How can we accomplish this mission? Partly through a network of organized teams called KIDS FIRST.

FLCA began in 2013 when Pastor Rick Stevens, Keith Flaugh, and fifty-five other concerned parents banded together to reform Florida education by advocating for parent-student school choice and abolishing Common Core Standards. Echoing our nation's Founding Fathers, Pastor Stevens and Mr. Flaugh believe that an educated citizenry is the backbone of a free nation. They believe that education protects one's thoughts and morals by giving each person the tools necessary to think critically. Currently, FLCA reaches over 250,000 student advocates (two-thirds are parents with children) and works with over 100 other grassroots organizations.

Our purpose is simple- to become the most influential and most respected grassroots student advocacy organization in Florida. Our goal is to work with the 2.8 million Florida students and their families affected every day by the choices that politicians make for schools. In order to do so, we strive to raise awareness among parents, students, grandparents, teachers, and politicians, about ongoing state and local education legislation. We also promote alternative schooling options and scholarships for students and parents. Each KIDS FIRST group helps further FLCA's purpose and mission by making a difference in individual communities, giving Florida students the opportunity for a better education, and empowering parents to take their child's education into their own hands.

Why Join FLCA?

Currently government run schools are failing our children. Two main areas are in the explicit materials in schools and the curriculum that is “dumbing down” our children. FLCA has worked tirelessly to remove sexually explicit materials from school. We have also advocated for and supported the prohibition on sexual identity and gender identity instruction in the classroom.

With help from the U.S. News and World Report, which looks at national test scores like the ACT and SAT, FLCA has conducted research on each of the 67 Florida counties to see how our children are doing based on these national benchmarks. We found that on average, only 50% of students in Florida are ranked proficient in math and reading. Note: proficiency is defined as understanding a subject by 38%. Yet most Florida schools are given an "A" or "B" level grade. How can this be? Part of the issue is the Florida Department of Education's misleading grading system. In 2002, Governor Jeb Bush changed the FLDOE grading procedure to a "point-based" system, which grades schools on overall growth compared to the previous year, rather than simply taking actual test results. Thus, the FLDOE grades itself on a curve, so that a 62% score or better is considered an A. Your child's "A" school may, in fact, be failing compared to national education standards.

Moreover, beginning in third grade, the Florida Department of Education allows students to pass placement exams with a "satisfactory" score, which is defined as "may need additional support for the next grade/course." Thus, students are passed on to the next grade without mastering the skills and tools in the prior grade. In 2019, only 30% of third grade students tested in the highest 4 or 5 category which shows proficiency with their subjects, while 43% of third graders tested in a 1 or 2 category. Overall, the statewide average was a 302, a score barely making the "3" standard, showing that an overwhelming majority are not proficient and will need extra help in the next grade.

In 2019, we played a pivotal role in discontinuing the Common Core Standards in the state of Florida. We are working hard to stop the implementation of Critical Race Theory and Social Emotional Learning curriculum in schools, and to renew a high standard of academic education which promotes the accurate teaching of U.S. History and Western Judeo-Christian values. Our hope is to create a world in which each kid's education is the first priority, and no kid is simply "passed through the system": hence the name, KIDS FIRST.

A. <https://floridacitizensalliance.org/county-grades/>

B. <https://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/5668/urlt/80FSAResults19.pdf>

What is KIDS FIRST?

KIDS FIRST is a nonpartisan coalition of local, like-minded groups who team together and engage community influencers to provide improved education solutions.

A KIDS FIRST member is a supporter of each child's fundamental right to a good education. Anyone who is passionate about K-12 and can commit roughly 5-10 hours per month is highly encouraged to join the initiative. As a KIDS FIRST member, you are expected to work as a team to engage school boards, local state legislators, and all like-minded groups to advance the KIDS FIRST mission in your local community. Additionally, KIDS FIRST members spread information from FLCA and advocate along our cause for reforming Florida's education system.

Essentially, KIDS FIRST members advocate for student choice and liberty. Members are local FLCA representatives who communicate, organize, and advocate our mission. With your help, we can reach communities across the state and guarantee parents a voice in the education conversation. FLCA needs your help to fulfill our mission of educating and empowering parents, teachers, and students.

By becoming a member, you will receive exclusive discounts on Liberty Scholar programs and priority access to local events. FLCA will promote Action Alerts on state-wide issues and proposed legislation, and share best practices for how to engage local leaders and legislators on these issues. FLCA will work with you and your local team to communicate on upcoming local school board meetings and events.

A KIDS FIRST member is a volunteer. We encourage that our volunteers work no more than 5-10 hours per month. The only cost commitment is a small donation of \$3 a month, less than your coffee each morning, because nothing is more important than your child's education. FLCA is willing to share expenses for some items.

Note: Not a single member of our board takes a salary.

Become a KIDS FIRST member!

To become a KIDS FIRST member, visit <https://floridacitizensalliance.org/kids-first-program/>, fill out the form, and our Program Coordinator will connect you with a team in your area. With minimal time each month, joining our mission means pledging to better your school system and each student's life.

Starting a KIDS FIRST Team

As a growing organization, there are many Florida school districts that do not have an organized KIDS FIRST team yet. If this applies to you and your neighborhood, not to worry! This is a unique opportunity to start a KIDS FIRST team and blaze the trail for education reform in your area.

In order to facilitate the strongest team and make the biggest change in your community or school board, here are some professions and important skill sets that are key to your success.

1. We suggest you try to include several parents with a mix of middle and high school students, one homeschool parent, a business person with marketing skills, at least one clergy/church elder, our locally ambassador for our micro school initiative, and possibly a lawyer with kids in public schools.
2. Agree on your local focus (i.e. the intent should be to focus on creating awareness in your local community surrounding failing public schools. This includes the failing grading system, the undermining of our Constitutional values, maintaining religious freedoms, and stopping pornography). Our major focus needs to be rooting out BLM, 1619 project, Critical Race Theory, Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE), Social Emotional learning (SEL), and LGBTQ materials.
3. Carefully read HB 989 from 2017, FS 1006.28 and 1006.283, SF 847.001 and 847.012, FS 1008.32, and FS 1003.42. These are excellent points of reference.
4. Meet with your superintendent, school board, and local state legislator to try to build a relationship, highlighting the concerns and trying to build a path forward to prevent use of these progressive materials.
5. IF you find really explosive and flagrant material (grossly revisionist or sexually explicit):
 - a. Write a letter to your school board and superintendent demanding the material be removed.
 - b. Call a press conference and use the media to make more parents and grandparents aware. They need to be paying close attention to what their children are reading and doing in class.
 - c. If necessary, file formal complaints or Public Records requests.
 - d. Meet with local, like-minded groups in your community to share important facts and solutions (i.e. church groups, local political groups, business leaders, mom's action groups, etc.)
6. Work along side our micro school initiative to promote school choice based in classical, God-centric education.

MESSAGE: Keep at it - this is not a simple effort. As you find harmful materials, use them to engage more parents, veterans groups, business people, etc. to bring more pressure on your school board to get rid of offending materials.

The Power of Collaboration

Again, the fundamental concept behind KIDS FIRST is a nonpartisan coalition of local, like-minded groups who team together to engage community influencers to provide improved education solutions. Special efforts should be made to include: Citizens Defending Freedom, Moms for Liberty, Moms for America, Defend Florida, Proclaiming Justice to the Nations, like-minded political groups, churches, etc.

KIDS FIRST Sign-Up Form Name:

Phone number: Email:

Address:

County:

Payment (\$3 per month)