

# Local Politicians Share Their View on Education

By: Emma Walters

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These are two local politicians that have shared their view on education with me. Tracy Richardson, an Ohio state representative, supports the work of teachers in the classroom and wants every student to succeed in school. She will be swearing into her new position in office on January 7th, 2019. From Mrs. Richardson's website, some of her experience includes years as a corporate human resources professional for the Fortune 500 company. Richardson has also worked as a Leadership Professor for ROTC( the Reserve Officer Training Corps) at Capital University and Ohio Wesleyan University. Tracy is currently involved in the Marysville City Council and has been involved for over nine years. Tracy is deeply passionate about helping in schools and churches all over the local school district.

She also has been fighting the excessive testing in schools. She says, " The standard of testing has changed radically." And she continues to fight for the local control of schools and their systems. This means that she believes teachers that spend the most direct time with students should have a voice in their decisions. Tracy Richardson knows that a safe, comfortable, encouraging, and nurturing classroom can make a big difference in the education of any child. She works consistently to make sure our schools have the resources they need to succeed and keep our schools as safe as possible. She believes that we are very lucky to have such a great school system in Ohio.

Tracy Richardson also makes an effort to help protect citizens, specifically, the teenagers suffering from any drug addiction. She does not like the direct access to drugs within the schools. Drug addiction is an increasing problem among teenagers in Ohio. She does not only want to

have a safe school community for the students, but Tracy wants to help the families that are struggling with addiction and those in recovery. This will improve the education of students in schools all over Ohio.

Another representative I talked to was Jim Jordan of the House of Representatives. According to his website, Congressman Jim Jordan was raised in Champaign County, Ohio. He graduated from Graham High School in 1982, which is where he was a four-time state winner of wrestling with a career record of 150-1. Mr. Jordan went on to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from the University of Wisconsin. That is also where he was a two-time NCAA wrestling champion! He later got his Master's degree in Education from Ohio State University. Then, he also got a Law Degree from Capital University in Columbus, Ohio.

He believes that educating children is vital to our nation's continued prosperity and economic strength. He said, "With today's ever-changing job market, a high-quality education has never been more important to a child's future." The successful education policy almost always starts at the local and state level rather than the federal level. Jim Jordan says, "While the federal government should help provide a general vision for public education, decisions about curriculum, spending, and other important issues are best made at state and local levels by educators and parents—those in the best position to make them." He also agrees that we are fortunate to have good private and public schools in our part of Ohio.