



December 13, 2022

Mr. Lee Bodner, Board Chair  
 Windward Fund  
 1828 L Street NW Ste 300C  
 Washington, DC 20036

Sent via Electronic Mail [REDACTED]

Dear Mr. Bodner,

On behalf of our members, the undersigned organizations write to request that the Windward Fund cease its Race, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (REDI) funding of America’s public schools, as we believe that the initiatives that are being promoted in districts are negatively impacting student performance. While these donations may be well-intentioned, the impact of this programming on student achievement and well-being is creating unintended consequences that will negatively impact not only individual students but the educational system as a whole – and accordingly, we ask that these efforts be ended.

[The Windward Fund has given \\$2,642,047](#) to schools to support “conservation, climate change, and food systems policy, advocacy, and programs both domestically and abroad.” Moreover, your fund’s website states that its [“Race, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusiveness Commitment”](#) (REDI) envisions a more “equitable world, built on fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all.” Your stated goal for REDI is to “intentionally invest our resources to advance equity both within our organization and in our work, enabling us to more effectively deliver solutions to our world’s most persistent problems.”

Unfortunately, “equity” often centers on the notion that America and its founding are inherently unequal and racist and that if one is a particular skin color or ethnicity, no amount of hard work and perseverance can lead

to success. This is a sad and limiting belief to impart to impressionable students. We are concerned with your commitment to “REDI” and “conservation” as well.

By way of example, you gave [\\$355,182 to Broward County Public Schools](#) to support “agriculture, food, and nutrition.” According to your form 8868, “Food and nutrition programs focus on a range of issues aimed at transforming food systems to greater accessibility and sustainability, working on topics such as regenerative stewardship of agricultural lands and an enabling infrastructure and policy environment for a healthy food system.”

Indeed, children ought to learn about science and agriculture and be responsible stewards of natural resources. However, when combined with “equity” and “advocacy,” these concepts become more about indoctrination than learning.

Our members are America’s parents, grandparents, and concerned citizens – and we do not want standards or expectations lowered in our nation’s public schools in the name of equity. Our organizations find it deeply troubling that grants from the Windward Fund are being used to advance these patronizing policies – particularly at a time when students are working to remediate the learning loss incurred during Covid-related school closures. Students deserve to be treated as individuals and not members of identity groups.

We know that the Windward Fund cares about American schools – as do we. Please consider reevaluating your foundation’s grant priorities so that we might work together to address and improve the quality of America’s public education system for all children.

Sincerely,

Parents Defending Education  
American Education Advocates  
Army of Parents  
Awake Illinois  
Bellingham Parents CSC  
CA Foundation for Educational Rights (CFER)  
CACAGNY  
CAPA Nova  
Colorado Parent Advocacy Network  
Concerned Parents of Round Rock ISD  
Courage is a Habit  
Fight for Schools  
For Kids & Country  
Good Trouble Parents  
Louisiana Save Our Schools  
Moms for Liberty  
No Left Turn in Education  
Olentangy for Educational Integrity  
Parents Unite  
Parents United RI  
Poudre School District Parents for Change  
Power2Parent  
Purple for Parents  
Push Back Idaho  
Truth in Education

United Against Racism in Education  
West Valley Parents Uniting