



The corporate reform agenda

It's about money and ideology, NOT students and schools

Why do corporate reformers work to undermine public education?

Public education is wildly popular. To convince people to abandon it, the corporate reformers must damage and demonize the system.

Why?



How?



How can they do that?

They mislead parents and the public about the success of public schools then advocate changes that will make them less successful. They make public education so frustrating (overtesting, anyone?) that private school options look more appealing.

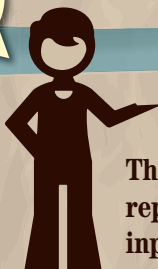
Why do they attack school employee unions?

Education unions are the largest organized force standing against the corporate reform agenda and standing up for working families.

Why?



What?



What tactics do they use?

They attack tenure, seniority, collective bargaining the right to union representation. Just as bad, they disrespect the professional judgment and input of educators in favor of inflexible and intrusive standardized testing.

Why?



Why do they want to move education into the private sector?

Government at all levels makes a massive investment in public education. The corporate reformers are ideologically opposed to public services, including public education. They want to decrease that investment overall and direct more of what's left to the private sector.

Can they?

Can they do that?

They are trying. Their agenda focuses on private school vouchers, private management of charter schools, and for-profit online education. Where public schools remain, they want districts and families to pay astronomical sums to the private sector for standardized test prep and administration.

