

Betsy DeVos Just Asked You to Drop Your Membership

Yes. Really.

This week you may have gotten an email from an organization called MyPayMySay. As the email shows, this organization is funded by the Mackinac Center from Michigan.¹

Who funds the Mackinac Center? That's right — Betsy DeVos and her family.² Have a look.

Partial List of Mackinac Center Non-Profit Funders, 1993-2011

Foundation	Amount Donated	Notes	Years
Aequus Foundation	\$4,500		1-2010 ^[1]
Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation	\$		1-2010 ^[1]
Beach Foundation	\$		1-2010 ^[1]
Bradley Foundation, Lynde and Harry	\$1,096,000		8-2015
Brandon Foundation, David A.	\$5,300	Former Domino's Pizza CEO	2001-2010 ^[1]
Bretzlaff Foundation, Hilda E.	\$1,000		2001-2010 ^[1]
Bronck Foundation, Eli & Edythe	\$27,500	Homebuilding and retirement	2001-2010 ^[1]
Castle Rock Foundation			2003-2011 ^[71]
Charles G. Koch Foundation			2005-2009
Chase Foundation of Virginia			2005-2009 ^[71]
DaimlerChrysler Corporation Fund			2001-2010 ^[1]
Dart Foundation			2001-2010 ^[1]
DeVos Foundation, Daniel and Pamela	\$85,000	Amway founder son, CEO DP Fox Ventures	2001-2010 ^[1]
DeVos Foundation, Dick & Betsy	\$175,000	Rep candidate for Gov./former State Rep. Chair	1995-2010 ^[71]
DeVos Foundation, Douglas & Maria	\$120,000	Current Alticor (Amway) Co-CEO	2001-2010 ^[1]
DeVos Foundation, Richard and Helen	\$180,000	Amway founder	1998-2011 ^[71]
Donner Foundation, William H.	\$205,000	Heirs of Union	1998-2010 ^[71]
Donors Capital Fund	[\$3,203,500 @]	anonymous donor-advised fund	2007-2013 ^[71]
DonorsTrust	\$7,600	anonymous donor-advised fund	2004-2010 ^[71]
Dow Foundation, Herbert H. and Grace A.	\$3,215,000	Dow Chemical founder widow	2001-2010 ^[1]

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE EMAILING TEACHERS TO SAY "QUIT THE UNION"

THESE ARE THE PEOPLE FUNDING THEM

ANY QUESTIONS?

The Mackinac Center is dedicated to privatizing public education and expanding state and national voucher programs.³ **Its backers see your local union and the MTA as standing in the way of their profit and their political agenda.**

And a big part of the strategy of Mackinac and its allies is to weaken your local union and the MTA to make it harder to get the funding, salaries, benefits, and working conditions you deserve.

The people who sent that email don't have our best interests in mind.

Learn more at <https://massteacher.org/allin>

¹ Burke, Amanda. Massachusetts Union Members Now Have a Choice in Paying Dues. June 26, 2018. Email.

² https://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Mackinac_Center_for_Public_Policy#Funding

³ <https://www.mackinac.org/>

Together, we have much to be proud of:

- We are the standard bearers of public education, raising our voices together to assert and demand our vision of the schools our communities deserve.
- Average Massachusetts teacher salaries are **\$27,000 PER YEAR** higher than salaries in states with weaker bargaining laws and low membership. Over the course of a 35-year career, you make **an average of \$900,000 more!**
- Having a strong state and local union means we can speak out for students, their families and our communities.
- Having a strong state and local union means we can effectively negotiate salaries, benefits and protections on the job.

Learn more at <https://massteacher.org/about-the-mta/good-reasons-to-belong-to-mta>

Everything we have accomplished, we have accomplished together by harnessing our collective power. From our modest start more than 170 years ago to our collective victory on Question 2, all of us together have been able to advance and defend world-class public education for Massachusetts students while uplifting the work of educators as a whole from a subsistence profession to a life with dignity. We are just getting started.

Mackinac may be the first, but it likely won't be the last dark money group funded by the likes of Betsy DeVos, the Kochs, the Waltons and the Mercers to try to undermine your union in the latest in a long line of attempts to advance their anti-public-education agenda of union-busting and privatization. Our collective success has been no accident; it has come through educators standing united and doing their part to defend one another, elevate public education and fight for the greater good. It's also the only way we will prevail over this latest challenge: together.

We're proud of our union and proud that you are a member.

So don't risk your contract. Let's let Betsy DeVos and her billionaire friends know that we are stronger together.

Please contact your Association Representative for more information.