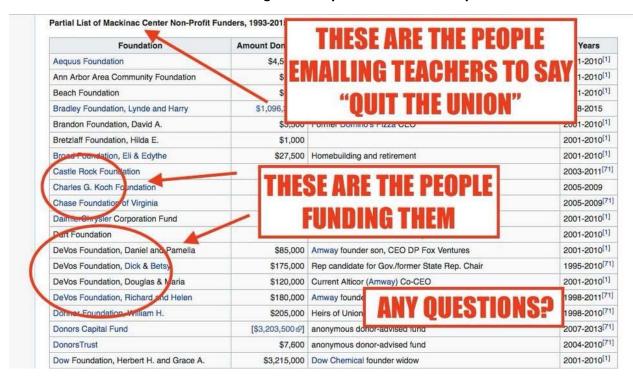
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## Betsy DeVos Just Asked You to Drop Your Membership

## 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.<sup>1</sup>

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



The Mackinac Center is dedicated to privatizing public education and expanding state and national voucher programs.<sup>3</sup> 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

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Burke, Amanda. Massachusetts Union Members Now Have a Choice in Paying Dues. June 26, 2018. Email.

https://www.sourcewatch.org/index.php/Mackinac\_Center\_for\_Public\_Policy#Funding

<sup>3</sup> 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 Besty 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.