



Republican National Lawyers Association

PO Box 18965, Washington, DC 20036 • (703) 719-6335 tel • www.rnla.org

**For Immediate Release
Monday, November 1, 2010**

**Contact: Michael Thielen
(703) 719-6335**

***** VOTER FRAUD ALERT *****

Ohio School Official Disciplined For Voter Fraud

The Associated Press reports that a high school principal in Ohio has been suspended after taking students to a voting precinct house and telling them to vote Democratic. [Reports The Associated Press:](#)

A high school principal has been suspended after a claim that students were taken to a voting precinct house on a field trip, shown how to vote and given Democratic sample ballots.

An anti-tax group sued Cincinnati Public Schools over the Oct. 13 trip by Hughes High School students to the Hamilton County Board of Elections. The Coalition Opposed to Additional Spending and Taxes [COAST] charges the trip violated a pact with the district.

The district suspended Hughes principal Virginia Rhodes on Friday for as long as two weeks with pay. A disciplinary hearing will be held Wednesday for Dennis McFadden, social studies teacher who took the students to the board headquarters.

This is very serious and part of an unfortunate trend in Ohio as the [Cincinnati Enquirer](#) wrote in a recent editorial:

Just before they voted, the students were given sample ballots that included only Democratic candidates. Afterward, they were taken out for ice cream.

Real subtle message there: Vote for Democrats, get a treat.

Can you imagine the reaction if a private or church-related school had done this? ...

The suit also alleged that adults who appeared to be campaign workers or supporters of Rep. Steve Driehaus, D-West Price Hill, who's in a tough battle for re-election against former Rep. Steve Chabot, accompanied the students ... Why were obvious partisans part of this voting exercise? **Isn't it logical to assume that this could have a coercive effect on young, first-time voters?** ...

Ohio has had plenty of issues with voter registration and ballot integrity in recent years. We certainly don't need to add concerns that schools are trying to stuff the ballot box on behalf of their favorite political party.

Food for votes is a violation of federal law that should not be ignored, said RNLA Executive Director Michael Thielen.

"We are not holding our breath that the Obama Department of Justice will monitor, identify and prosecute; nor are we holding our breath that Democrats or their allies won't commit more illegal acts," Thielen said. "Yet because the law-breaking school principal was only suspended and not prosecuted, look for those on the left to dismiss this incident and those in Ohio to do something similar this cycle or next."

###