The Philanthropy Ohio Education Initiative began in 2005 when Philanthropy Ohio’s Board of Trustees formed an Education Advisory Committee to consider how philanthropy might better understand and address education reform in Ohio as Ohio’s foundations began to prioritize statewide education policy.

The Philanthropy Ohio Education Initiative is a member-driven coalition focused on education policy reform that seeks to enhance student learning opportunities and equity across P-20. Membership in the initiative is open to all Philanthropy Ohio members, with monthly meetings and enews updates. The initiative focuses on:

- Building relationships with policymakers, including the Governor’s Office, the General Assembly, external stakeholders and key state agencies;
- Educating funders on current education policy issues in Ohio; and
- Advocating for policies to align Ohio’s education system and improve early childhood, K-12 and higher education systems.

Today, with education investments totalling more than $300 million annually, philanthropy is working with partners to ensure all Ohioans have access to high-quality education opportunities, from the state’s youngest and most vulnerable residents to those pursuing education beyond high school.

While the investments of Ohio’s philanthropic community are a critical piece of the state’s education puzzle, they represent just a small fraction when compared to the state’s $11 billion investment in early childhood through post-secondary education. Public policy advocacy is a critical way funders can champion causes consistent with their missions.

For more information about the Education Advisory Committee and its work, please contact Philanthropy Ohio at 614.224.1344. Participation in the Initiative is open to all Philanthropy Ohio members.