



HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN®



Covers posts from January 1–March 31, 2024

Overview of Posts

Since the start of 2024, Oklahoma State Superintendent of Public Education Ryan Walters has used his platform on X (formally known as Twitter) as a space to promote himself and bully folks who don't align with his discriminatory and inflammatory views.

Though Oklahoma is home to some of the lowest middle and high school math and reading scores in the nation—and some of the largest declines in scores over the last few years, HRC's analysis of his posts finds that Walters spent his time on X doing little to address student education.

Instead, Walters has attacked everyone from the LGBTQ+ community to Oklahoma teachers unions, lifted up SPLC-designated hate groups and individuals, pushed for (Christian) prayer in school, and spent far more space promoting his own media appearances (appearances he's paid an out of state PR firm to help secure with Oklahoma taxpayer dollars) than school policy and news.

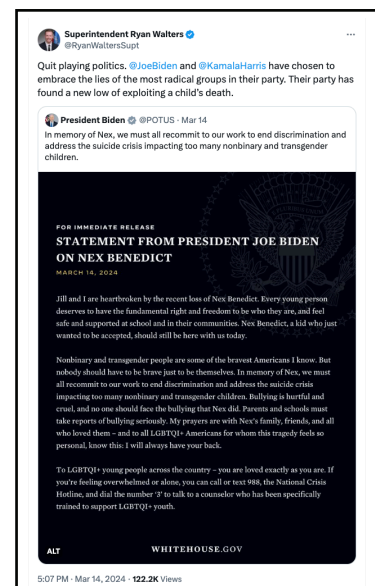
In the first three months of 2024 (January 1–March 31), Ryan Walters **posted to X 122 times:**

- **Nearly one-third (32.8%; n=40) of his posts attacked the LGBTQ+ community**
 - » **75% (n=30) of these posts were made since Nex Benedict was attacked in a high school bathroom on February 7, 2024.**



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1774561149612138858>

<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1768383551857205300>



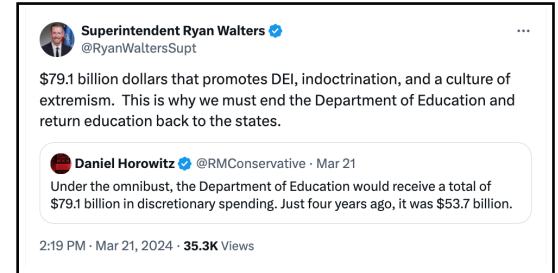


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- **Nearly another third (32.7%; n=40) of his posts attacked either specific teachers, schools, and districts, “teachers unions,” or the U.S. Department of Education**



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1767975195849998521>



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1770877980811874783>

- **19% (n=23) of his posts either accused others (teachers, “the left”, teachers unions, LGBTQ+ advocates, “woke mob” etc.) of indoctrinating students, or promised to end “indoctrination”**



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1764370995496833499>

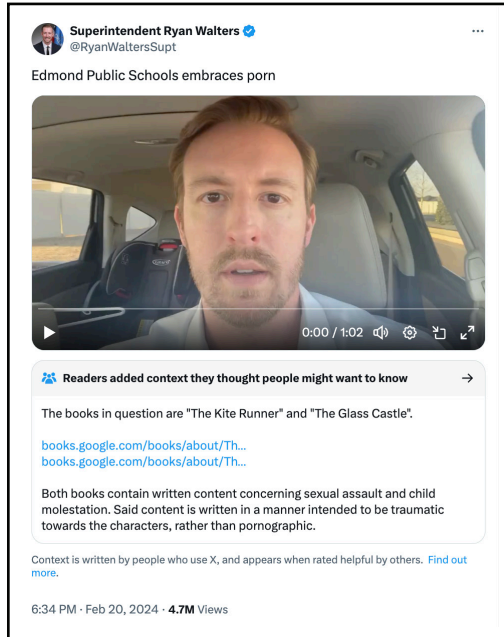


<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1767656469271347515>



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- **32% (n=39) of his posts were about banning books, activities, and classroom content**



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1760085524969066585>



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1762892864751624196>

- » **Two-thirds (n=26) of these posts were about banning LGBTQ+ books, activities, and classroom content specifically**

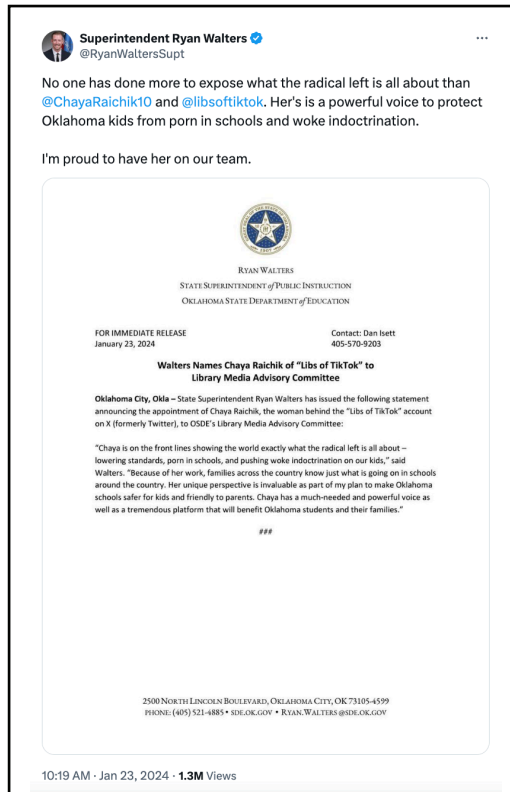


<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1750580884120481975>

- **23% (n=28) of his posts praise right wing activists, anti-LGBTQ+ extremist individuals and groups, and arch-conservative groups**
 - » **68% (n=19) of these posts alone were just in praise of SPLC hate designated individuals and groups like Chaya Raichik /Libs of TikTok, Moms4Liberty, and the Alliance Defending Freedom**



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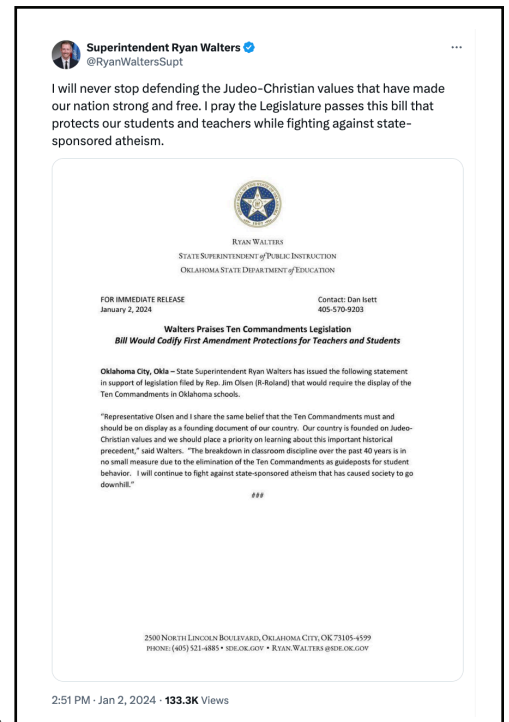


<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1768696411133005959>

- **Less than a quarter (23.7%; n=29) of his posts were about school instruction proposals, or proposed activities to improve academic performance.**
 - » **However, 19% (n=23) of his posts focus on bringing prayer back to classrooms, the Ten Commandments back to school, and religion and Christian values back to education**



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1744758392931914195>



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1742272463713554928>



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- **By far the biggest category of his posts (42%; n=51) were just Walters promoting his media appearances, including op-eds and interviews with right-wing outlets like Epoch Times, NEWSMAX, and Crisis In the Classroom**



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1767327398976979184>



<https://twitter.com/RyanWaltersSupt/status/1767666134826803658>