

What Ohioans need to know about school funding and tax funds going to private schools by way of direct payments and school vouchers.

1. The Ohio Supreme Court, 26 years ago (March 24, 1997) declared the Ohio school funding system unconstitutional.
2. The Court cited over-reliance on property tax and a flawed school funding formula as factors that contribute to the unworkability of the system and must be eliminated.
3. The State has not fixed the system; instead, the State, since 1997, has diverted nearly \$30 billion of public school funds to non-public schools and counterfeit public schools known as charter schools in direct payments and to private school vouchers, while continuing to underfund the public common school system required by the Constitution.
4. Private school vouchers drain hundreds of millions from public funds that should be going to school districts each year, contrary to the Ohio Constitution.
5. The EdChoice voucher scheme violates the Constitution as follows:
 - a. Article VI, section 2 requires the State to secure only one system of education.
 - b. Funds for vouchers are drained out of the public school system's funds.
 - c. EdChoice vouchers segregate students at public expense.
 - d. EdChoice vouchers fund religious education contrary to Article VI, section 2.
 - e. EdChoice vouchers grant special privileges.
6. School districts in league with the Ohio Coalition for Equity and Adequacy of School Funding/Vouchers Hurt Ohio are coming together to challenge the constitutionality of the EdChoice voucher program.
 - a. Lawsuit filed against the State on January 4, 2022.
 - b. Common Pleas Court Judge Jaiza Page rejected the State's Motion to Dismiss the case in December 2022.
 - c. The case is currently in the Discovery process.
7. What are Plaintiffs seeking? To have the State's EdChoice voucher program declared unconstitutional.
8. What can Ohio citizens do to help?
 - a. Check to see if your local board of education is helping to pay for the litigation; if not, encourage the board to join the effort.
 - b. Contact state officials expressing opposition to tax money being used for private education.