

Here is the problem with the universal voucher narrative—everyone loses.

The voucher extremists have hit their target—universal vouchers. But some in the voucher sect are working toward state capital funds to build new buildings for private schools. These zealots and their Statehouse enablers will demand that tax money be used to increase the “classroom seats” in the private sector and simultaneously expand enticements for parents to abandon the public common school system. The voucher extremists will opt to keep the public system open to educate students the privates don’t want—the extremely disadvantaged and disabled.

But ponder how this narrative will play out. The voucher mechanism is unregulated. Private schools operate outside many, if not most, public policies. Fraud and corruption will be rampant. The public will demand transparency and accountability for the tax funds and demand the same rules apply to all school entities that receive tax money. Hence private schools will be forced to give-up their uniqueness and the very purpose for which they were originally created. Private schools lose and public schools are left desolate. Everyone loses because the voucher zealots in 2023 hit their target—universal vouchers.