

The universal voucher scheme and the unconstitutional transfer of the state education agency from the State Board of Education to the governor's office are linked to the same plot: the destruction of public education.

In 1953, Ohioans adopted a constitutional amendment that transferred the state education agency from the governor's office to the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education at the state-level became the "4th branch of government" just as local boards of education operate locally separate from mayors, city councils, county commissions, and other public governing authorities.

The public officials in control of the state government in Ohio are pulling every illegal lever within their reach to privatize the entire public school system. Vouchers are not favored by a majority of the citizens, but that does not concern the privatizing state officials in control of Ohio who are bent on privatizing the public common school system.

The State Board of Education has been more responsive to the citizens than the rest of state government; hence the privatizers (voucher and charter darlings) essentially eliminated the State Board of Education in the same budget that made vouchers available to all, even billionaires. Further privatization of public education will be much easier for the privatizers without the citizen responsive State Board of Education.

The operation of the state agency for education within the governor's office will hide the privatization of education agenda from the public.

The governor-controlled state education agency will help enable the education privatizers in their nefarious efforts to destroy the public common school system. Somebody should do something! That's why the Coalition/VHO is challenging the EdChoice voucher system in court; other entities are challenging the neutering of the State Board elimination in court. These two policy matters are linked.

Where is the outrage?