

Universal EdChoice voucher scheme (scam): Affluent families are well-served.

A couple scenarios:

A family lives in a pricey home in an affluent community and has a very comfortable income that makes private education affordable. The family has three children in a private high school and one child in 8th grade. This family is being paid about \$32,000 this year in tax revenue by the State of Ohio for the choice they made to send their children to a private school. This family is financially able to pay the difference between the voucher amount and the private school tuition.

Another family lives in a very modest home and has three children in high school and one in elementary school. The annual income of this family is above the federal poverty level but struggles with ongoing living expenses. Private education is not an option for this family even with vouchers being available.

In the beginning of the voucher movement, snake oil marketers painted the deceptive picture that vouchers would give “poor” children in high poverty districts the same opportunity to attend a private school as the more affluent children already enrolled in private schools.

Current reality is that vouchers primarily benefit the affluent—not the struggling families. The less affluent folks are subsidizing the more affluent. Will the lawmakers in the 135th General Assembly correct this travesty of justice?