

Steve Dyer's June 5 10th Period is a timely reminder that the charter school industry as well as the EdChoice voucher scheme are ripping off taxpayers.

Please take time to read Steve Dyer's June 5 [post](#).

Per Pupil Charter Funding Skyrockets

Amid all the Voucher concern, keep an eye on Ohio's \$1.3 billion failing Charter School sector



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It's difficult to say that a \$1.3 billion state program can go under the radar, but lately it seems that Ohio's charter school industry has done just that, thanks in large part to the absolute explosion of taxpayer funded subsidies given to wealthy private school [parents](#).

And while the state's largest taxpayer ripoff ever — in excess of \$200 million [plus](#) — happened as the result of the infamous ECOT [scandal](#) (the state is only going after about \$100 million of the \$200 million plus that I calculated because they just didn't do the forensic audit of years prior to the couple prior to the school shutting down), the per pupil funding explosion in Ohio's charter schools has been equally [remarkable](#).

(view chart online)

The amount of money the state sends, on average, to Ohio's charter schools is now more than what 129 Ohio School Districts [SPEND](#) per equivalent pupil, including all locally raised property and/or income taxes.

That's right.

Ohio now provides Ohio's Charter Schools (all but 5 of which rated in the bottom 25% of all schools [nationally](#)) more money on average than 1 in 5 Ohio school districts spend per equivalent pupil, including all their local property tax money.

I've included a list of all the school districts that spend less per equivalent pupil than Charter Schools receive on average in state aid.

(view chart online)

That's quite a list, don't you think?

This explains how Ohio's charter schools now get nearly \$1.3 billion in state aid while having fewer students than they had in the 2013-2014 school year, I suppose. That year — the record for number of charter school students — had about \$300 million less going to charters despite having about 1,000 more students than today.

This is why it's critical to keep our eyes on all the privatization efforts, not just the shiniest one in front of us.

Because if there's one thing I've learned in about 25 years of following, analyzing and writing Ohio education policy, it's that there is nothing more certain than Ohio Republican elected officials taking tax

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dollars out of the hands of our 1.4 million public school students and instead stuffing the bank accounts of political contributing [profiteers](#) and wealthy private school parents.

It is. Inevitable.

Organize and vote accordingly.