

Diocesan school superintendent regarding the EdChoice voucher lawsuit: “Their position is not only contrary to the church’s but also...”

The State of Ohio via the universal voucher scheme has emboldened some private school operators to tout their alleged entitlement of tax money for their private religious endeavors. The full statement of this entitlement perspective as stated in the November/December 2024 Northeast Ohio Catholic publication regarding the Plaintiffs’ lawsuit is:

Their position is not only contrary to the Church’s but also denigrates the state’s revised equitable funding formula, which the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce reported, “spent more on primary and secondary education than at any other time in state history.”

So, the entitlement for public tax money is justified on the basis of the conflict between the claims in the lawsuit and the position of the Church. Nothing here about whether the universal voucher system is in violation of the Constitution of the State of Ohio; the lawsuit is contrary to the position of the Church. Who is in control of civil affairs? The State of Ohio via the Ohio Constitution or is the Church? State officials have created a slippery slope that will not end well.

The Ohio Constitution declares that all political power is inherent in the people—not the Church.

Ohioans need to be concerned about the growing notion that religious private schools are entitled to state tax money for the advancement of religion. The support and advancement of a religious belief system rests with families, individuals and the church—not government.