

**The “school choice” lie.**

School privatizers champion the catch phrase “school choice.” Privatizers argue that parents have the right to choose private schooling at full or partial public expense. They declare that the taxes levied for education belong to the parents after the state and/or local officials collect the tax. State officials in Ohio have enacted laws that accommodate the wishes of the “school choice” crowd without regard for accountability and transparency.

The Ohio politicians that first enacted the Cleveland voucher program (which was limited to a specified number of vouchers paid from the Cleveland school budget) at a later time expanded the voucher scheme to accommodate poor kids in a specific type of district. The voucher rhetoric was that poor children would have the same right to private school choice as those already enrolled in private schools at private expense. EdChoice expansion for students within a specified income threshold was added. Later the universal voucher scheme was enacted with no income threshold. Vouchers now go to students that never were enrolled in public schools.

Private schools choose students. The “right to choose” decision is made by the private schools. Private schools choose to take tax money for private purposes with no disclosure regarding the use of it.

These same private school operators and their allies in voucherville resist all attempts to make the school transparent and accountable to the public. Their view is that taxpayers must (shall) pay and not ask questions.