

Utah voucher program ruled unconstitutional by a Utah district court judge

A Utah Judge ruled that the legislature does not have the power to create schools outside the public school system and therefore any publicly-funded education program must comply with all requirements imposed on public schools. The June 6, [Public Funds Public Schools \(PFPS\) report](#) provides the details.

The Ohio judiciary should take note that according to the Ohio Constitution, the state's responsibility for education is a thorough and efficient system of common schools. The legislature has no authority to use tax funds to fund unregulated education entities.

The common school system in Ohio is comprised of 611 K-12 school districts, 49 career technical centers, and 51 Educational Service Centers. The public common school system is regulated fully by the state and is accountable to the state. Private schools are not accountable to the public.

Voucher students attend private schools that are subject to hardly any state regulations. Private schools are not subject to state financial audits, nor are they accountable to the taxpayers of the state in any way, shape or form.

All schools that receive taxpayer funds should be required to follow the exact same standards and regulations as the public school districts; otherwise, they should not receive one dime of taxpayer funds.

Over 300 school districts in Ohio have been providing financial support for the lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the EdChoice voucher scheme. It is time for all school districts to pony-up to support the litigation.