

Allen County ESC Superintendent Craig Kupferberg responds to the Coalition blog statement of July 13.

Superintendent Kupferberg made the following response to the July 13 blog—[Public tax dollars are paying for all or nearly all the student tuition for some private schools.](#)

I happen to be a Messianic Jew and remember seeing in media stories mid May, 2023, about a private religious school, Reviver Academy, that was sponsored by a mosque in North Miami, who's Imam was also a dentist and ended each of his services with a prayer for Allah that characterized Jews as apes and pigs and prayed to annihilate Jews globally. State politicians made threats that they were going to stop funding the private school and revoke the Imam's dental license. The Imam responded calmly that he would see them in court. On October 1, 2024 I sent a Freedom of Information Request (FOIR) to the Florida Department of Education asking for the following:

- 1. Any and all correspondence to and from Reviver Academy as well as to the mosque associated with Reviver Academy,*
- 2. The amount of taxpayers funds that were received by Reviver Academy leading up to and including the 2023-2024 school year.*
- 3. The amount of taxpayer funds that have been and/or are anticipated to be sent to Reviver Academy during the 2024-2025 school year.*

I thought this was a fairly straight forward request and that I would get a response quickly. However, after many follow-up requests, I finally received a response on August 14, 2025 and it follows:

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Department of Education. We have completed the review of this request. Please see the Department's response to your public records request:

For Reviver Academy in Miami FL, school code 8809, below are totals of state funds on behalf of Family Empowerment Scholarship students received by the school.

School Year	Family Empowerment Scholarship funds
2019	\$87,676.25
2020	\$79,975.50
2021	\$205,021.25
2022	\$205,601.25
2023	\$144,995.50
2024	\$526,534.75

This public record request is now complete, and your file will be closed. Thank you and have a great day.

Sincerely,

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Should private schools be held to the same standards as tradition public schools?