

State defendants are powerless to prove that the EdChoice voucher plan passes constitutional muster: Part 5

From 1853 to 1914 Ohio law provided for the office of State Commissioner of Common Schools. Without exception, these commissioners extolled the virtues of the public common school and never gave support for the concept of public funding for private schools.

Commissioner EE White, in the Eleventh Annual Report of the State Commissioner of Common Schools for the school year ending August 31, 1864, stated:

“The chief glory and honor of the common school is its democracy. It looks upon the child of wealth and the son of poverty as made of the same clay and entitled alike to the boon of knowledge and education.” “These truths have special and peculiar significance to the citizens of Ohio. She is the first-born of the Ordinance of 1787-that sublime Magna Charta of human freedom and enlightenment which the last Congress under the old confederation gave her then unborn children.” (Page 64)

That was the philosophy of all the commissioners.