

#### TRUTH IN EDUCATION FUNDING

Your Guide to Understanding Vouchers and Supporting Public Education

### **ADVOCATES**

Advocates, your action is crucial in challenging the voucher programs that risk compromising public education's integrity and equity. Together, we have the power to shape a future where education policies prioritize fairness, diversity, and the collective good of our school communities. Here are some resources to help you get started.

#### **Voucher Talking Points**

Pastors for Texas Children developed a one-pager with anti-voucher arguments.

Pastors for Texas Children

Telling the Real Story on School Voucher Programs Rapid Response Memo

The National Education Association

Opponents of public schools have pushed forward with another attack on children's freedom to learn. This time, some elected officials are threatening to rip funds from students via school voucher programs to bankroll private schools for the wealthy and hide their refusal to fully fund public schools and ensure that every child from the big cities to small towns has a neighborhood school where they can learn, grow and thrive.

Opposing Private School Vouchers: A Toolkit for Legislators and Advocates

National Coalition for Public Education

This toolkit is designed as a resource to help legislators and pro-public education advocates oppose attempts to create new or expand existing private school voucher programs.

Public Funds Public Schools Bill Tracker

**Public Funds Public Schools** 

The PFPS bill tracker monitors all 50 states and the U.S. Congress for proposed legislation that creates, expands, or modifies private school voucher programs. Use the tracker to search for bills by number or keyword or to filter by state, year, and/or PFPS-assigned categories.

5 Reasons Private School Vouchers Would Hurt Students

IDRA 5 Reasons Private School Vouchers Would Hurt Students – Infographic

**IDRA** 

Vouchers Impede Efforts to Create Diverse School Communities and Harm Academic Outcomes

Illinois Families for Public Schools developed these talking points in English and Spanish on how the Invest in Kids voucher program hurts equity.



The Invest in Kids Program Must
End Public Dollars, No Public
Oversight

This Illinois Families for Public Schools fact sheet depicts how the Illinois Invest in Kids voucher program is characterized by discriminatory revenue, low academic quality, and compulsory child labor.

Illinois Families for Public Schools

## Achievement Impact of Private School Vouchers

The Parents' Campaign Research and Education Fund provides a state by state snapshot on voucher programs impact on student achievement.

The Parents' Campaign Research and Education Fund

#### The Truth About ESA Vouchers

Save Our Schools Arizona

In this video Save Our Schools Arizona outlines the truth about the Empowerment Scholarship Account voucher program.

### PA's EITC and OSTC Training Module

**Education Voters of Pennsylvania** 

Education Voters of Pennsylvania developed a series of modules on school funding topics for advocates. The Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) module includes a video, handouts, activities and a mini quiz to check for understanding and certify your completion of the course. Most should take less than ½ hour to complete and you can work at your own pace.

### **Taxpayer Funded Vouchers**

**Education Voters of Pennsylvania** 

Pennsylvania has two programs that provide students with taxpayer-funded vouchers to private and religious schools: the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) and the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) programs. Since their inception in 2001, the EITC and OSTC programs have provided more than \$2 billion in taxpayer-funded support for school vouchers.

# A History of Private Schools and Race in the American South

Private schools in the South were established, expanded, and supported to preserve the Southern tradition of racial segregation in the face of the federal courts' dismantling of "separate but equal." White students left public schools in droves to both traditional and newly formed private schools. From 1950 to 1965, private school enrollment grew at unprecedented rates all over the nation, with the South having the largest growth.