

Primary & Secondary Education Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
Riffe Center
77 S. High St.
Columbus, OH 43266

Dear Committee Members:

As a Columbus resident and parent of two middle-school children, I implore the members of this committee not only to continue Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship Program, but also to expand it to include Whetstone High School in Columbus.

Fifty-eight percent of Americans polled last summer by Rasmussen Reports supported permitting parents "to use public funding to pay for charter or private school tuition if a particular public school is not providing a quality education or safe learning environment."

Members of this committee need look no further than Ohio School Report Cards to judge the efficacy of our assigned public school – Whetstone High School – which earned an overall grade of "D."

Not surprisingly, Whetstone also posted dismal figures in five subcategories:

- Achievement: F
- Progress: D
- Gap Closing: F
- Graduation Rate: C
- Prepared for Success: F

These scores indicate that Whetstone, part of the data-scrubbing, scandal-ridden Columbus Public Schools, is a poor performer. My children deserve to be prepared for success and taught to achieve, not to be positioned for failure.

Omitting Whetstone High School from the EdChoice list, or altering the current program structure by basing scholarships only on need, will not make Whetstone a better school. I urge this council to expand EdChoice schools and provide them for all incoming students, so that my children will be able to choose success over failure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

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