

Good Morning,

My name is Elizabeth and I am writing regarding the Ed Choice Residency Scholarship. My husband (Chris) and I have two wonderful children and we live in a modest house in Brunswick, Ohio. We both work full time to and work hard to ensure that our children have what they need. When I first heard about the Ed Choice Residency Scholarship, I was shocked, I never thought that something so wonderful could be available. The opportunity to possibly receive support to send my son to St. Ambrose School in Brunswick.

When I first read online about the scholarship, I researched the Brunswick School that we are zoned for and that was also an eligible school and its online report card, because, I believe in the public school system, But to say the least, I was shocked that in the Prepared for Success Category, they received a D. For Improving At Risk Readers K - 3 a C and in the Achievement Category, the indicators met received an F. Saint Ambrose provided us in turn with the opportunity for our child to engage in an academic environment that is STEAM based and provides the opportunities for success. Small class sizes, diversity in learning and so many other great opportunities are available at St. Ambrose.

I am very upset that the application period was pushed back at the absolute last second. I believe that the Department of Education and the State of Ohio should have come to a resolution, well in advance of January 31st. If in November, the schools listed were not appropriate for this opportunity or the residency based component was deemed an ill fit to the type of support the State wants to provide to its residence, then that should have been dealt with then. Prior to listing schools and creating an application, with all intentions of allowing people to apply for this scholarship in November, December and all of January, then on the 31st saying, wait, wait, we are going to now change, this is not the type of opportunity we want to provide for individuals in the state and their children.

In my honest opinion, I think you should allow this year to go as planned and then adjust for next year, giving individuals the time to decide is this parochial, charter, private school the school I want to send my children to, do I want to send them to the public institution, do the costs out weight the benefits. Look forward to next year and make adjustments. I question how could all this information be out on the internet on the Department of Education web page, an application able to be printed and completed and individuals ready to submit their paperwork and then poof, the state representatives changed their mind. That is not how the real world works, if we things in writing and have it out there for months, for people to see, with out the caveat, subject to change, and at the last hour put it all on hold is wrong, we have to honor our commitments.

Best of luck with your decisions,  
Elizabeth