

What Ed choice means to my family. Hi My name is Afton Poignon, With much regret I am unable to testify in person in regards to the Ed choice scholarship. For the last week I have been mourning the loss of my dear brother whom battled cancer for many years. We laid him to rest just yesterday. As I have focused on preparing and supporting so many loved ones the past few days I pushed aside this matter. I sit here at 2am thinking to myself my son his education where he will go who he will become. It hurts me to know this letter is needed on such a urgency when for so long we have been awarded with the Ed choice scholarship. My son has attended private catholic schools since preschool. This has had such a amazing impact on him. For my family we are catholic having the opportunity to send my son to a catholic school has been an absolute blessing. Our parish community has always welcomed and supported us in ways more than academics can relate to. Like I mentioned I lost my brother a few days ago so my words are hard to express. However, losing a brother is indescribable especially at such a young age he was only 35. U may be wondering y I have mentioned this and how it relates to the Ed choice scholarship well it relates bc I strongly believe having the choice on where my son goes to school and being blessed with the opportunity to send my son to a catholic school has helped shape my son into the amazing 11 year old he is. At 11 years old he stood before hundreds of people at my brothers funeral and read the scripture readings with complete ease. He sprinkled the holy water on the casket during the priest sermon. He led the prayer at the funeral lunch. Having God in our life at home at school and everywhere we go is a true blessing. As my son has always been in a catholic school learning the teachings of God all through his day has shaped him into a man so strong at only 11 years old. Without this scholarship the hardship it would cause on our family would be my son would not be able to attend a school whom I believe has helped to shape him into the man he is. He just last week was accepted into a new catholic school for next year. This school has leap and bound opportunity's for him to continue to develop during these very important times as a child. Once again without Ed choice this wouldn't be possible. This scholarship has given to me a gift; a gift my son embraces and it is apparent as all of your children become adults they will shape society differently. However, their upbringing, the opportunities, the chances will give them all the tools they need in life to become the men and women of the future.

Thank you

Afton Poignon