

Testimony 2

How Going to Sunrise Academy Changed my Life

Good Morning Chair Richardson and fellow committee members:

My name is Sumaya Mohamed and today I would like to share my experience of attending a non-public school, and how things could have been different if I were to go to a public school. Going to a non-public charter school rather than my home district school (Mifflin) had numerous impacts in my life, but in a good way. I don't believe that I would be the same A and B student I am today. I think that if I went to a public school, I'd be in a bad situation at least once and be at a lower academic level that I shouldn't be in. Due to the poor education I'd receive, I would be undereducated.

I've never attended a public school, but after hearing what my friends have to say, I don't intend to. The stories they tell me are hardly imaginable, but to hear them claim that this behavior is really common like bullying one another, fighting physically, or for instance when students are using drugs in the restroom. My brothers and sisters have attended public school, like cornerstone and whetstone academy and highly discourage me to not switch to a public school. These things surprise me since it's not typical for a teen to arrive at school wanting to cause problems rather than the right kind of enthusiasm. I wouldn't like to walk into school fearfully, because anything can happen. I would love to come to school with a fresh mindset and be ready to learn

Attending a non-public school comes with high academic standards. If I want to make it big in life I must take big steps to get there, like going to a non-public school. Going to a non-public school comes with a lot of opportunities, like offering scholarships and college credit plus classes.

Average passing rate in Columbus city school. The average exam score for this district is a 2/10, placing it in the bottom 50% of Ohio's public schools. In comparison to the statewide average of 57% for public schools in Ohio, the average math proficiency score in the Columbus City School District is 15%, while the average reading proficiency score is 26%.

In conclusion, I urge you to support expanding vouchers to all students by passing the House Bill 11. Thank you.