

House Bill 200 Proponent

Members of the House Education and Career Readiness Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to send you a letter about our experience as Ed Choice Scholarship recipients. My son is a third grader at Immanuel Lutheran School in Hamilton, OH. I believe we are on our 3rd year receiving the scholarship. As a family with five children, this scholarship has been invaluable. It has given us the opportunity to send our child to a school that has the culture and values we share in our home.

As the parent of a small child entering elementary years, it can be rather daunting to consider which school to send your child to. Our kids attended preschool at Immanuel Lutheran so it seemed like a natural extension of their first learning experience. We were impressed with the class size, student-teacher ratio, and test scores with higher averages compared to public school. The family atmosphere, faith based curriculum and proximity to our home made Immanuel Lutheran school an appealing choice.

Immanuel Lutheran has been a vibrant school that has afforded our children many opportunities. They have been able to attend cooking classes, start sports programs, help with community outreaches, go on retreats, participate in talent shows, perform at local farmer's market and the list goes on. It is easy to see how these activities shape and provide a rich learning environment for a well rounded, healthy child.

My hope is that this will continue to be an option for many years to come. I imagine that some families see this scholarship as their only hope and a necessary tool for economic mobility and student safety. We need not look far to see what happens when kids are not given safe and academically challenging learning environments. The benefit of these scholarships help shape our society as a whole and hopefully continues to be an option for our most at risk youth.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Jody Anderson