

We need your help!

The Ed Choice Scholarship Program

The following information is a highlight of the description of the EdChoice Scholarship Program found on the Ohio Department of Education website:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/Historical-Information>

Since 2005, Ohio has provided scholarships (sometimes referred to as Vouchers) for students to participate in Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship Program. This allows a student to attend a Private, Charter or other eligible school that more closely aligns with the students' needs or family needs. Currently these scholarships are awarded based on either family income, a student's special needs, and/or in the circumstance of an underperforming school to which a student would otherwise be assigned.

The EdChoice Scholarship program provides partial funding to help cover the cost of the selected school's tuition giving taxpayers a more affordable option to attend a private, charter or other school that accepts the scholarship. The award amount is capped across the state and does not equal the actual cost to educate a student by either the selected school or the underperforming school the student would be assigned.

How does this affect Communion of Saints School?

State leadership has acted to delay the opening of the Traditional EdChoice application window until April 1, 2020. Typically, that window would have opened on February 1, 2020. This delay in the application process is disastrous for everyone, parents and schools, both public and private, who cannot plan adequately, not knowing whether families will receive funding.

In addition, the fate of EdChoice funding is being determined. There is some question as to whether the program will continue with the process of using the public-school performance as a determining factor. This funding as it is currently allocated allows many families to afford a Catholic education not only at Communion of Saints School, but at Catholic high schools as well.

Parishioners, please stay engaged in the struggle to protect school choice for Ohio families. Those families who may be affected by the EdChoice decision should consider exploring legal action through the efforts of Citizens for Community Values, a faith-based organization that runs the Ohio Christian Education Network (OCEN). This advocacy organization that has been a leader and partner in the effort to protect school choice. Follow this link for more information.

http://www.ccv.org/edchoice/?vcrmeid=cERbwHM66kK7uEiRpXLCA&vcrmiid=F_6oWvhk7UiYTr6-J8ERUQ

Please consider contacting the following representatives to express support for continued Ed Choice funding using the current guidelines:

House of Representatives: Janine R. Boyd 1-614-644-5079

Senator Sandra R. Williams 1-614-466-4857

Rep Jim Butler: 614-644-6008

Larry Householder, Speaker of the House: 614-466-2500

Committee for HB9: Rep Don Jones: 614-644-8728 Rep Jay Edwards: 614-466-2158

Rep Phil Robinson: 614-644-6041