

fund public schools equally

Sara Tierney

to:SchoolFinance.ga
01/08/2018 10:55 AM

Public, taxpayer dollars for public education must stay in public schools

Oppose any changes to the Colorado School Finance Act or public school funding in Colorado that would use public, taxpayer dollars for vouchers, tax credits, or Education Savings Accounts

Fund our public schools adequately and equitably

Sara Tierney

N.B.C.T.

Instructional Coach

Franklin Elementary School

Littleton Public Schools

Public dollars for public education

Connie Dollard Ingram

to:SchoolFinance.ga
01/08/2018 01:13 PM

I am writing to express my strong opposition to any changes to the Colorado School Finance Act or public school funding in Colorado that would use public, taxpayer dollars for vouchers, tax credits, or Education Savings Accounts. Education is already grossly underfunded in Colorado, and to take already scarce resources and divert them from our public schools does a grave disservice to all citizens. We need to maintain and support our schools, our public assets. It is our responsibility to fund our public schools adequately and equitably, for every student in Colorado, regardless of where they live or how they learn. Public schools take all students, not just those who can pass an admissions test or pay tuition. Public, taxpayer dollars for public education must stay in public schools.

As a 14-year resident of Colorado, homeowner, taxpayer, and parent of two public school graduates, I thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Constance Ingram
2851 Wyecliff Way
Highlands Ranch, CO 80126

Colorado School Financing

David Fleck

to:schoolfinance.ga@state.co.us
01/08/2018 01:27 PM

To the members on the Interim Committee on School Finance,

I'm writing you today as I am unable to attend the meeting tomorrow January 9th. Frankly I am baffled that a group such as yours has been convened with the task at hand yet is constricted by the scope and not capable of examining the most critical component which of course is the question; Are we adequately funding our schools? I sincerely hope the committee will not further limit the possibility of the success of our students by diluting financial resources of our public schools by allowing vouchers. Neighborhood schools are the backbone of successful communities. Our public tax dollars should stay focused on the success of these neighborhood schools. Furthermore the state legislator has an obligation to it's citizens and the children of tomorrow to continue the promise of quality accessible education for all. The best investment we can make as a state is to support community schools.

Thank you,

David Fleck

Father of a 1st grader in a Title 1 school in Jefferson County Colorado

Sent from [Outlook](#)

CO School Finance Interim Committee meeting 1/9/18

Amy C

to:SchoolFinance.ga
01/08/2018 02:36 PM

Dear Legislators/Committee Members:

I am a concerned community member, parent of young children, and former public school educator. I understand that the CO School Finance Interim Committee is meeting tomorrow morning. I'm writing to urge you to oppose any changes to the School Finance Act or Colorado public school funding that would use public taxpayer dollars to fund vouchers, tax credits, or education savings accounts.

Public, taxpayer dollars for public education must stay in public schools.

While I appreciate the committee's efforts and focus on student count, at-risk students, and students with special needs — these are obviously very important issues — any school funding discussion in Colorado should have a much broader focus. It should encompass equitable and adequate funding of our public education system that meets the needs of all public education students.

Disappointingly, the legislature has refused to address the underfunding of Colorado's

public school students. Our public school children are funded at \$2,685 per student below the national average (adjusted for regional cost differences) [[Ed Week, 2017 Quality Counts](#)]. This is unacceptable and quite frankly, a travesty. Any discussion that excludes adequacy and does not address funding of all students in all public schools is simply a discussion of re-shuffling the current problem of inadequate funding.

Public schools are the cornerstone of our democracy and must be protected. We must ensure that our public school students, professional educators, and public schools receive the funding and resources necessary for success. For way too long, that has not been happening in Colorado.

As a former teacher and now a parent, this is an extremely important issue to me. Thank you for your time and consideration, and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to further discuss public school funding.

Regards,

Amy Carrington

2960 S. York St.

Denver, CO 80210

303-478-7150

Prohibit any form of vouchers in Colorado

Julia Bristor

to:SchoolFinance.ga
01/08/2018 07:27 PM

Cc:

"julia bristor"Good morning,

Please prohibit any form of vouchers, Education Savings Accounts, or other programs that allow funds to leave the public education system.

I'm a new Colorado resident. When I arrived, I was dismayed to discover that Colorado ranks near the bottom of per student funding because the state has not acted responsibly to address public school funding. Public schools are part of the fiber of our democracy and it's through education that students gain opportunities to prepare for a fulfilling and financially independent future. I'm a k-4th grade reading tutor because statistics show that kids who don't read at grade level at the end of 4th grade have an increased probability of graduating from high school and therefore an increased probability of needing social services.

Severe underfunding has already eroded the quality of our Colorado schools through teacher shortages, crumbling infrastructure, overcrowded classrooms, and a lack of current educational materials, to name a few factors. Vouchers will only exacerbate the funding problems and declines in school quality because more funds, however meager, will leave the public school system altogether. I am all for private schools, if a student's family is willing to finance their attendance. But economically disadvantaged students are the ones who lack this privilege and

will bear the costs. America was founded on the principle of church and state separation. That vouchers can be used for religious schools, among others, is a direct affront to this.

Taxpayers are welcome to supplement their own children's education with extracurricular activities, including but not limited to religious education, but public funds should be spent for public, and only public education.

Please do right for the State of Colorado, its children and their future.

Julia Bristor

214-662-0672

64 S. Jackson

Denver, CO 80209

Vouchers

Martha Wood

to:SchoolFinance.ga
01/08/2018 08:08 PM

Please respond to Martha Wood

I have just heard that your committee is considering vouchers in Colorado. Surely, you cannot be serious about such a move! Castle Rock constituents certainly made their views known, and we in Colorado Springs feel the same way. Funding for our schools is finite; please, don't spread it any thinner than it already is. Public funds should stay with public schools.

Martha M. Wood
15170 Raton Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Public Dollars Only To Public Schools

Michelle Winzent

to:schoolfinance.ga@state.co.us
01/08/2018 08:32 PM

Dear School Finance Committee,

I am a Colorado native, Republican and long time PTA member. I ask that you keep public dollars only in public schools.

Sincerely,

Michelle Winzent

1800 Zang St

Golden, CO 80401

Sent from my iPad

vouchers, etc.

Chris Carrington

to:SchoolFinance.ga

01/08/2018 10:43 PM

Hello Lawmakers,

I am a Denver resident/voter and have just learned about your committee and the issues you are tasked with addressing. As a concerned parent (and a concerned citizen), I am writing to express my strong opposition to any change to the School Finance Act (or any mechanism of public school funding) that would use the public's tax dollars to fund, whether directly or indirectly, any form of voucher, educational savings accounts, or other "free market" machination.

I could go on and on about my views on public education, its critical role in our republic, and the solemn duty of legislators to protect it from the avarice that cannot be helped in a capitalist society, but I'm certain you have a lot of correspondence to review, calls to return, meetings to attend, and hands to shake. And so, instead, I'll say thank you for considering my position and thank you for the hard work that you do each day on behalf of us Coloradans (or Coloradoans?).

Chris Carrington

Father of Jane and Swift Carrington (who both stand at the cusp of their public school careers)
p. 303.304.6684

Parent/Citizen input for The School Finance Com. Meeting Jan. 9, 2018

Dale Schellenger

to:SchoolFinance.ga

01/08/2018 11:39 PM

Dear Committee Members:

This is to advise you to reconsider any notion you might have that financing our public schools can be done, easier, faster, or cheaper. If your consultants recommend the use of taxpayer dollars to fund our children's education by way of vouchers, tax credits, education savings accts., (or whatever new jargon being used that diverts public school funding) you need to tell them to "go back to their proverbial drawing boards" and start again. As parents of a child with severe dyslexia whose education was severely compromised because our state was changing it's laws to accommodate it's unwillingness to appropriately fund his (and his classmates) educational needs in an equitable manner, I would like to clearly and forcefully object to any further attempts to continue these manipulative measures.

Furthermore, the time has come (is overdue) to get more money to pay for quality K-12 public schools in order for all Colorado children to be served appropriate to their needs. Colorado taxpayers want quality schools for all our children throughout our state. We know "you get what you pay for" is an old adage that still stands. You can do this.
Francette Orsi and John Schellenger

Sent from my iPad