

CHIPPEWA LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
56 NORTH PORTAGE STREET  
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**SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE**

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Superintendent Todd S. Osborn is recommending that the Chippewa Local School District Board of Education pass a resolution denouncing the expansion of Ohio's EdChoice Scholarship program. Recent changes to EdChoice would cost Chippewa Local School District approximately **\$115,000** annually.

**What is EdChoice and how does it impact Chippewa?**

The EdChoice Scholarship program provides a "voucher" for students whose public school is deemed "underperforming" by the state. Currently, 120 schools are labeled underperforming in the EdChoice Scholarship program. During the 2020-2021 school year, with this asinine legislation more than 1,200 Ohio public schools will be designated as underperforming and qualify for EdChoice vouchers. Chippewa High School, grades 8-12, will be among those schools. I reported in September, that we had a clerical error in reporting our state test scores, we corrected the error but the State would not accept our corrected and accurate information. This error qualified the Chippewa Jr-Sr High School as underperforming.

**What is the True Cost of the EdChoice Scholarship to Chippewa?**

Chippewa receives approximately **3,000** per student in state funding. EdChoice scholarships are **\$4,650** (grades K-8) and **\$6,000** (grades 9-12) respectively. Chippewa taxpayers will fund the differences, approximately **\$1,650** for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and **\$3,000** for grades 9-12, to pay for students' private/parochial school tuition. Additionally, once a student receives a voucher, the public school is responsible for paying the voucher every year, **even if the "underperforming" label is removed.**

The Chippewa Local Board of Education believes that the EdChoice voucher program, as it is currently structured, presents a serious constitutional concern regarding the separation of church and state and the funding of religious institutions with local public tax dollars as the legislature expects **local taxpayers** to fund private/parochial school tuition. If state lawmakers truly believe in choice, they should fund the tuition themselves, directly through the state education budget.

**Take Action TODAY:**

Ask our legislators to: Senator Kristina Roegner, [roegner@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:roegner@ohiosenate.gov) and Representative Scott Wiggam, [scott.wiggam@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:scott.wiggam@ohiohouse.gov)

- Directly fund the EdChoice scholarship program from the state education budget
- Amend EdChoice legislation by defining "underperforming" schools as those schools earning an "F" on the state report card for the past three years
- Eliminate the scholarship if/when a public school no longer qualifies as an EdChoice school

Todd Osborn, Superintendent  
Chippewa Local Schools

