

**From:** [Brown Senger](#)  
**To:** [Adams, Angela](#)  
**Subject:** School voucher programs  
**Date:** Saturday, April 27, 2024 9:42:51 AM

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Ms. Adam's, please share my opinion below with the NH Board of Education.

The school voucher program puts our society at risk by reducing the funds available to public education. Weak public education endangers our safety, economy, and democracy.

Parents who opt out of public education should pay for their children's alternative education in full from their own funds. They should not be subsidized by public funds (via so called *Educational Freedom Accounts*); public funds should serve the public good, not individual values.

Finally, the lack of documented benefits and outcomes from the voucher program is contrary to responsible government.

Sarah Jo Brown, PhD  
Manchester NH

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Ethan Cole](#)  
**To:** [Adams, Angela](#)  
**Subject:** Protect public schools  
**Date:** Saturday, April 27, 2024 7:22:27 AM

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Hello

One of the most important jobs of government is to strengthen public institutions. Public schools are one of the most critical institutions upon which our communities in New Hampshire are built. Recent changes in education funding such as education freedom accounts are a horrific undermining of support and show deep disrespect and lack of appreciation for the role that public schools play in the lives of New Hampshire citizens.

Education professionals should be listened to. Their input on education systems should be included in developing plans that serve New Hampshire's children, and not disregarded.

Please share these words with the New Hampshire Board of Education prior to the upcoming meeting.

Sincerely

Ethan Cole  
Lebanon NH  
(802) [REDACTED]  
-sent from mobile

Ethan Cole  
(802) [REDACTED]  
-sent from mobile

**From:** [Shirley Lang](#)  
**To:** [Adams, Angela](#)  
**Subject:** School voucher program  
**Date:** Sunday, April 28, 2024 9:03:56 AM

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I am very upset at the drain of public funds away from the public schools and the lack of rules attached to these funds.

1. It is an unequal system as the further north you go the fewer options available
2. It is a system that is limited by allowing only those who have transportation and working hours that allow their participation
3. Participation is available to only those who have funds available to cover the additional costs
4. There is no regulation that these funds are being used to teach the subjects that the state has imposed on the public schools nor is there accountability that they are meeting any of the state standards
5. These funds are supposed to be used to help defray the state residents' cost of property taxes to pay for the public schools. My taxes have to cover the state requirements and cover the cost of the physical school structures as well as the needs of all student residents regardless of their problems. (the private schools can refuse the behavioral and special needs students)
6. I would like to see listed in the media a listing of how much money is being taken away from the public school system and given to the voucher program in each individual town/city in the state.

I think as taxpayers we deserve this information to see how much money is being taken away from public education and how much more it is costing us to make up this difference in our tax bills.

This is a great disservice to the residents of the state of NH. I feel that we are funding a minority of residents who have opportunity and funds to the detriment of the majority residents across a wide spectrum of the state. It is time to stop this drain and think about the taxpayer.

Shirley Lang  
Piermont NH

**From:** [Jim Lustenader](#)  
**To:** [Adams, Angela](#)  
**Subject:** Concern over public school funding  
**Date:** Saturday, April 27, 2024 10:19:19 AM

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Dear Ms Adams: I was alarmed to read the article by Janet Ward in today's Valley News (Educators Concerns Must Not Be Disregarded, 4/27/24). It appears that both Commissioner Edelblut and Chairman Cline are willingly tone deaf to the input of professionals who are trying to bolster New Hampshire's public schools in the face of these egregious EFAs. This state already does not enjoy a great reputation for the quality of its public schools; the unbridled use of taxpayer dollars to support non-public education without any way to ensure proper use of funds borders on the criminal. Let's listen to the professionals and stop the EFA give-away in favor of putting the dollars back into improving our public schools.

Jim Lustenader  
Hanover, NH

**From:** [Erin F. Pearson](#)  
**To:** [Adams, Angela](#)  
**Subject:** comments strongly opposing the EFA program  
**Date:** Monday, April 29, 2024 10:37:03 PM

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Dear Angela Adams,

Please share the following comments with Commissioner Frank Edelblut, New Hampshire Board of Education Chairman Drew Cline, and members of the New Hampshire Board of Education.

I am a New Hampshire resident and mother to two teenage boys enrolled in Hanover High school, our local public high school.

I strongly oppose the current revisions of the 306 Rules. The income cap for families qualifying for the EFA program should not be raised. In fact, I think the EFA program should be eliminated entirely. Public tax dollars should stay in public schools.

More than 80% of students enrolled in the EFA program were already in private schools, so the program is simply funneling money out of public schools and subsidizing private schools without any regulations or oversight. In addition, the EFA program violates the separation of church and state by giving public tax dollars to religious institutions.

Public school teachers work hard and deserve higher pay and lower class sizes, but this program will deliver the opposite. It's unconscionable.

In other states, voucher program costs have increased drastically each year, and the current 306 revisions will put New Hampshire on that path. It's fiscally irresponsible and not only a threat to public education but other government services.

We still have time to avert disaster if you listen to teachers, school board members, and NH citizens, and stop funneling money away from public schools.

Sincerely,

Erin Pearson

  
Hanover, NH 03755

**From:** [Lily Borchert](#)  
**To:** [Adams, Angela](#)  
**Subject:** EFA Program Concerns  
**Date:** Saturday, April 27, 2024 3:11:17 PM

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I am a resident of Meriden New Hampshire and I am extremely concerned about the proposed revisions of the rules relating to "Education Freedom Accounts." I am a believer in supporting our public school teachers and building a traceable, transparent, and strong public school curriculum that supports all New Hampshire students. As a taxpayer, I believe my dollars should be used to support public welfare and not the private interests of individual families and educational programs with zero accountability and oversight. If we head down this road we go back to a place where education is no longer universal, putting our country further behind our international competitors and failing to prepare our children to act as capable, informed adults.

Please share these comments with Commissioner Edelblut and members of the New Hampshire Board of Education.

Thank you.

Lily Powell

Sent from my iPhone