

Honorable PA State Senator/Representative:

The Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) holds a core belief that a Christian school education should be accessible to families and therefore supports the proposed school choice legislation, PA Senate Bill One.

With the resolute position that educational choice supports parents in their defining care giver role to choose the best educational program for their child, ACSI endeavors to speak with a viable and authoritative voice in this all important school choice issue.

Enclosed within this packet, and for your review, are several testimonies from educators that are representative among ACSI member schools. The heart and passion of these testimonies capture the essence of the ACSI core belief for school choice.

The Pennsylvania school code, in section 1327, states:

"It is the policy of the Commonwealth to preserve the primary right and obligation of the parent or parents, or person or persons in loco parentis to a child, to choose the education and training for such child."

ACSI is committed to developing a learning community among its schools that reflect economic and social diversity. Unless there is an initiative that advocates on behalf of the economically disadvantaged, we do a disservice to those who desperately desire a school choice alternative for their child, an alternative that is different than the public school system.

Please consider your responsibility as an elected official to represent a significant constituency that is crying out for this option of school choice for their child. You have the unique opportunity in the history of Pennsylvania to step forward and to make your voice heard on behalf of an under-represented majority.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the school choice position of the enclosed statements, and for meeting with us this day.

Respectfully Yours,

David Hegedus
ACSI Associate Director