

SUPPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

One
Voice

PRIVATIZATION: A DANGEROUS PATH TO INEQUITY IN EDUCATION



QUALITY PUBLIC EDUCATION IS UNDER ATTACK

Quality public education is under attack with strategically worded rhetoric to mislead you into believing that options like school choice, charter schools, and private school vouchers are harmful to public education. These approaches are a coordinated path to destroying quality public education to privatize schools.



PRIVATIZATION

STATE LAWMAKERS ARE USING
THE PHRASES "SCHOOL CHOICE"
AND "PARENT CHOICE" AS A
VEHICLE TO PUSH PRIVATIZATION.

However, choice movements are not available in every part of the state and often leave the students of low-income families, rural communities, and predominantly Black students behind.



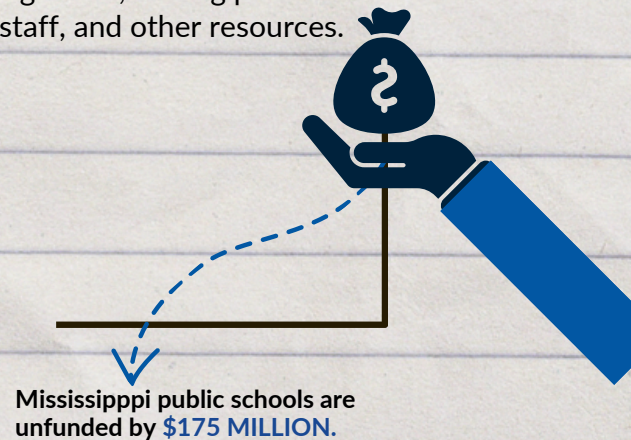
WHAT IS PRIVATIZATION?

Privatization diverts taxpayer dollars intended for public schools to private schools run by wealthy for-profit companies and agencies, forcing public schools to cut programs, staff, and other resources.

UNDERFUNDED SCHOOLS

State lawmakers have severely underfunded public education, where 90 % of Mississippi children attend school.

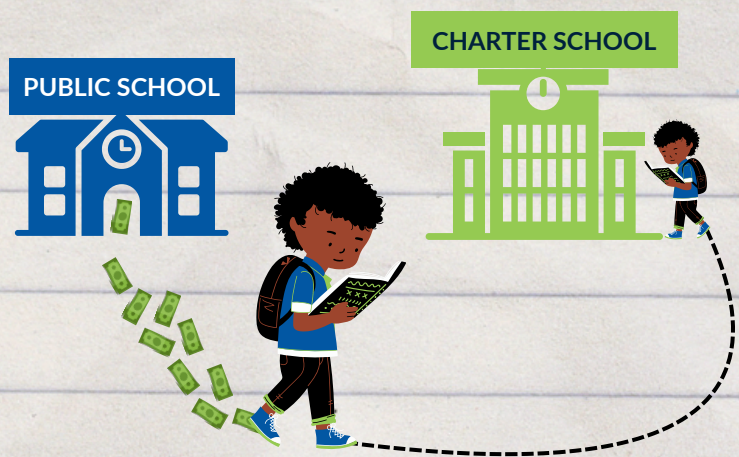
- The Mississippi Adequate Education Program is underfunded by \$175 million for the 2023-2024 school year and has been underfunded by over \$3 billion since 2008.



CHARTER SCHOOLS

Charter schools operate independently from the existing traditional public school district.

- When students leave a traditional public school, their funding allocation per pupil expenditure goes to the charter school and does not return to the public school, even if the student does.



PRIVATE SCHOOL VOUCHERS

Traditional vouchers, Education Savings Accounts, tax credit scholarships, and virtual vouchers ALL threaten public education by diverting money away from public schools.

- School voucher programs can directly reroute education funding to private schools and, at other times, indirectly by making it harder to pay teachers, buy new textbooks, and provide quality after-school programming.
- Voucher costs often grow beyond what is projected, causing a reduction in overall state revenues, including healthcare, infrastructure, and community safety.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

