



**For immediate release**

## **Illegal Voucher Program Passed by DCSD**

*Sends Public Money to Private Schools*

*(Douglas County, CO March 16, 2016)* Taxpayers for Public Education (TFPE), on behalf of the taxpayers and public school students and parents of the Douglas County School District (“DCSD”), condemns the district’s latest attempt to send public money to private schools. The school board last night, passed the “School Choice Grant Program,” a voucher system that will continue to siphon badly needed funding from the district and its students and classrooms.

“The voucher program is illegal and unconstitutional, and is bad for the taxpayers, students and parents of the Douglas County School District,” said Cindy Barnard, TFPE President.

The program:

- violates the Public School Finance Act by using public school funds to pay for private schools
- violates the Colorado Constitution, Art. IX sec. 3, by using monies from the public school fund to pay private school tuition
- sends Douglas County taxes to other counties by sending all voucher grant monies for vouchers to private schools outside of Douglas County
- hurts the Douglas County School District because DCSD cannot be reimbursed for per-pupil funding used to pay tuition at out-of-district private schools, under C.R.S. 22-54-109 (1)
- hurts public school students in Douglas County and across Colorado because every dollar used in the voucher program is a dollar taken away from public schools.”

TFPE is currently evaluating what further steps it will take to oppose the voucher program.

*See next page for contact information*



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**About Taxpayers for Public Education:**

Taxpayers for Public Education, (TFPE), is a Colorado-based, bi-partisan, 501c4 organization.

The members are Colorado taxpayers and parents of children enrolled in public schools.

TFPE supports public education and believes that a strong public education system is instrumental in building and maintaining an extraordinary workforce that will keep American companies and American entrepreneurship viable and robust to meet the challenges in the years ahead.

For more information, please visit: [www.taxpayersforpubliceducation.org](http://www.taxpayersforpubliceducation.org) or the Taxpayers for Public Education Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/Taxpayers4PublicEd/](https://www.facebook.com/Taxpayers4PublicEd/).

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