## Public Schools First NC

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PRESS RELEASE: School Voucher Webinar on May 11, 2023

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The North Carolina General Assembly is poised to spend hundreds of millions annually on private schools while refusing to fully fund public education and Leandro, keeping teacher salaries at the bottom of national rankings, and ignoring the truth about vouchers. HB 823/SB 406 would increase the Opportunity Scholarship voucher allocation from \$94,840,000 in 2022-23 by more than 300% to \$415,540,000 in 2025-26 and *up to \$520,540,000 annually by 2032-33*.

Vouchers are a taxpayer scam. Decades of research on voucher programs have shown that they harm students, communities, and public education. Some studies have shown greater harmful effects of vouchers on student achievement than the COVID-19 pandemic!

Join education researcher and school voucher expert Dr. Joshua Cowen on Thursday May 11 at 7:00 p.m. for a free webinar, *School Voucher Expansion Harms Students & Threatens Public Ed Funding*.

Dr. Cowen has been studying school choice, vouchers and other educational policies for nearly two decades. He works directly with policymakers, stakeholders and media professionals to understand the consequences of educational programs. Dr. Cowen is Professor of Education Policy at Michigan State University and the founding director of the Education Policy Innovation Collaborative (EPIC). His work has been published in multiple peer-reviewed journals, policy briefs, and numerous national media outlets **including his recent TIME article**, How School Voucher Programs Hurt Students.

Learn more about the impact of vouchers on our public schools; don't let your taxpayer dollars be used to HURT our state! Register for the webinar here.

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