

**Dear ND legislators & reps.,**

My name Jacqueline Kraft from Devils Lake, mom of 3, & parish member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. This letter is a testimony in response of the request of passing of a school choice bills. I have chosen for my kids to go to Catholic school for the education and values that they learn there. Yes teaches about Bible & theology, but it is much more than that. The school fosters real core beliefs that any child should learn, whether catholic or not. I see the excitement in my kids when they master the weekly virtue and receive a VIP sticker. What they learn is of course English, math, and normal elementary/middle school curriculum but so much more. My 15yr. Decided to stay for 7th-8th grade instead of going to public school for middle school. Please don't get me wrong, there is nothing wrong with public school & went my entire life and turned out perfectly good. Well educated and a good community member, but could've had a more if i went to my kids Catholic school. I know with what my kids have & will continue to be provided I would look for ways to continue to stay even if my husband wasn't the part time teacher. The bill passing could help funding the current school, to bring in others who would love to send but can be costly & unable to. There are even programs & talking to the principal & father to help if this is a parents choice, no one should be denied this benefit/school education. I have paid taxes since 16 yrs old & believe we live where our voices can be heard. The school is also like a family, getting all done required & really caring about our kids. I have never regretted sending my kids to Catholic school & as soon as the two youngest were ready was excited to start their school career & yes learn about our family values & our God almighty. The bill could also let us continue to send our kids there. We are a family of 5 and middle class, so keeping costs lower is best for us & the community. Please consider this in your decision, since this a yet another bill for the session but passing could impact lives, of myself & others.

Thank you for reading & taking time to listen to my voice among many.

Sincerely,

  
Jacqueline Kraft