

Hello,

My name is Mike Zwingel and along with my wife Casandra, I write you today in support for HB 1540 and SB 2400 and for the state of North Dakota to follow the lead of several other states with school choice programs. We have five children, and all will attend Little Flower Catholic School in Rugby. We are fortunate to live in a rural community that has a private school and could not be happier with the quality of education that they receive. We would appreciate that our tax dollars could be used for our children's education. The state funding should follow the student, not the school.

Here in Rugby, we eventually will have to send our kids to the public school once they progress past Elementary, so we have a great chance to build a solid base to their education while they have the chance to start at a place with "Christ"-centered values.

Please consider that the stereotypes built around private schools and pulling funding away from public education might not be accurate. Families like ours could use any assistance to stay at a place that we love.