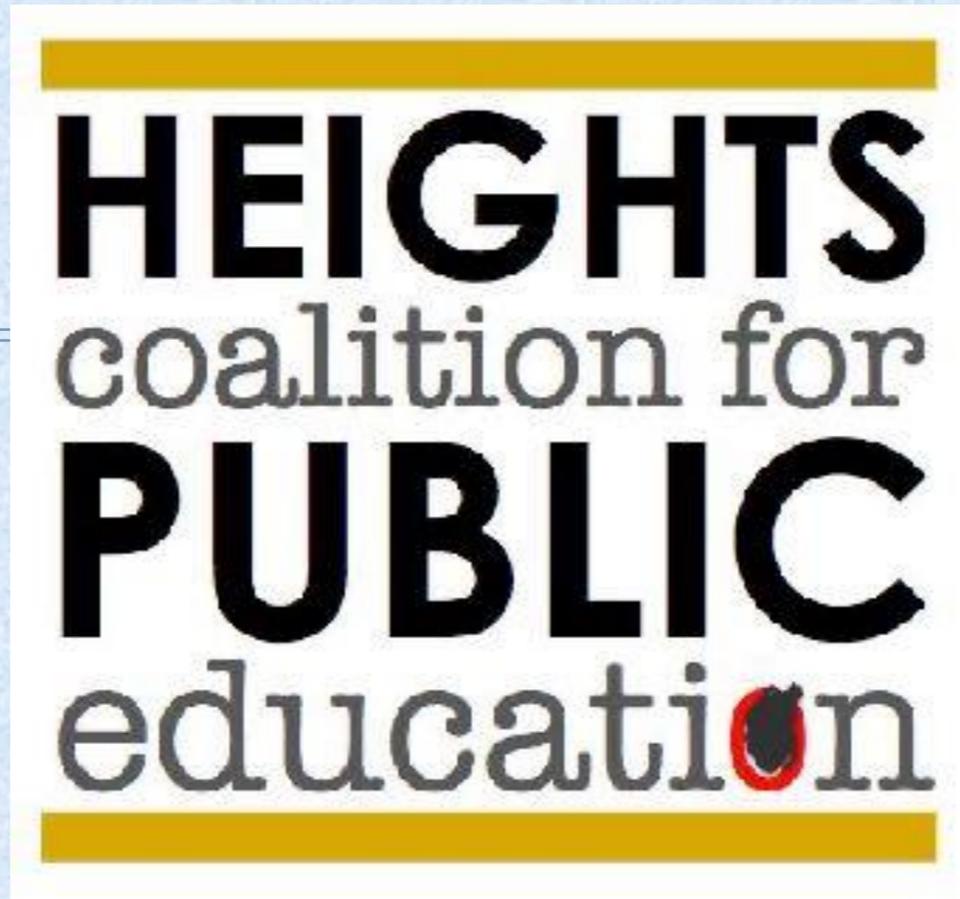


Quiz

True or False?

- ❖ 1. All public school districts receive the same amount of per pupil funding from the state.
- ❖ 2. The Ohio Legislature is constitutionally responsible for funding high quality private schools.
- ❖ 3. All students in Ohio can use EdChoice Vouchers.
- ❖ 4. Vouchers have no affect on local public school budgets.



The Impact of Voucher Funding on Local School District Budgets

Funding in Ohio Continues To Be Unconstitutional

- ❖ In 2020, at least \$330 million of public funds will be diverted to private schools through vouchers.
- ❖ \$47 million more than the previous year
(Steve Dyer – Innovation Ohio)

How does Ohio fund public schools?

- ❖ The legislature establishes a bare bones dollar figure.
- ❖ They use a formula to decide how much the state will contribute.
- ❖ Local school districts raise local property taxes to fund services to meet local needs.

How does the formula work?

- ❖ The formula is based on property values, income of residents, students identified with special needs and English Language Learners.
- ❖ The wealthier the district, the less state funding it receives.
- ❖ State funding per district ranged between \$550 and \$9,600 per student.

Per Pupil Aid for Select Districts in Cuyahoga County 2018-19

Beachwood	\$688	North Royalton	\$1,477
Brecksville- Broadview Heights	\$1,289	Orange	\$784
Chagrin Falls	\$959	Richmond Heights	\$1,889
Cleveland Heights – University Heights	\$3,239	Rocky River	\$551
Cuyahoga Heights	\$713	Shaker Heights	\$3,487
Euclid	\$5,880	Solon	\$789
Independence	\$592	South Euclid- Lyndhurst	\$2,345
Mayfield	\$688	Westlake	\$745

What are vouchers and How much do they cost?

- ❖ Vouchers are scholarships to private/religious schools paid with public dollars
- ❖ EdChoice
 - K-8.....\$4,650
 - 9-12.....\$6,000
- ❖ Autism.....\$7,500 to \$27,000
- ❖ Jon Peterson.....\$7,500 to \$27,000

What is the problem?

- ❖ **The state sets the voucher amount, but only funds a portion of it.**
- ❖ **The school district where a private school student lives subsidizes the rest.**
- ❖ **Public school resources are depleted which worsens funding inequality among districts.**

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- ❖ **Voucher students are guaranteed the full cost of a voucher, but public school students are not guaranteed the full benefit of their allocation of state aid.**

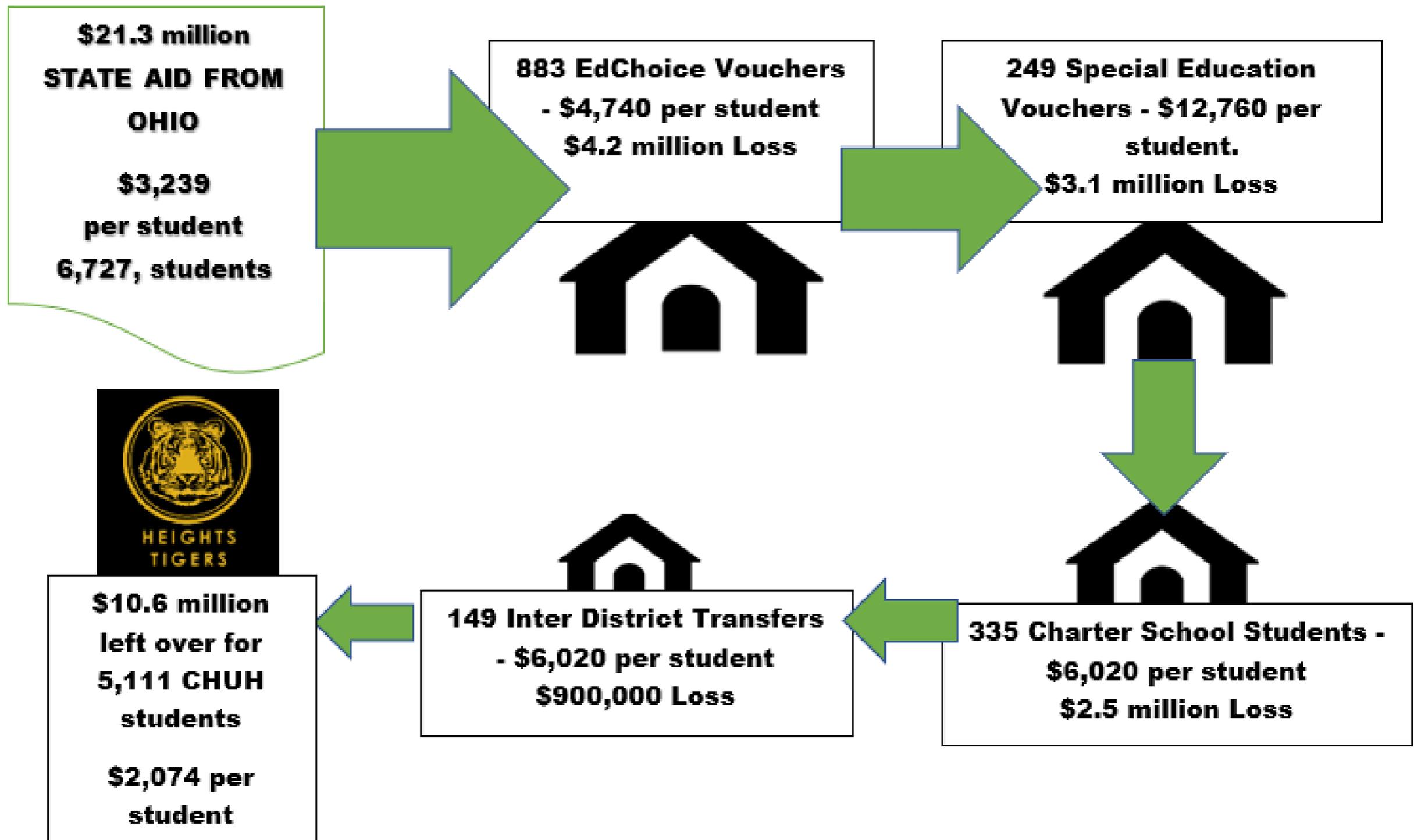
Public school students lose public funding.

PER PUPIL	Richmond Heights	CH-UH	Cincinnati
State Aid	\$1,889	\$3,239	\$4,530
Cost of Each K-8 EdChoice Voucher	<u>-\$4,650</u>	<u>-\$4,650</u>	<u>-\$4,650</u>
Cost to Community	(\$2,761)	(\$1,411)	(\$120)

How much money did school districts lose in 2019?

- ❖ 18 districts out of 612 lost more than 10% of their state aid for unfunded voucher payments.
- ❖ Of these 18 districts, funds for public school students were reduced by between \$150,000 (Kirtland) and \$4.3 million (CH-UH) because of unfunded voucher costs.

What was the financial impact on my district in 2019?



CHUH would have \$16.6 Million instead of \$10.6 Million without these programs

The Results

- ❖ Local property taxes pay the unfunded costs for each voucher.
- ❖ School Districts are forced to either make cuts or raise more local funds through shortened levy cycles.
- ❖ Public School Students are shortchanged.

But wait, things get worse

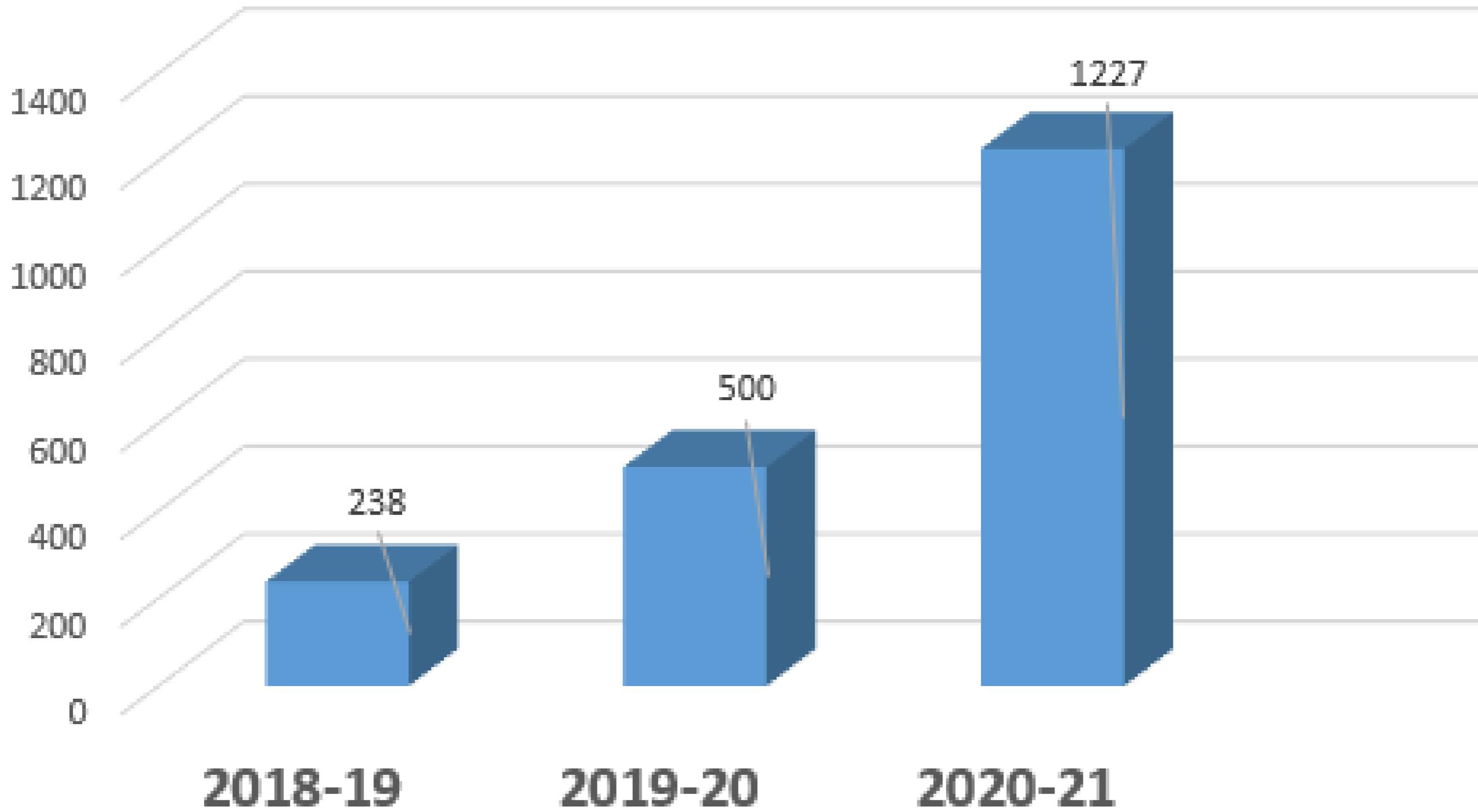
- ❖ State aid for all public school districts is now frozen at the 2019 level for the next two years.

Frozen Budget Impact

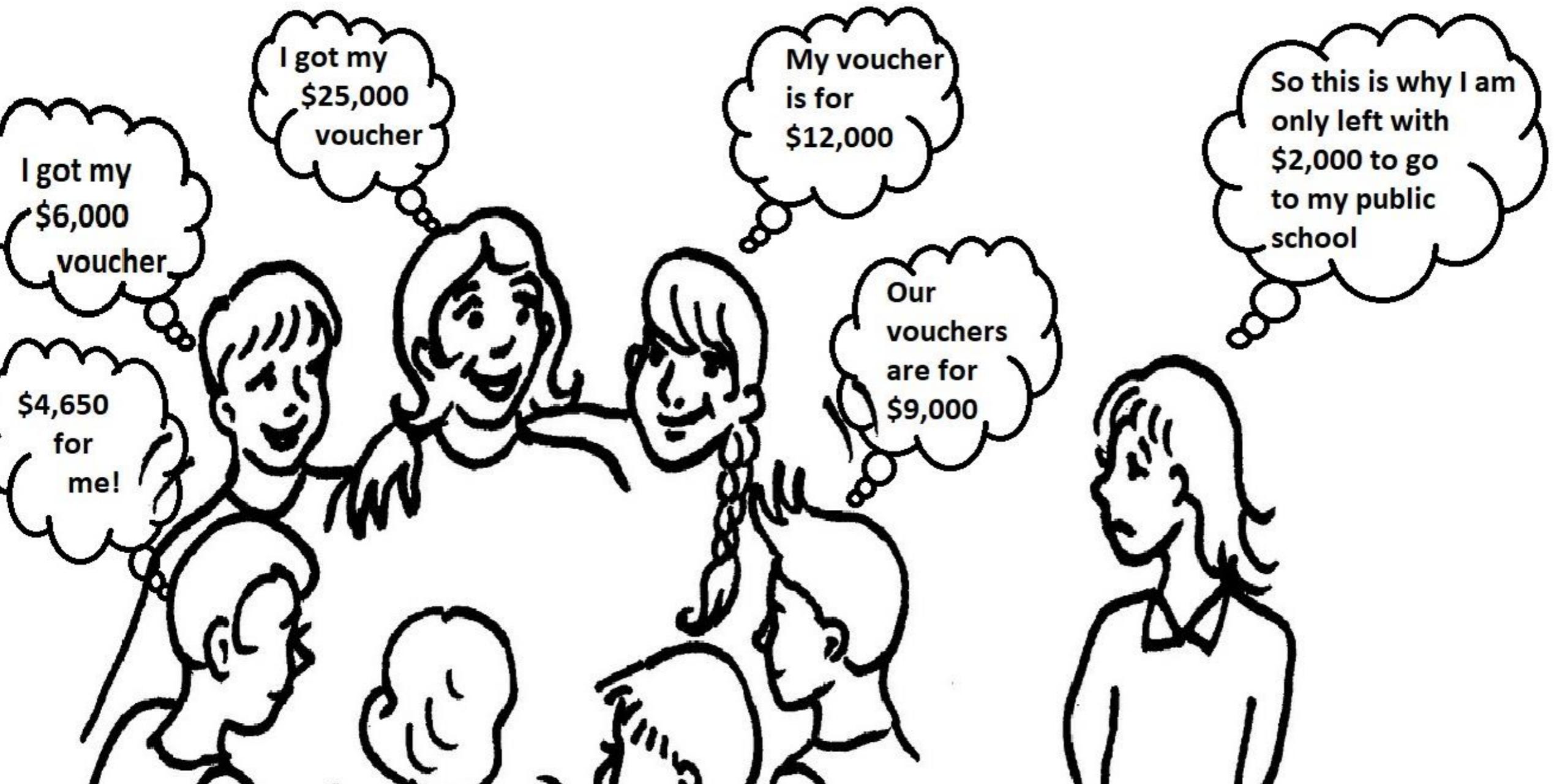
- ❖ For every new student enrolled in school the district gets \$0
- ❖ For every new voucher student the district pays the ENTIRE amount of the voucher (\$4,650 to \$27,000)
- ❖ 600 more students in the CH-UH district are using EdChoice vouchers. Only 25 of them left the public schools.

-
- ❖ Freezing a budget while encouraging voucher growth is like a family of 4 suddenly being required to feed 3 additional people every day who eat at a fancy restaurant.

Schools Labeled EdChoice



Voucher students get their guaranteed money first.....public school kids get what is left over



What should the legislature do?

- ❖ Fund all vouchers directly from the state budget.
- ❖ Reimburse unfairly burdened school districts for the unfunded cost of vouchers. Prioritize high poverty districts.
- ❖ Cap the amount of funding a district can lose to vouchers.

Call to Action

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- ❖ Be informed. Spread the word. Be a change agent.
 - ❖ Share this presentation with another group.
 - ❖ Demand that your elected officials correct these injustices.
 - ❖ Endorse the Heights Coalition for Public Education position on high-stakes testing and privatization.

Questions?

Help us advocate for public education

Endorse the Coalition's Position
Statements and find this slideshow
and other resources at

<http://chuh.net/coalition>