



Troubling Indicators on the Rise

Ohio is cutting state K–12 education funding by \$800 million over the next two fiscal years, 2011-12 and 2012-13. The cut amounts to an average of 7.5 percent, which equals \$400 per student and nearly 14,000 teachers' salaries. Ohio comes in fourth among states in the amount of public school tax dollars being redirected to private schools. The state redirects \$107 million per year through voucher programs.

Examples of how our children are paying the price:

- ▶ Early Childhood Education
 - » **Statewide:** Eliminated a mandate requiring districts to provide and fund full-day kindergarten. In the Dayton area this meant eliminating funding for full-day kindergarten in almost every district and the Toledo area raised the fee for kindergarten.
- ▶ Well-Rounded Curriculum
 - » **Medina:** Eliminated many AP science and math classes, the French and German programs and offerings in art, music and other "electives."
- ▶ Special Programs
 - » **Alexander:** Cut computer classes in elementary grades
 - » **Athens City:** Cut the field trip budget and high school computer and photography classes
 - » **Medina:** Increased activity fees: \$660 to play a high school sport, \$200 to join the concert choir, and \$50 to act in a school play