During their April 30, 2025, meeting, the Eastern Local School District Board of Education approved a resolution to join the Ohio Coalition for Equity and Adequacy of School Funding Vouchers Hurt Ohio Lawsuit.

- What is the Ohio Coalition for Equity and Adequacy of School Funding?
 - This group is a coalition of more than 300 Ohio school districts that have come together to sue the state over the private school voucher program (<u>Vouchers Hurt Ohio</u>). This is the same organization that sued the state in the 1990s over the unconstitutionality of Ohio's school funding system
- What is the purpose of the Vouchers Hurt Ohio lawsuit?
 - The Vouchers Hurt Ohio website lists five counts included in the lawsuit.
- How much will it cost to join the lawsuit?
 - Coalition dues for the 2024-25 school year are \$2 per student, so the total cost to the district will be a little over \$2,000.
- Do non-public schools that accept vouchers have the same accountability standards as public schools?
 - No. Unlike public school districts, private schools have no financial or academic accountability even when they are taking public funds through the voucher program. In fact, last November, a Republican-sponsored bill that would have provided more accountability for Ohio private schools was bypassed for a substitute bill that eliminated requirements for funding transparency and standardized testing requirements.
- Do you know when the lawsuit will go to trial?
 - Please reach out to the Ohio Coalition for Equity and Adequacy of School Funding at ohioeanda@sbcglobal.net for more information about the lawsuit. You can also visit vouchershurtohio.com for more information.
- What are some other ways district leaders have advocated for changes to school funding?
 - ELSD Advocacy Efforts 2025
- Has enrollment in Centerville Schools been affected by Ohio's EdChoice voucher expansion?
 - The ELSD has seen a drop in enrollment in the last 5 years
 - Ohio's public schools serve nearly 90% of students in our state. The goal of public education is to provide free education to all children, regardless of race, ethnicity, special education needs, socioeconomic status, or any other distinguishing factor.

