



Sunday » December
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Public money, private schools

The Edmonton Journal

Saturday, December 15, 2007

Re: "Minister favours 24% boost for Alberta private schools," The Journal, Dec. 14.

How can Education Minister Ron Liepert possibly believe that public funds should go to support the operation and infrastructure of private schools?

The proposed 24-per-cent increase is totally against the whole philosophy of "private." I am astounded that government MLAs would support such a proposal. What hypocrites to set themselves up as the upholders of principles of the market economy, and then turn around and propose that Alberta taxpayers be responsible for the upkeep of private schools.

It would be interesting for parents to look around their kids' schools and see where additional funds could be used in our public schools.

Where is the logic in this proposed increase? This is a critical question we all face, whether we are directly or indirectly responsible for the fundamentals of the public school system. This is a question of beliefs and values. If we allow public funds to be used to support institutions that have made their own decision to be independent, then we are as hypocritical as the government.

I hope Albertans will speak out against using public funds to subsidize the private education system.

Wendy Butler, Edmonton

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