

## Choose another Option for Improving Public Education in Maine:

1. *Support Local Control at Each School by Funding each Child, not a Consolidated System.*
2. *Create Choices among Public Education Options for Students, Parents, & Educators.*
3. *Choose Choice & Local Control - Don't settle for Consolidation!*

- Any major policy change in the structure & operation of public education in Maine should include expanding the options of parents & educators to meet the unique needs of their children.
- Rapid centralization minimizes local control of school programs, facilities, and resources.
- Incentives are powerful in improving the quality and stabilizing the costs of education.

### *Funding Each Child is Equitable + Cost Effective!*

“**Weighted student funding**” (WSF) is the mechanism for improving Maine’s educational system:

1. Fund each child at the public school they attend, as selected by parents.
2. Vary each child’s funding by their documented need.
3. Give schools real dollars (not positions or programs) to be spent locally and flexibly to meet diverse student needs.
4. Hold schools accountable for each child’s learning.
5. Allocate local, state, and federal funds using **WSF** principles.
6. Make funding and accountability simple and understandable to the public.

FMI, see [www.edexcellence.net/fundthechild/proposal](http://www.edexcellence.net/fundthechild/proposal).

### **TAKE ACTION!**

Ask the Education Committee to instruct any “study committee” that emerges from their hearings and work sessions to include in their recommendations:

- 1) *Public education options*
- 2) *Weighted student funding*
- 3) *Local school autonomy*
- 4) *Simplified funding formulas*

Prepared by  
Maine Association for Public Charter Schools, Promoting Public School Options for Maine Children  
FMI, visit our website [www.mainecharterschools.org](http://www.mainecharterschools.org)  
Or contact us at [macs@mainecharterschools.org](mailto:macs@mainecharterschools.org)