

The Alabama Accountability Act is diverting millions from public schools in Jefferson County.



\$19,762,068 lost*

Jefferson County lost \$6,870,416 • **Birmingham** lost \$4,562,423

Bessemer lost \$718,476 • **Fairfield** lost \$336,901 • **Homewood** lost \$765,660

Hoover lost \$2,644,282 • **Leeds** lost \$353,467 • **Midfield** lost \$210,843

Mountain Brook lost \$834,956 • **Tarrant** lost \$216,934 • **Trussville** lost \$844,790

Vestavia lost \$1,322,920

Why it's time to repeal the Alabama Accountability Act

Since the Alabama Accountability Act (AAA) was created by the Legislature in 2013, \$140 million has been diverted from Alabama's public schools statewide.

The AAA is a private school voucher program funded by taxpayers, at the expense of every child in public school in Alabama. Every school district pays for children to attend a private school, regardless of whether those students have a vibrant public school in their district.

Valuable resources will continue to be drained from our local schools unless we repeal the Alabama Accountability Act.

ALL public schools lose funds that are diverted to private schools.

The AAA puts spending on private schools first by decreasing the state's public education budget before one dime is allocated to public schools. The AAA money is deducted from the overall budget, and then the remaining balance is given to our public schools. Every school loses money.

Approximately 66% of these private vouchers have gone to students not living in a "failing" school district. The majority of AAA funds are awarded to students who are not zoned for a "failing" school. Many of these students are already enrolled in private schools.

Private organizations are the real beneficiaries.

The AAA gives private Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs) up to 5% (or \$7.3 million since 2013) of the total tax contribution to fund overhead and the promotion of private schools. That's \$7.3 million that should be going to Alabama classrooms.

It's a costly experiment with no realized benefit.

57 private schools (about 40% of the private schools receiving tax dollars) could not meet accreditation standards and were eliminated from the program last year. According to a 2018 University of Alabama study, scholarship recipients show no improvement in test scores as compared to public school students.

Tell OUR State Senators and State Representatives it's time to repeal the Alabama Accountability Act and put the money where it belongs – back in our public schools.

TAKE A STAND FOR OUR KIDS!

* Estimates losses to public schools since 2013 calculated with data from 2017 ADM reports from local school districts and AAA information maintained by the Alabama Department of Revenue.