

March 3, 2014

School voucher program should be expanded

As a recipient school of the Corporate Tax Credit Scholarship program administered by Step Up for Students, we know firsthand the financial sacrifices made by our parents to give their children the education we provide. This is evident among the least fortunate of families, who would not otherwise be afforded that opportunity without assistance from this program.

Regarding your statement that "private schools that receive public money largely have been exempt from administering accountability tests," I disagree. We, and other schools, are required to not only administer standardized testing to our students, but we must report those test scores as a prerequisite to receive any funding.

We have seen the undeniable efficacy of this program in the children themselves — through their social and academic progress. Unfortunately, there are many other families desperately seeking assistance from this program who fall on the periphery of very narrow qualification criteria.

We hope that a better understanding of the facts will educate the public and generate the necessary support for expansion of this program.

- Joe Sharp, executive director, Hillel Day School of [Boca Raton](#)