



March 18, 2024

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to request that non-public schools be removed from the current law relating to education- EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO VERY YOUNG CHILDREN.

The Providence Country Day School supports an increase in quality early learning programs for children in Rhode Island. In a state that historically has had a majority of pre-K offerings in the private sector, we have and continue to provide programs of quality for families and children.

Non-public schools have never previously before been held to a publicly funded benchmark and rating scale process for our educational programs. It is important for non-public schools to continue to advocate for the high quality programs we currently offer within the unique frameworks already in place at our schools that account for accreditation, governance structures, and continual school improvement structures. For those non-public schools who want to participate in this program and access the resources/public rating offered, it should be optional.

PCD and other non-public schools in Rhode Island continue to commit ourselves to ensuring quality educational programs for 3-5 year olds and want to be part of a diverse landscape of options that families have in the state of Rhode Island. We are running pre-K programs of the highest quality which are aligned to our unique school missions and are freely chosen by families.

Sincerely,

Kevin Folan
Head of School