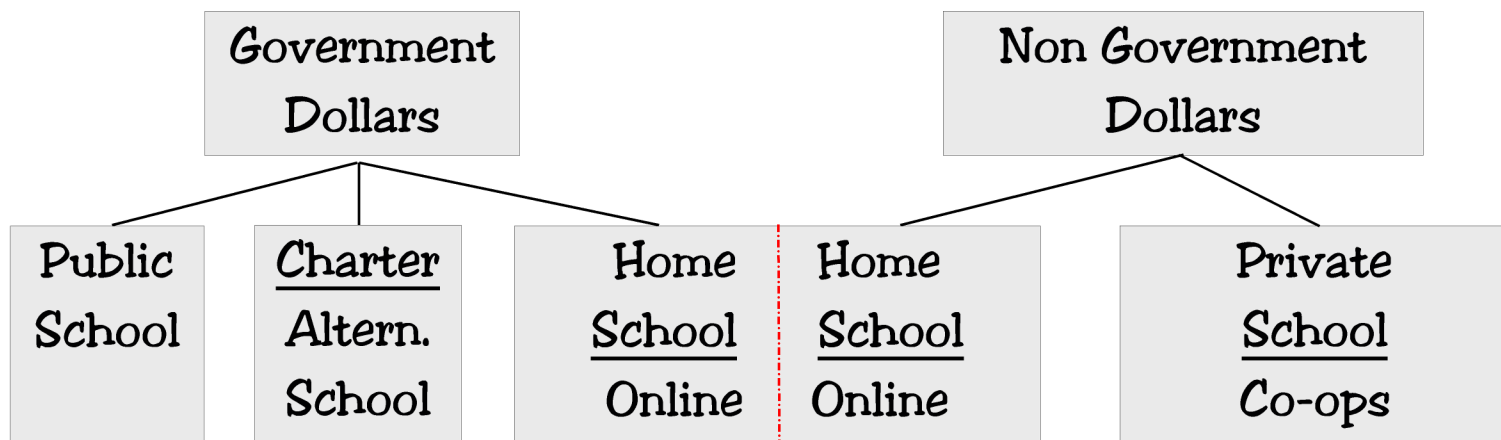


Who Controls Education



GOVERNMENT DOLLARS

- ◆ Must follow state standards - Common Core Standards
- ◆ Must use state assessments - MSP / HSPE / SBAC
- ◆ Focus on the process as more important than correct answers
- ◆ Encourage students to "construct" their own methods
- ◆ Students find answers & defend their position - even in math
- ◆ Teachers are discouraged from memorization and repetition
- ◆ Gov't money cannot be used to support religious activities
- ◆ All students are part of a national data tracking plan

NO GOVERNMENT DOLLARS

- ◆ No requirement to do Common Core Standards
- ◆ Can use tests that best fits their needs and costs for eg - ITBS/CTBS/SAT/Terra Nova or public options
- ◆ Can maintain a focus on teaching correct answers
- ◆ Teachers can use "direct instruction" for teaching
- ◆ Teachers use memorization/repetition/flash cards
- ◆ Complete freedom of religion
- ◆ Not included in the data tracking plan

FOLLOW THE MONEY! When the education system receives any dollars from the State or Federal government there ARE strings attached. The most common influence is that the school must follow the state standards (Common Core Standard) and state assessment system. Although there is no legal mandate for a school to use any particular curriculum materials or teaching methods many schools will feel pressured to use curriculum materials promoting "Common Core" and follow the latest teaching trends required by the Common Core system of education.

Currently some of the government funded home school and online schools programs may appear to have some flexibility and freedom to not follow all the public school procedures and plans but history has shown us that over time the strings often turn into chains that limit what can be done. Soon they will be required to follow common standards, assessments, and tracking. Limiting religious expression is another freedom that has been removed for many programs taking public government dollars. For example churches that "rent" space for a gov't preschool/daycare have had religious symbols and pictures removed for the time that class is in session.

Government Funding can be in the form of:

- (1) Direct payment from Federal/State/Local OR their agencies.
- (2) Vouchers and Tax Credit Scholarships (tax credits are authorized via legislation and are subject to their control over access)
- (3) Many tax-exempt (non-profit) groups, private corporations, online services, and curriculum publishers receive Federal/State monies or have contractual agreements with the State/Federal education agencies which require them to comply with the federal requirements. Some publishers and online services comply with the national plan because they believe following this trend of "Common Core" will bring them the most profit.