Back to the Future for Truly Individualized Education Plans

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“We were promised flying cars, and instead we got 140 characters.”

-Bruce Gibney
Average Age of US Cars and Trucks, 1995 to 2013

- 1996: 8.5 years
- 2013: 11.4 years

Source: R.L. Polk and Co.

Carpe Diem Blog
Motor Vehicle Deaths per 100M Vehicle Miles, 1950 to 2013

Source: NHTSA
Special needs children were promised an individualized education and instead they got...
Florida Choice Reforms

- Students with Disabilities
- Charter Schools
- Tax Credit Scholarships
- Pre-K Vouchers
- Digital Learning

CHOICE
Florida’s McKay Scholarship Program

Passed the Florida Senate with a unanimous bipartisan vote in 1999.

26,611 students (53% minority, 50% FRL eligible)

$7019 average scholarship

1,163 participating private schools (64 percent with a religious affiliation, 36% without)
NOW AVAILABLE.

The results of the 2009 reading assessment for our nation’s 4th- and 8th-graders have just been released.

View results, data from your state, sample questions, and more.
Figure 2: Combined 4th and 8th grade Math and Reading NAEP Gains for Special Education Students, 2003-2011
Figure 1: Special Needs Students in Florida, 1998-2011

McKay vs Florida Public Schools

- 1998-99: McKay - 0, Florida Public Schools - 342,183
- 2010-11: McKay - 22,198, Florida Public Schools - 366,824
Arizona’s Empowerment Account Scholarship (ESA) Program

The next generation of choice programs will be more than government funded coupon that allow parents to choose between public and private schools.

The Arizona ESA program, the prototype, allows gives parents a restricted use debit card to pay for private tutoring by a certified tutor, online courses, community college courses, private school tuition, and/or contributions to a college savings plan.

All possible methods of education delivery will compete with each *other-education choice*, not just *school choice*.

Parents will have a powerful incentive to consider opportunity costs because of the possibility of saving money for future college expenses.