

U.S. Sen. Johnson: D.C. school choice highlighted at Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee field hearing

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WASHINGTON — The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee held a field hearing Tuesday at St. Thomas More Catholic Academy in Washington D.C. to discuss the positive impact that school choice, specifically through the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program (OSP), has had on students and their families. Sen. Tim Scott (R-S.C.) also participated in the hearing.

“I came to understand how important it was that families were involved in education. I came to understand the service and sacrifice of every administrator, every principal, every priest, every parent, and every teacher involved in that system,” said Sen. Johnson. “I really want to thank all of you that are involved ... for your act of service and sacrifice...”

Video from the hearing is available [here](#), and brief background on the D.C. Opportunity Scholarship Program is below:

- OSP scholarships are \$8,857 for K-8 and \$13,287 for grades 9-12.
- o The average D.C. public school cost per pupil is \$19,117, excluding capital costs.
 - 91 percent of OSP students graduate from high school.
- o The D.C. public school graduation rate was 68.5 percent for SY2017-18.