

## **Letters on education secretary, school choice, Electoral College, voter fraud**

### ***Trust parents***

Jason Bedrick

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John H. Wilson criticized incoming Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos for her support for educational choice policies, claiming that they “will not improve the quality of education” (“New education secretary like a ‘shot across the bow,’” Dec. 1 Opinion). He argued that “choice implies that parents somehow know what is the most educationally sound learning experiences for their children.”

The professor should give parents more credit.

No one cares more about a child than his or her parents, and no one is better positioned to understand that child’s unique learning needs.

The research shows our trust in parents is well-placed. More than a dozen random-assignment studies have found that, on the whole, students benefit when their parents choose their school rather than attending their assigned district school.

Nevertheless, Wilson has a point: Parents need resources to help them make informed decisions about their child’s education. Fortunately, websites such as GreatSchools.org provide information that enables parents to find the schools that work best for their kids.

Kansas policymakers should do more to empower parents, such as expanding the state’s tax-credit scholarship program for low-income students, so that children can receive the education that’s right for them.

*Jason Bedrick is a policy analyst with the Cato Institute's Center for Educational Freedom.*