

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Average ACT Scores Fall In Ohio, Nation; Groups Want More Districts In ECOT Suit...

ECOT Suit: Innovation Ohio and Public Education Partners on Wednesday urged local school districts to get involved in the state's attempt to recover money from Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow officials.

Attorney General Mike DeWine earlier this summer sued ECOT founder Bill Lager and five other former school officials to recover the more than \$60 million the state contends it is owed by the shuttered online charter school. Dayton Public Schools and the Logan-Hocking Local School District filed a motion to intervene in the case in September, but the move was opposed both by AG DeWine and attorneys representing Mr. Lager. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 10, 2018)

"It is clear that Mr. Lager would prefer to deal with Mr. DeWine in this case. It is also clear that it is time for school districts like yours to take action – be it legal or otherwise – to truly hold the perpetrators of the ECOT scam accountable," Stephen Dyer, Innovation Ohio's education policy fellow, wrote in a memo to Ohio superintendents.

While the districts have cited Mr. DeWine's past support for charter schools to bolster their motion to intervene, the attorney general touted his "robust record of addressing fraud in Ohio's charter school program" in a memorandum opposing their intervention.