

Mackenzie Thielman  
03.04.23

When I hear that there is a bill being heard to not fund faith based PSEO, the first thing I can think to say is; Why? Every student has a variety of colleges to choose from when they are deciding where to do their post-secondary schooling, along with the fact that as students who desire a faith-based education, we must pay for our own faith-based courses. Neither of the Senate education policy committee nor state policies pay for any “non-secular” courses. This is my first year doing PSEO, as I am a junior in high school, and this has been such an eye opener to what college is really like. Comparing schooling in high school to the schooling I have had at Northwestern, I can recognize how much more effort and reward I have found in my work. Not only does this opportunity prepare students, like me, what a faith-based education is about but it also allows us to know where our priorities stand. As Northwestern or any Christian college for this matter, values guiding students in their faith, this allows students to realize that we can share the love of God with our professors which results in a deeper connection and trust, for us students. I truly do not believe it is okay to target faith-based education in this new bill because the policies of these faith-based schools are not discriminating or deceiving. Students who choose to do schooling at said colleges understand the value of faith and want to be taught in this manner. Students desire this way of teaching, that is taken away from us in a high school education standard. If faith-based class are unpaid for by the committee, I do not see a reason to vanish this kind of teaching when students choose to learn this way. I, as a student, choose to pay for any faith-based class I want to take. I, as a student, chose to go to a Christian college for my schooling because I trust it would keep me encouraged and accountable in my faith. It is disappointing to hear a system that claims to want the best education for our future generations, attempt to take away a form of schooling many students value.