

Education Committee Members:

I am asking you all to oppose House Bill 2748.

I have been an Instructional Aide for Special Education at both schools within the Riverdale School District, and am currently employed at the High School. I have been with the district for almost ten years. Everyday, I am inspired by the professionals that surround me as well as the students that Riverdale attracts.

Our students come from all over Portland, Beaverton, Hillsboro, Lake Oswego as well as within the boundaries of the district. We also have had many international students. The student who succeeds at Riverdale are hard-working and WANT to be there. We can offer a student who might struggle in another setting with small classroom size and individual attention. You cannot get lost at Riverdale.

Why would the legislature want to take away opportunities for families and break down a school system that is clearly working? Let alone, it would destroy our livelihoods and force over 500 children within our two schools to find other schools. Our district will be decimated. Why is a district that is clearly succeeding being vilified and targeted? Who is the district harming?

I am asking everyone on the committee to truly look at what HB 2748 will accomplish to support children. And if, in good conscious, you can honestly state that Riverdale is NOT the district that is being targeted, what will it accomplish other than to destroy a success story within the state of Oregon.

We should be building up and not tearing down.

I urge you to oppose House Bill 2748.

Sincerely,

Jane Staugas Bray