

**Testimony in Support of SB 932 before the Senate Education Committee
March 24, 2015**

Susan Anglada Bartley, Director of the Franklin High School Advanced Scholar Program

Chair Roblan, members of the committee thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today in support of SB 932.

My name is Susan Anglada Bartley. I am the Franklin High School Advanced Scholar Program Director and an AP English teacher at Franklin. The Advanced Scholar Program has been nationally recognized for dramatically increasing the numbers of students of color and students living in poverty who are enrolled in AP courses--courses which, nationally and historically, are populated by white, upper middle class students. In 2013, I won the National Education Association's H. Councill Trenholm Human and Civil Rights award for my work. This school year, I won the OnPoint Prize for Excellence in Education, and my mortgage was paid for the year.

What does it mean to win when the people you love can't win with you? I stand here to answer that question--and share some statistics:

During the 2013-14 school year, 31% of Franklin's Latino 10th through 12th grade students were enrolled in AP courses. In just one year, that number has grown to 44.6%. Many of our Latino students are indeed U.S. Citizens whose families have lived here for several generations, but there are also a good number who, despite meeting the requirement of taking four or more AP courses, cannot access financial aid for college. And Franklin is not alone; numbers of Latino students, and specifically undocumented students, who are reaching for access to college at Roosevelt and Madison High School continue to grow as well.

At Franklin High School, in our diverse community of learners, I have witnessed incredible moments of compassion and love which continue to inspire me to do this work. Last year, after a unit that I taught on racism and closing the achievement gap in public education, several undocumented students willingly shared about their struggle with the group. After class, a documented peer stayed to discuss forming a scholarship and raising money to send his equally deserving peers to college. He rode his bike to the bank to establish the account--together, and with the help of our community, we raised \$5000 and awarded the scholarship to two members of the Advanced Scholar Program. One young woman just completed a clinical final and is working toward becoming a nurse; the other a Spanish teacher.

If a group of young people at Franklin High School--young people who saw discrimination and refused to allow it to persist in their own environment--can create social change with spare change, then, trusted representatives, so can you. Please vote to extend the Oregon Opportunity

Grant to all students--this life changing decision is a vote for our students--and for the future of Oregon.

Thank you,

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