

**From:** Nancy MacMorris-Adix  
**To:** [LRO](#); [Sen Winters](#); [Sen Courtney](#)  
**Subject:** HB2830  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 13, 2017 5:51:06 PM

---

My name is Nancy MacMorris-Adix, and I am the chairperson of the Salem-Keizer School Board. I am writing to you today about HB 2830 because I know all too well that our schools are struggling to provide students the education they deserve. As you are holding this hearing, I am chairing my last meeting on the school board. I have served for 8 years and we have made cuts in 6 or those 8 budgets. We have cut teacher librarians, counselors, mentors, instructional coaches, drug and alcohol prevention specialists, science specialists, administrators and classroom teachers. We have elementary classrooms with more than 30 students. We have high school science classes where students sit on lab counters because there is not enough room for more desks. It's a heartbreaking cycle of disinvestment that we just can't seem to break.

Several years ago, we received a federal school improvement grant that gave us approximately 1 million dollars a year for 5 years to invest in McKay High School. The money was used to provide enrichment and extended learning time, to improve teaching strategies through investment in professional development. Graduation coaches were hired to find kids who were at highest risk. The turn around at McKay was amazing. It demonstrated what targeted investment can do. This is what our schools need, not the cuts budget we are adopting across town from your hearing. We are cutting 21 million-classroom teachers, mentors, science specialists, administrators, and technology. IT HAS TO STOP.

I was glad to see Speaker Kotek and Senator Hass release a proposal last week to help raise much-needed revenue. I worry, however, that it does not go far enough. Even in good economic times, we still struggle to pass budgets that work for Salem-Keizer students. We know that reasonable class sizes and programs like career tech, art, and music improve student outcomes — if only we had the funding to offer that quality education.

We must do much better by Oregon students, and that will take significant, game-changing revenue. It's clear to me that Oregon's low corporate taxes must be fixed, and I hope the Legislature will find the courage to pass a revenue package this session that changes the trajectory of our schools. It's the best investment our state can make.

Nancy MacMorris-Adix  
Chairperson  
Salem Keizer School Board