

I am emailing to ask that you support HB 2019. We have been in crisis for WAY too long. Our asks are really basic needs. Support for disruptive behaviors, job stability and continuity for our kids, air quality, school nurses and counselors...this list goes on. Below are specific examples of how the crisis is impacting my school and district.

I am an elementary school teacher in Beaverton School District. We have a \$35 million deficit for next school year. TWO HUNDRED teaching positions are projected to be cut next year. This has happened every year I've taught in BSD. There is anxiety about who will or won't have a job, what programs we will get to keep, how our class sizes are going to increase etc. The impact this has on our students is devastating. We have at least one student in every classroom, often times more, for whom school is their one and only stable "home". Their teachers are the one and only reliable person in their life. When teachers are anxious about their own future they can not be entirely present for their students or build community with their peers. And for those most vulnerable students, to have a relationship with a past classroom teacher or specialist year after year is invaluable.

Our district announced a few months ago that we are \$12 million short THIS school year. What this has meant to us over the past few months is the decrease of our long term sub for our counselor to just 3 days a week, cancelling of Professional Development courses, refusal of sub requests for certain positions, hiring freeze, etc.

The number of IA's in our specialized classrooms has been cut which means less support to handle outbursts and behaviors that impact our entire school.

We have one school nurse to about 3,000 students so if something serious happens you have to rely on the school secretary or call the paramedics or hope the nurse can make it to the school in time.

We do not have air conditioning in the school. When the temperature rises, no learning happens in our classrooms that have temperatures into the high 90s. This school year we also had issues with our heat. We had a classroom that went four days with temperatures in the 40s. When I posted about this on social media, I heard from teachers all over the state who had the same issues. We have concerned parents about the air quality in our building as their kiddos are constantly sick.

This is NOT the quality education our students deserve. Please support this HB 2019 for adequate and sustainable funding.

Thank you,
Lindsay Dance
