

**From:** [hollygroom2003@everyactioncustom.com](mailto:hollygroom2003@everyactioncustom.com) on behalf of [Holly Groom](#)  
**To:** [JCSS Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** April 11 Hearing - Supportive testimony for HB 2019  
**Date:** Friday, April 12, 2019 9:50:19 AM

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Dear Joint Committee on Student success,

My children have attended Portland public schools for the past 7 years. They both attended Rigler Elementary School, a school that serves a diverse, low socioeconomic population. Rigler is an example of a PPS school that has suffered numerous inequities; from principal turnover, to limited access to the arts (and no music education); to poorly functioning and dated classroom equipment. Many other schools can rely on their families to help compensate for these issues by fundraising, but that is not an option at Rigler. As a result, you have vastly different school experiences that are damaging to students sense of worth and value to th community.

Entering Beaumont this year, those inequities become even more visible, as Rigler students join in with Alameda students and we hear about Alameda's band opportunities and science fairs and new computer labs— all things that offer them a leg-up to their Rigler counterparts. These inequities need to be stopped and funding will absolutely help to level that playing field.

Sincerely,  
Holly Groom  
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