

**From:** [danielle hudson](#)  
**To:** [JCSS Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [david williams](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony on HB 2019  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 10, 2019 2:57:19 PM

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Good Evening,

I am Dr. Danielle Hudson the Executive Administrator for Students Services for the Beaverton School District. I am writing this email to ask you to increase Oregon's investment in pre-K through grade 12 education through HB 2019. In my role for the Beaverton School District, I oversee the Special Education, Social Work, Counseling, Health Services, 504, and Multilingual Departments. As a district and community, we have seen a significant increase need in the areas of social-emotional, behavioral, Special Education, and mental health supports for children and youth. This need has far outpaced the funding that we are receiving from the state legislature.

It is widely known the Special Education is not funded at the level that has been promised by the federal government. Oregon House Joint Memorial 3 urges the United States government to fully fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The lack of federal funding for IDEA, a lack of increased education funding from the state level, an increase in the expenses to educate students has resulted in yearly reductions to Special Education, Counseling, Health Services, 504, multilingual, and English Language Learner Supports. We have cases where one special educator is supporting 42 students with disabilities and some special education classrooms have class sizes as high as 20 students in the class. Our district nurses have to provide health care management for at least 3,000 students or four schools. Our social workers are responsible for supporting at least 11 schools. Our Special Education Department alone will be experiencing \$932,000 in reductions for students with disabilities. It is unacceptable that our state is continuing to fail the needs of our most needy students.

As a state, we are focused on improving our graduation rates yet schools are not being provided with the funding required to meet the needs of the students within our schools. I am urging the Joint Committee on Student Success to increase funding for PK-12 education.

Respectfully,

Danielle Hudson, Ed.D.  
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