From: <u>kelly o"brien-carnevale</u>

To: JCSS Exhibits
Subject: FW: HM 3427

**Date:** Wednesday, April 17, 2019 3:10:18 PM

From: kelly o'brien-carnevale <Kelly\_O'brien-Carnevale@beaverton.k12.or.us>

Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 1:41 PM

To: "Sen.GinnyBurdick@oregonlegislature.gov" <Sen.GinnyBurdick@oregonlegislature.gov>

Subject: HM 3427

Dear Senator Burdick,

As both a teacher in a public school and a parent with children in public school, I write to you today with a plea to work to adequately fund education in Oregon. Please support the proposal from HB 3427 to create a \$2 billion investment in our future, the children of Oregon.

Again, as a teacher and a parent, I am seeing dire consequences of the long-term lack of adequate funding for education. My school serves a community in poverty, and while it might be argued that all schools in my district take the financial hit equitably, the consequences of losing enrichment opportunities, in cuts to music, world language, art, and technology programs, field trips, and after school clubs and activities, are much greater for my students who would not get these opportunities otherwise. Compound that with the growing need for social and emotional learning and mental health support to help my students engage in their learning, and these continual cuts to education seem not only short-sighted, but cruel. We have the means and the opportunity to not make the choice to cut the funding for education – the children of Oregon deserve better. I firmly believe that the success of our students, and by extension, the future success of Oregon, depends mightily on quality schools. The status quo is not good enough.

As a parent, I see my children in increasingly larger classes, where all the needs are simply not being met. The impact of the lack of social and emotional supports for kids is felt across all socio-economic levels. Building back a solid education system, where we no longer cram upwards of 35 students into classes due to a budget nor mix classes as a response to budget cuts nor slash technology and future ready programs (which is currently happening in my children's neighborhood school), can be started with passing HB 3427. I hope for my students and my own children a public education system that is truly invested in the future of the public, where there is space to grow and room to think about all the greatness they can achieve.

Thank you for your time, and thank you for your consideration. Our kids are counting on you!

Kelly

Kelly Carnevale
ELL/Intervention Teacher
Elmonica Elementary School