

Please include these comments in the official record for HB 3427.

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Allison Montelongo and I am the assistant principal at Bonny Slope Elementary School in Beaverton. I have not only worked in education myself for the last 17 years, but I also grew up in a family of educators. I understand from personal and professional experience, the moral obligation of us as citizens to provide a quality education for all of our students.

I am writing to you today to plead with you to support HB 3427. Now is the time to invest in our future, to give our students and staff members what they deserve and to be leaders that acknowledge the importance of a long term investment in education not only with words but, more importantly, with actions.

As mentioned above, I have grown up in a family of educators. I have experienced budget cuts dozens of times and seen the negative impact on our schools, staff and children. I have seen fantastic teachers, leaders and advocates leave the profession because of lack of funding. When we lose these amazing individuals, it is the students who suffer the most. We are constantly looking for quality individuals to teach and lead our schools. How can we continue to ask for this when we, repeatedly, do not show that we value the work?

I urge you to honor the leadership role in which you were elected and support HB 3427 today. An investment in education is an investment in all of our futures. Our kids deserve better. Please send that message by supporting HB 3427 today.

Sincerely,

Allison Montelongo
Assistant Principal
Bonny Slope Elementary School
503-356-2044

Beaverton School District Goal: **WE** empower all students to achieve post-high school success.