

From: [susan murai](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: HB 3427
Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 7:01:36 PM

Please include these comments in the official record for HB 3427

I have taught in the Beaverton School District for 33 years. In that time, I have rarely known a year when teachers were not grappling with the stress and fear of budget cuts, lay-offs, and lack of funding for programs and people. It is frustrating. I'm tired of hearing how everyone feels "education is the most important thing." What I want is ACTION. Like I tell my students, "Don't tell me, show me." Put your money where your mouth is. Pass HB 3427.

In the last 33 years, I have seen the workload of teachers increase exponentially. This is not just in regards to the curriculum we teach. We now must also serve our students wearing other hats: parent, social worker, disciplinarian, counselor, adviser. While many teachers have these skills and inclinations naturally, the impact that societal issues have upon teachers and the role they play in the lives of their students is astronomical. Add to this increasing class sizes, lack of supplies, fewer support staff (including counselors, librarians, special education teachers, and instructional support staff), and you have a burden on the shoulders of teachers that is nearly too much to bear.

I would think that the powers that be would want to see Oregon educators putting their time and effort into TEACHING rather than begging for their jobs and programs every year. It is exhausting. If we want to keep talented young educators and encourage others to join our ranks, then we must fund adequately and consistently.

I encourage anyone among you who think our jobs are "easy" because we "get summers off" to come visit my classroom and see what goes into crafting meaningful lessons, teaching the lessons and keeping young people engaged. I would bet that most have absolutely no idea of all the moving parts teachers have to deal with. This would also allow politicians to realize that we teach PEOPLE, not produce widgets who all respond and perform the way we hope or desire they will. This is not a job--it is an art that requires finesse, skill and dedication. Funding our educational system properly is way OVERDUE.

Do the right thing: Pass HB 3427

Sincerely,
Susan Murai
[8025 SW Barnard Dr Beaverton, OR 97007-4972 susan_murai@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:susan_murai@beaverton.k12.or.us)

Sent from my iPhone