

From: [malindi.zimmer](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: SUPPORT for HB 3427
Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 2:55:14 PM

Please include these comments in the official record for HB 3427

To the Joint Committee on Student Success:

This afternoon we had to deliver the outline of what education budget cuts for the 2019-20 school year will look like at Elmonica Elementary School. It was heartbreaking. Our classes will be larger, the International Baccalaureate PYP program that we have dreamed of and labored over for a decade - the program that produced the Beagle Bill - will be eliminated, intervention supports for our most vulnerable students will be cut in half, and our Spanish language program - the one that honors the heritage and home language of our disenfranchised latinx students - will be gone. It feels like the heart of our school is being removed and our work to bring equity and success to all of our students is being set back a decade.

My own two children will be suffering the same cuts from their educational opportunities, and I mourn their loss, but my heart is truly breaking for the students I serve - the students who are in the custody of DHS, the students whose family meals are comprised of the food that we send home through a food bank program, the families whose only access to opportunity and critical social services is through Elmonica.

We must do better by them.

I implore you to support the students we both serve by working with your colleagues across the state to pass HB 3427 and to find solutions to the long-term underfunding of education in Oregon. Please invest in our children's and Oregon's future.

Respectfully,
Malindi Zimmer

Malindi Zimmer
Assistant Principal
[Elmonica Elementary School](#)

[District goal: WE empower all students to achieve post-high school success.](#)

["Equity is achieved when there is sufficient evidence that each child has a high-quality educational experience, and outcomes and successes are not predicted by student subgroup](#)

membership." - BSD Equity Policy

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