

I am writing in support of HB 3427. This proposed investment package will help adequately fund public education in Oregon.

As a school principal in the Beaverton School District, I know firsthand the challenges that a school faces when a district is forced to reduce school budgets due to lack of state funding.

I have been a principal for 8 years and each year has been a struggle to keep class sizes small enough for teachers to effectively teach. With the current budget cuts facing my district for the next school year 2019-20, my Kindergarten classes are expected to have 28 students. A kindergarten class should have no more than 22 students.

Schools today are struggling to support all of the students coming to school with mental health and behavioral challenges. My school is no exception. Larger class sizes, coupled with increasing mental health and behavioral challenges, make teaching extremely difficult.

Our children are our future. Please invest in the future of our state by passing HB 3427 to help adequately fund public education.

Scarlet Valentine
Principal
Beaverton School District