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Dear Joint Committee on Student Success,

I am a 5th grade teacher at a highly-impacted school in Beaverton School District. When I say that my students are impacted, I mean that many are affected by poverty, trauma and neglect. No one is making my students afternoon snacks when they get home from school. No one is reading to them or helping them with homework. These things impede their ability to be successful in a school environment.

You may have heard of the 'Disrupted Learning' crisis. I see it everyday. My lessons are interrupted by student behavior CONSTANTLY. I have 24 students and can barely meet their individual needs now.

Yes, I teach my students reading, writing, science, social studies and arithmetic; but do you know what I spend most of my time teaching? I teach them how to set goals, how to persevere when confronted with challenges, how to manage strong emotions and how to build stamina as learners, because despite having wonderful teachers before they got to me, they do not have these skills now. The scary part is that they are entering society whether or not I teach them.

I invite you to actually spend a day in my school. Visit each classroom and walk down the halls. I think you will be shocked by what you see. Afterward, please look my colleagues in the eye and explain how they are somehow supposed to continue their work with class sizes of at least 32 kids. I ask you to speak to my colleagues, because I won't be there next year (along with 7 other teachers from my school) due to budget cuts.

Fund our schools. Fund our future. My students are depending on you to do the right thing. So are their parents and my colleagues.

Regards, Shannon Hanson 1601 S Dogwood St Cornelius, OR 97113