

May 8, 2023

Chair Neron Vice-Chair Hudson Vice-Chair Wright Members of the House Committee on Education

RE: Support of SB 819 -13 Amendment – Abbreviated School Days

My daughter Serenity Delaney was switched to a K-8 Special Programs class at Stearns Elementary at the beginning on 2023. Yes, this change has been beneficial for her. However she is still losing almost an hour each school day of instructional time. This was not communicated properly to me at the beginning or during the process. That she would be losing instructional time even in a intensive support class. That adds up to over 80 hours of missed instructional time since the beginning of January to present. When asked about why this program has a shortened school day. I was told they have more flexibility with elementary classes. That it comes down to scheduling conflicts with transportation to and from the high school. A child already struggling academically should not be losing instructional time based on a bus sharing conflict between schools.

With this proposal it would give me clear directions on my child receiving full days or compensatory hours for the time missed. As a parent I would be fully informed on my child's instructional time. As well as any time that could be made up to keep my child on track academically.

With my daughter's disabilities she requires more time for transitions, and needs that repetitive supports to keep her on track. Losing even an hour is crucial to giving her the supports she needs to succeed academically. As well as be able to catch up to her peers.

Sincerely,  
Caroline Miller  
Klamath County School District