

Submitter: Rebecca Bowen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3444

My son is a 3rd grader at Alliance Charter Academy. We found this amazing school after he failed, miserably, in traditional public school. My son is autistic, and even with maximum supports, traditional school was a sensory nightmare. His constant state of overwhelm led to multiple outbursts. By the time we finally pulled him from traditional public school, his behaviors were causing classroom clearouts weekly, he spent the vast majority of his day playing cards in a side room, and I was called to the school at least once a week to assist. Now with the flexibility provided by Alliance Charter Academy, my son no longer requires behavior supports. He is a participatory, motivated, engaged student. As a 3rd grader, he is working at a 5th grade or higher level in all subjects. At his old school, one special ed teacher told us he was the most challenging student in her 25 year career. At ACA, a teacher just told me what a delight he is, and how much she enjoys having him in her class.

ACA provides an incredibly unique learning opportunity, that has literally been life changing for my son and our entire family. Please consider providing this amazing school with fair funding, so more students like my son will have an opportunity to thrive.