

Submitter: Alison Larsen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee
On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5516

I am a parent of two PPS students and I am very concerned about the lack of funding for PPS for the upcoming year. The Governor has proposed funding the State School Fund at \$11.36 billion. While this is an increase upon the funding the Legislature allocated last biennium, it is still not enough funding. With \$11.36 Billion, PPS will still have to cut \$40 million from its budget next year, which will include a reduction in 220 teaching and staff positions. This will cause more class crowding, fewer resources, and students will be negatively affected.

The state does not fully fund special education services, due to an 11% cap on Special Education funding, which shortchanges the needs of students with special needs, including students who have physical, developmental and learning disabilities like autism and dyslexia. We are calling on the state to increase funding for special education services this session.

Thank you,
Alison