

From: [Joshua Colvin](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: Written Testimony for Joint Committee on Student Success
Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2019 3:24:39 PM

Legislators,

I am writing this to submit written testimony to the committee on student success.

My name is Joshua Colvin and I'm a teacher at a public charter school here in Oregon called Bend International School for the past 4 years. Our school has provided an option for students who had been struggling in our public school systems and families that were looking for an alternative to overcrowded public schools that do not provide students with an international curriculum and a global perspective.

I'm sure most of you agree that our society is more and more connected to the rest of the world and we need education programs that will prepare students to connect globally and be able to communicate across cultures. Our school has been a phenomenal success since it's outset and demand for spots at our school far outstrips supply. We have done the best we can with limited funding, we pay our own rent on the lease which eats into our budget, and we receive less funding per student than other public school students in our district.

This doesn't seem fair or logical, if we're trying to improve schools in Oregon it seems like legislators should do everything to accelerate and replicate the success that our state's charter schools have already had with students. Limiting public charter school grant funds by the state makes no sense from a policy perspective. Award grants to charter schools that are doing innovative practices that are actually working in our schools so that we can continue to inspire other schools to modernize their curriculum and approach to education.

If you want to learn more about our school and the success we have had check out our website www.bendinternationalschool.org. We have two videos on youtube that document our success as well. I would be happy to follow up with any legislators if they have any questions about charter schools.

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Maestro Josh
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