

Dear Joint Committee on Student Success,

I have been a teacher, mentor, and administrator for the Beaverton School District for the last 30 years. In my tenure, I have experienced budget reductions on a regular basis. Just when we think we have rebuilt the components necessary for a thriving classroom and school, our budgets get cut and we are back into a survival mode. In this survival mode, class sizes are large, teachers are not supported, and students do not learn. Teacher burnout is high and many new teachers leave the profession before giving it a chance. Investing in education now is what is needed to make sure we continue to educate an even more diverse population of students to meet and exceed the common core standards.

Thank you for your advocacy for schools.

Sheila Baumgardner
Principal
Oak Hills Elementary School

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