

From: djvalliere@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joanna Valliere](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: April 11 Hearing - Supportive testimony for HB 2019
Date: Friday, April 12, 2019 9:50:41 AM

Dear Joint Committee on Student success,

Hello,

I'm writing to encourage you to support education funding for all students in Oregon. I have two students in middle school in Portland public schools and believe additional funds are needed to support smaller class sizes and additional staffing. I have seen the positive impact that occurred when counselors and librarians and assistant principals were added to the elementary and middle schools my children have attended. This was followed by the negative impact on students and the community as a whole when these positions were cut. Class sizes have increased, adding demands on the teachers, while counselors have been cut. I think this is especially noteworthy because the demand for mental health support and community building efforts is higher than ever. In addition some of their favorite programs, like music/band, are at risk because of the addition of other requirements without dedicated funding or staffing. There are many positives about public education, but each year there are setbacks and new areas for concern.

I believe this investment is crucial to the future of our young people and of our state. It is vital that our elected officials lead the way and demonstrate that education is truly a priority and that all students deserve access to high quality schools.

Best regards,
Joanna Valliere

Sincerely,
Joanna Valliere
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