

From: jenny.matteson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jenny Matteson](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: April 11 Hearing - Supportive testimony for HB 2019
Date: Thursday, April 11, 2019 4:23:39 PM

Dear Joint Committee on Student success,

As one of the growing number of parents dealing with a teen who struggles with clinical Depression and Anxiety, I know first hand the effects of increased class sizes, constantly changing curriculum and administrative staff, and stressed out teachers. Our district has done the best it can with what we have, to preserve classes in the arts, PE, and vocational electives. Our students don't do better with less and less investment. My TAG student didn't apply to colleges because she was afraid she was unprepared to succeed at state universities. My younger student had to drop out of regular high school and go to online classes due to the social anxiety stress of being crammed into classrooms with changing grading criteria and increasing focus on passing tests instead of learning. These kids have some of the best teachers out there, but without the resources to do their jobs properly, their hands are tied. Folks who are concerned about waste in the education system should work to identify and eliminate that waste instead of withholding funds from districts that are not wasting it.

Oregon can do better. It's time to show our kids that their education matters, that the adults running the state care about them to give them what they need to succeed. Counseling is a desperately needed resource- our high school nearly became another school shooting statistic - it was with quick thinking that the situation was detected and avoided. The near-perpetrator needed teachers and counselors to care enough about his situation to help him when he was younger; instead he is in jail before finishing high school.

We tell kids that school is important and the key to a bright future with multiple options for success. Let's put our money where our mouths are and back up that claim with Action. Infuse our state's education system with the resources it needs to improve the experience of both students and staff.

Sincerely,
Jenny Matteson
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