

From: [cristina.tomkins](#)
To: [JCSS Exhibits](#)
Subject: Testimony on HB 2019
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Look at the past:

In 2012 after massive shortfall in funding, Fir Grove Elementary in Beaverton was forced to cut teaching positions. Instead of three fifth grade teachers there were two fifth grade teachers for the 2012-2013 school year. Class size when up from about 28 per class to 43 per class. There was not enough room in the classroom for all those kids and desks. It was crowded, hot, and unpleasant. How are students supposed to learn in this environment?

The same year, my son was a kindergartener at Fir Grove. He had 38 students in his classroom due to a kindy position being cut. It was a zoo. There was not enough room on the carpet for all of them to sit. There was not enough space for 38 students to be seated at tables. There was never enough time for the teacher to work with each student individually on any activity. Compared to my daughter, who had 18 students in her kindy class at Fir Grove three years earlier, my son had far fewer opportunities for learning and personal growth.

Please fund our schools. No funding = overcrowded classrooms = low student achievement.

Thank you,

Cristina Tomkins
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