

04/18/2019

Dear Joint Committee on Student Success:

Please Support HB 3427

HB 3427 “Directs Department of Education to conduct study to examine best methods for funding state’s system of kindergarten through grade 12 public education.”

I assume the purpose is for ODE to determine how best to distribute state education funding to maximize the educational quality and equity of educational opportunities experienced by all Oregon K-12 students.

To this end it is imperative that HB 3427 be adopted by the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor.

Ever since my UO First Year was in pre-school I’ve been lobbying the state to fully fund the K-12 Quality Education Model (15 YEARS!!!), yet have only experienced budget cuts year after year.

To make matters worse, the failure of the State to adequately fund our public schools is exacerbated by distributing funds based on student enrollment instead of ensuring every school provides a well-rounded quality education regardless of enrollment or zip code. ODE MUST provide guidance to Oregon school districts to distribute funds to ensure each of their schools provides an equitable and quality education for every child.

Another failure of our State’s education funding priorities is the waste of instructional time and funding on complying with abusive and counter-productive federal standardized testing requirements, especially Smarter Balanced tests. It is unacceptable for Oregon education leaders to continue to subject our children to such abusive and wasteful federal standardized testing requirements.

Please support HB 3427.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Betsy Salter
HD 46