

Honored Committee Members,

I have given up on writing this email a few times because my emotions very quickly drive me toward taking a negative tone, but I am resolved this time to make my voice heard and to do so in a positive way.

We must do better by our kids. Cuts to education take things from students who cannot speak up for themselves. Furthermore, many cuts wind up severely damaging the people that makes schools work: the teachers. More than the education system needs more money (and it does), it needs more STABILITY. Some of the brightest most talented teachers I know are new to the profession and aren't even given the opportunity to do this thankless job because the ebb and flow of funding won't allow them to establish any tenure before the next ebb hits.

More stable funding gets you more talented teachers, who can do even more with even less. In the long run, you will save money by investing in teachers, but only if you have the vision and patience to commit to doing what is right.

Sincerely,

David Reynolds
Hillsboro, OR