

Martin E. Granum  
4425 SW 202<sup>nd</sup> Ave  
Aloha, Oregon 97078

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Subject: Support for HB 3427

Co-Chair Smith Warner, Co-Chair Roblan  
Co-Vice Chair Smith, Co-Vice Chair Knopp  
Members of the JCSS Committee

I'm Martin Granum, Hillsboro School District, Director (Position 3)

Thank you! I applaud this committee for your hard work and manifest commitment to solving this vexing issue: stable and adequate funding for the education of our Oregon's children. This bill, HB 3427, is a giant step in the right direction and I wholeheartedly support this legislation. Thank you for being bold enough to champion new revenue, and thoughtful enough to direct it to meet the needs of our kids. In my assessment this is excellent legislation; it strikes an appropriate balance between too many "strings" and yet provides accountability for key outcomes... well done. I can assure you that, within the Hillsboro School District, we are data-driven, transparent and accountable to our students and the community. Achieving the transparency you seek is already in our DNA and will not be a problem. Nor will moving the needle on student outcomes with this additional revenue! We have the right programs and infrastructure to scale up with this additional revenue. What we need most critically is revenue to increase staffing, principally to lower class size and adequately staff the programs we know are working.

That said, there are challenges remaining:

- HB 2019 does not get us to Quality Education Model (QEM) levels of funding... leaving all 197 districts across the state asking themselves: "How do we get to QEM?" For some districts that may mean a Local Option Levy (LOL). For others that may mean they never get to QEM without additional help from you.
- Another major goal for HSD (and most districts) is to diversify our workforce. Our student population is diverse, but our workforce does not reflect that diversity. "Grow Your Own" programs work – we have one with Western Oregon University which we call our "WO scholar program". House Bill 2742 offers great promise towards this critical outcome.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify; I commend you for this excellent legislation and I offer my full support. And thank you for your service in the legislature!

Respectfully,



Martin E. Granum  
Hillsboro School District, Director Position 3  
[granumm@hsd.k12.or.us](mailto:granumm@hsd.k12.or.us)  
(503) 734-7171