

April 19th, 2021-

As a parent of five school-age children, and as an educator for 19 years, I can attest that every child has a different learning style that thrives in various environments. By enforcing the 3% cap on Charter Schools you are essentially telling parents/guardians that YOU know the best way their child learns- while in context you do not even know my children.

The Oregon Department of Education has been pushing equity across schools to make sure that all students are given the tools they need to succeed; however, in this regard ODE chooses to be inequitable? How is it equitable if you remove a parent's choice of learning environments? One box does NOT fit all!

In person learning is not for all, distance learning is not for all, homeschooling is not for all, charter schools are not for all-yet it must be a parent's choice! First you deny families the right to choose a charter school if their local school is at the 3% cap, and then you force them to be in an environment that may not fit their learning style but also could be damaging to them. This is exactly what inequity means.

Of my five children, three of them succeed in a charter school, one of them succeeds in a private school, and one of them succeeds in a preschool setting. I know what setting is best for them as we have tried all different scenarios. If public brick-and-mortar schools were the best fit for my child then he/she would be there.

Please take the time to consider that lifting the 3% cap on Charter Schools is the best option for the students and families. The only reason for keeping the 3% cap is for schools to control all methods of education while monopolizing funding for these students-both of which are completely inequitable!

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