

Submitter: Erika Vaughn

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Higher Education

Measure: HB3120

Good afternoon, Chair Lively, Vice-Chair Ruiz and Vice-Chair McIntire and members of the

committee. For the record my name is Erika Vaughn and I am the Director of Instruction for Junction City School District. Thank you for allowing me to share with my experience and support of HB3120-2. I am here to provide testimony supporting HB3120-2, The Higher Education Coordinating

Commission shall establish a grant program for the purpose of supporting organizations that expand the scope and community reach of college access and success programs for the purpose of increasing college enrollment and post-secondary completion rates for Oregon's historically underrepresented. This bill also aligns with the recommendations of the Joint Task Force On Student Success for Underrepresented Students in Higher Education (JTUSHE). In the last biennium budget, HB 2412-2 invested \$5 Million to five College Access and Success organizations in the state. The intended purpose of those funds was to increase support services for Oregon's historically underrepresented students and expand the number of students served across the state.

We are in our 2nd year of AVID implementation. As a start up district, these additional professional development funds have allowed us to provide more and ongoing professional development to our teachers. These funds have allowed us to broaden our capacity as a district to support students. We have sent staff the the summer trainings as well as to the showcase visits in Oregon. Our goal is to increase college access for our students and increase college enrollment especially for our first generation college families and students who have been historically underrepresented. The AVID program directly supports these efforts.

Thanks for your consideration in supporting ongoing funding to our schools in Oregon and district.