

Mindy Buss,
Gresham

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain, and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Education Subcommittee,

As a parent of a child who attends Gresham Arthur Academy, I urge you to support HB 5015 and appropriate at least \$10.3billion for the next biennium's state school fund.

Gresham Arthur Academy is a charter school that has been providing exceptional education to our children but has, unfortunately, been receiving significantly less financial support than district run public schools. Public charter schools who serve grades K - 8th grade only receive 80% of the State School Fund allocation that a district-run school receives. While our PTA has been extraordinary in their efforts to bridge the gap through donations, fundraising, and volunteering, it is my firm belief that parents should not have to bear this burden alone.

The teachers at Gresham Arthur Academy are dedicated, caring professionals who have had a transformative impact on our children. In my personal experience, my oldest child, who started at the school in 1st grade, has become a straight A+ student under their guidance. I believe that the quality of education offered at our school is unparalleled within the rest of the district.

Despite the evident success of Gresham Arthur Academy, there is still much room for improvement, which can only be achieved through increased funding in the State School Fund. With additional resources, our school would be able to hire more staff to maintain smaller class sizes and provide individualized attention to our students. Furthermore, increased funding would enable the school to offer a wider range of opportunities, such as more field trips, in-class projects, and extracurricular activities that would enhance the educational experience for and ensure more well-rounded development for our children.

As a parent and a proud supporter of Gresham Arthur Academy, I ask that you consider allocating additional funding to our school so that we may continue to thrive and give our children the education that they deserve. With your support, we can ensure that Gresham Arthur Academy and public charter schools across the state remain a beacon of excellence and a source of pride for our students.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I trust that you will give this request the consideration it deserves and make a decision that supports our children, our schools, and our community as a whole.