

Support HB 3444 – Fair Funding for Public Charter Schools

Written testimony

I have recently retired from six years' service on the Board of Sauvie Island School, a public charter school. We receive 80% of the ADMw from our district. We are always looking for ways to advocate for a larger percentage. We have to pay our teachers about 3% less than district teachers with the same qualifications and years of teaching. Fewer benefits as well. We'd love to bring them up to par.

Without incredible fundraising by our parent club, we could not offer music and art classes. The Parent Teacher Club pays for other essential learning opportunities as well.

Our school not only serves Sauvie Island families, but many students from neighboring areas, since admissions are open to the public on a lottery basis.

SIS offers a unique place-based curriculum, which is successful for all types of learners. We are a valuable source for innovative curriculum and a resource for district families who believe their children will thrive in a K-8 setting with class size limited to 24 and close relationships with teachers.

I whole-heartedly support HB 3444 – Fair Funding for Public Charter Schools!

Submitted 3/8/25 by Stephanie McBride