

Legislators,

I have taught in the Beaverton School District since 2006, and my 13 years of experience show that investing in education greatly benefits our community and society while decreasing funding hurts us all. I ask that you fund education adequately by supporting House Bill 3427 from the Joint Committee for Student Success. My students and students all over the state deserve this investment. Their future is our future, and they are worth it.

When I ask my students what helps them learn best, almost all of them mention something about a personal relationship with their teacher. If a student feels that their teacher cares about them and wants them to succeed, that student is more likely to ask for help, make an effort in class and on assignments, and build positive habits.

To that end, I endeavor to build personal relationships with each of my students. I struggle to do so, however, when my class sizes grow every year. When I first started in the district, my class sizes were approximately 30 students. Over the years, they have grown to 36 students on average.

Six additional students per class might not seem like it would make an impact, but it does. Six more students means three more tables and six more chairs taking up space in my classroom, making it almost impossible to walk around the room to check in with individual students. Six more students means roughly 30 more minutes of grading per assignment per class. I teach five classes, so that's two and a half hours more grading per assignment. Six more students means six more people that I need to connect with one-on-one to build a relationship.

Without adequate funding, class sizes will grow even further, and students will suffer. Do not limit their future by limiting their funding.

Please help me support Oregon students as they work to better themselves by supporting House Bill 3427. Thank you.

Becky Martin

Pronouns: she/her

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