



Canal Winchester
LOCAL SCHOOLS

Education Center

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Nick Roberts
100 Washington Street
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May 25, 2023

Subject: Testimony in Support of Adopting the Fair Funding Formula with 2022 Base Cost Inputs

Dear Members of the Ohio Senate,

I am writing to express my strong support for the adoption of the Fair Funding Formula for Ohio's education system. As a concerned citizen and advocate for quality education, I firmly believe that the fair funding formula that incorporates 2022 base cost inputs is crucial for the future success of our state's educational institutions and, more importantly, our students.

Education is the cornerstone of a prosperous society. It shapes the minds and nurtures the talents of our future leaders, workers, and innovators. However, the current funding system in Ohio has long been plagued by inequalities and inadequacies, hindering the ability of many districts to provide a quality education to their students. By adopting the Fair Funding Formula, we can address these issues head-on and create a more equitable and inclusive educational landscape for all Ohio students.

One of the key components of the Fair Funding Formula is the use of 2022 base cost inputs. This ensures that the funding allocation accurately reflects the current needs of school districts, taking into account factors such as student enrollment, special education requirements, and the cost of instructional materials. By using up-to-date data, we can better allocate resources where they are most needed, promoting fairness and equal opportunities across the state.

Our school district has achieved a higher cash balance due to several prudent financial practices and successful resource management strategies. First and foremost, our district has consistently prioritized fiscal responsibility by implementing effective budgeting and expenditure control measures. This includes careful monitoring of expenses, optimizing purchasing practices, and seeking cost-saving opportunities without compromising the quality of education. Moreover, our district has received additional one-time funding through grants and community partnerships, which has contributed to the growth of our cash balance.

Moving forward, there are several ways we will responsibly spend these funds to further enhance the educational experience for our students. Examples include investing in modern technology and infrastructure upgrades, expanding educational programs and extracurricular activities, providing professional development opportunities for teachers, and bolstering resources for special education and mental health services. By thoughtfully allocating these funds, we will continue to elevate the quality of education and ensure the success of all our students.

By adopting the phased-in Fair Funding Formula with updated base cost inputs, Ohio has an opportunity to lead the way in providing an exemplary education system that serves all students equitably. This reform will not only benefit students in underfunded districts, but it will also strengthen our economy, foster social mobility, and reduce the achievement gap. It is an investment in the future of Ohio and its citizens.

I urge you, esteemed members of the Ohio Senate, to prioritize the adoption of the fair funding formula that incorporates 2022 base cost inputs. Let us work together to build a future where every child in Ohio has access to a quality education, regardless of their ZIP code or socioeconomic background.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. I have faith that by taking decisive action, you will make a positive and lasting impact on the lives of countless students and the future of our great state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Roberts", with a stylized, cursive script.

Nick Roberts