

I am Emily Weathers, Loveland School District resident and parent of a daughter enrolled there. I work for Cincinnati Children's Hospital and digital communications for our School-Based Health Programs. Funding Ohio public schools is important not only for fair and accessible education for Ohio's children. It is often vitally important to children who rely on schools as a safe place to learn and thrive through meal programs, IDCs, and programs like school-based health, bringing basic healthcare to children particularly in underserved populations.

I strongly urge you and the committee to support the 90% of school children in Ohio who attend public schools. Ohio, and Loveland specifically, receives some of the lowest state support for education already. In Loveland I already pay a heavy local share of 61% while the state pays only 28%. I cannot continue to afford education for my daughter should more responsibility be placed upon the hard-working residents like myself.

I ask that you fully fund the 3rd phase of the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget. Please protect the guarantee for Loveland and similar districts. I would also ask that you increase the state minimum share from 10% to 20%. This is vitally important to so many children and families in the state of Ohio. PLEASE do what is right for the children.