

Written Testimony - Fair School Funding Plan
Andrea Granieri
Resident, Anderson Township, OH

Chair Fowler Arthur, Vice Chair Odioso, Ranking Member Robinson, and members of the House Education Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to submit written testimony. My name is Andrea Granieri, and I am a resident of Anderson Township and proud parent to two students in the Forest Hills School District. I am submitting testimony to urge the committee to include the 3rd phase of the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget.

Suburban school districts like Forest Hills already receive less funding per pupil than other Ohio Schools while achieving at the top of all "best of" school lists. According to the Ohio Department of Education CUPP report, the average funding per pupil in the state is \$7,443.12. The cost per pupil received in our district is only \$3,607.91. Our community is made up primarily of middle-class families who are already over-extended. We do not have the capacity to pass further levies to make up the difference should our state funding decrease even further.

One of the main reasons our community was able to pass our most recent levy is because our district proudly spends less per pupil with greater achievement than our peers in similar districts (Forest Hills at \$14,700.91 vs state average of \$16,310.87). But the hit our district would take without the Fair School funding plan would be devastating.

My asks for this committee are:

- Protect the guarantee for Forest Hills and similar districts
- Fully implement the Fair School Funding Plan, including the phase-in, and update the inputs (updating of the inputs means we are updating for the current cost of living - the current proposal is to have us stay at costs from four years ago)
- Increase the state share minimum from 10% to 20% to ensure that public education remains a shared state and local responsibility.

I ask you to consider my testimony and choose to support the 90% of Ohio students who attend public schools.

Please include the 3rd phase of the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan in the state budget. Thank you again for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Andrea Granieri