

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

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Sarah Kelly. I am a public high school English teacher in Parma City Schools and we need as much support as we can get. I'm here to urge the committee to continue phasing the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan into Ohio's budget.

Every day I enter my classroom not knowing what to expect. Sometimes students ask me if I have any food because they're hungry. Other times, I have students who do not attend class for several days at a time. At least once every few days it is brought to my attention that a student is severely struggling with their mental or physical health.

My job is to teach my students reading and writing.

And despite everything going on in their lives, my students work hard. They work hard, despite the fact that a local levy has not passed since 2011. They work hard, despite an initiative to build a new high school did not pass. They work hard, despite our superintendent leaving for another district. They work hard, despite Governor Dewine's looming \$2.5 million in cuts to core services for next school year.

Our students need help.

My students who previously attended a charter school especially need your help. These students openly tell me that they are not prepared to do the work I am asking them to do because they attended a local charter school in years past.

Our public school students need your help.

Our students deserve to have a properly funded education. Thankfully, a bipartisan committee was designed to do exactly that - properly fund their education. Please continue phasing the bipartisan Fair School Funding Plan into Ohio's budget

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.