

# Public Testimony on Fair Funding for Ohio's Public Schools

Presented to the Ohio House Education Committee

March 4, 2025

Chairman, Vice Chair, Ranking Member and members of the committee,

My name is Adrienne Striker, a parent of two children at Clinton Elementary School and volunteer a lot of time at the school helping with events, fundraising for needed supplies and activities and advocating for all the students at our school. Our school has great parent involvement but we still see the effects that not enough funding has on our students and our school district overall. I believe all students should have a chance at a good education with services that meet their individual needs no matter their race, gender identity/expression, family income, cognitive and physical abilities or zip code.

My children are still young in the education path but I want them to get all the services they might need along their learning journey. With services to help with education subjects as well as emotional and social well being, I know my kids will grow into strong, independent members of society one day. The proposed budget cuts target those services for my children as well as all children in the district and across the state. I not only worry for my kid's future but even more so for the more vulnerable students in our school and beyond that will be disproportionately affected by these cuts.

The governor's proposed school funding puts the most vulnerable students at an academic disadvantage and at risk for their social, mental and physical health. This will cut more than \$45 million from Columbus City Schools alone over the next two years, forcing schools to make impossible choices about what programs, teachers and student supports they can afford to lose.

I hope you will stand by Ohio's kids and vote to fully fund our schools. Don't let them down!

Thank you,  
Adrienne Striker, Parent