

As a parent and taxpayer in Columbus City Schools (CCS), I am urging you to vote against the proposed budget that would strip our district of over \$45 million in state funding over the next two years. This cut is based on a flawed funding formula that treats CCS as if it has the same wealth and resources as affluent suburban districts—when in reality, our students already face greater challenges and fewer opportunities. These lost funds will jeopardize essential programs, including Pre-K expansion, student technology, mental health and family support, and school climate initiatives—resources that our children rely on every day.

Columbus voters passed a tax levy in good faith to support our schools, yet this budget undermines that trust by forcing our district to use those locally approved funds just to fill the gap left by the state's cuts. Our families will still pay for the levy but will not receive the services they were promised. This is fundamentally unfair. I urge you to stand with the 47,000 students of CCS and vote against this budget proposal. Our children's education—and their future—depend on it.

Jane Magness De Bonis