

**Testimony for House Bill 96**  
**Senate Education Committee**  
**May 6, 2025**

**Katherine Wagner, Graphic Designer, parent of FHSD child**

Chair Andrew Brenner, Vice Chair Bill Blessing, Ranking Member Catherine Ingram, and members of the Education committee of the Ohio Senate:

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is Katherine Wagner. I am a parent and resident in the Forest Hills School District. My husband and I are both business owners in the community and our daughter has been a Forest Hills student for 9 years. I am writing to say that I am in support of fully funding Ohio's public schools in the budget bill and I am concerned about the local burden of taxes and levies already placed on our community to support our public school district.

Please help Forest Hills additionally with the 3 items below:

- Eliminate cap on savings
- Protect the Guarantee for districts like FHSD
- Fully phase in the Fair School Funding Plan

My husband and I both attended 12 years of private Catholic schools when we were kids. I had a very negative and traumatic experience with my private school education. Together we chose to send our daughter to Forest Hills Schools because we knew the education was excellent and the community and teachers are wonderful. It has been the best decision we have ever made! Our daughter is thriving, she has made many great friends and has always enjoyed her years in Forest Hills Schools. She will even be traveling abroad because of our amazing teachers' willingness to offer this. I think they are offering FAR above what my Catholic school education even offered me. I see so much value in keeping our schools funded so they can continue to help educate even more children in this way.

Again, I ask you to consider families like mine when you consider the public education budget, and specifically that you fully fund the Fair School Funding Plan. I appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony and your time.

- Katherine Wagner