

May 10, 2025

To: Ohio Senate Education Chair Andrew Brenner

The budget you are considering, in its current form, is not fulfilling the promise of Fair Funding for Public Schools. This is supposed to be the third phase of the promise to give Public School students the education they deserve and that the Ohio Constitution mandates.

Public Schools serve my neighborhood children every day. The staff educates them to live up to their fullest potential. Support staff provide opportunities for all children, especially those who have special learning needs. Public Schools are required to welcome all children into the districts' classrooms. And, the school districts are held accountable for learning progress and fiscal responsibility.

When we see you, the Ohio legislature, eager to fund vouchers for 10 % of the State's students and cut the funding to 90% of the State's students, the inequity speaks volumes. You are not living up to the promise of Fair Funding for Public Schools and you are cutting those services to all our communities, be they rural or urban, which depend on adequate funding to make a difference in the future lives of our youth.

Please fulfill the promise of Fair Funding for Public Schools. SB 96 should not be passed out of committee until you have stepped up to that promise.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Larson

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