

Senate Finance Committee

HB 33 Testimony

Miamisburg

City Schools

Montgomery County

Ann Niess, School Board Member

May 25th, 2023

Chair Dolan, Vice Chair Cirino, Ranking Member Sykes and members of the Senate Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill 33 in written form.

My name is Ann Niess, I am the Vice President of the Miamisburg School Board. We are a diverse suburban district with about 5,000 students. We have ten buildings in our district.

I am writing to ask you to please continue the implementation of the Fair School Funding formula. I am in the schools almost every day and see wonderful programs in place. Thank you for your continued support! I have served almost six years now.

However, with inflation and the desire to pay our teachers/staff a living wage, we are headed towards deficit spending. We haven't replaced retiring teachers or teachers who leave in order to cut costs. Class sizes in our Elementary Buildings will be 28-30 next year so that we can stay afloat.

This wonderful formula is about each child and meeting their needs. I have listened to various podcasts/interviews about Fair Funding and really like the student focused ideas behind it.

We are hoping that the state can help our district have a predictable and brighter future by continued phase in of the Fair Funding Formula. The possible increased tax burden on our community members, by asking for another levy right now, is simply too much for them to bear.

I was at the high school yesterday and a student told me she was loved by her teachers and loved them back. Another says he feels a sense of belonging. Our educators are providing an excellent education and building relationships as well. Please help us keep this wonderful scenario going.

Miamisburg City Schools supports the continuation of the Fair School Funding Formula. Thank you for this opportunity. Thank you for your time and attention.

