Appropriations Hearing March 9, 2021 Pradeep Chavan 3 Downey Drive Manchester, CT 06040

Hello, my name is Pradeep Chavan and I am a parent with a son who started Kindergarten at Odyssey Community School last year. We believe it was one of the best decisions we have made for our son. The staff and teachers are very helpful and genuinely care about each student. The teachers have the student's best interests in mind and will work with them to help them achieve their best.

I am writing to you today because as a parent who chose a school that works best for my son, I feel that it is only fair that he receives the same amount of funding as he would at any other public school in Connecticut. The purpose of education is to make good human beings with skills and expertise to build a better society. How can we fulfill this critical mission if we are denying them the full resources and funding they need? We will surely fail if we do this.

Governor Lamont is proposing the right, just, and an equitable thing that public charter school students should receive the same foundational amount of funding. After all, this is a dollar amount that the state said is the minimum amount required to properly educate a CT student.

Please don't leave our public charter schools out. I ask that you ensure all public school students, including charter students, are funding fairly and equitably. Together we can ensure every student, no matter what kind of school they go to is getting the best services possible and has everything needed to reach their dreams!

Warm Regards,

Pradeep Chavan 3 Downey Drive Manchester, CT 06040