

Appropriations Committee Testimony
SUPPORT: Executive Budget Charter School Per Pupil Increase
Tuesday, March 9, 2021

My name is Cerilla Craig and I am a proud mother of a third grade student at Booker T. Washington Academy (BTWA) in New Haven and I reside in your district. I am also the PTO President for this current school year.

Yes, I reside in Branford and commute daily to BTWA so my daughter has access to the education that best suits her learning style. BTWA has a vibrant family environment and the students are learning in amazing, unconventional ways. BTWA provides a private school education for my daughter at no cost.

As a high school student, I had the opportunity to receive scholarships to attend private schools in New Haven. This was a life-changing experience for me and I see this opportunity for my daughter as the start of a similar journey.

BTWA is a beacon of light in the Greater New Haven community, providing a safe space for children from all of the Greater New Haven area. The educational programs are second to none and I know that there is so much more BTWA could do with the proper funding.

I am writing today to ask that you support equitable funding for all students in Connecticut. This support will make a huge difference in the lives of many children from diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds.

Sincerely,
Cerilla Craig
BTWA Parent and 2019/20 PTO President
211 E. Main Street
Branford, CT