

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

My name is Elvert Eden and I am the Executive Director of Sportsometry, a New Haven resident, and a proud parent of a high school senior at Common Ground High School.

As a parent and supporter, I would like to share a few things that stand out for me regarding Common Ground:

- Communication is always clear and timely
- The academic, social and leadership development is second to none.
- The curriculum is challenging, and
- The environment is always warm and energetic
- The staff is always available and approachable

It is imperative for you to know that Common Ground matters to me, to its students, and to the Greater New Haven community. New Haven is filled with bright and talented young people who are eager to learn, make life long connections, and want to be mentored by people who care and thankfully, Common Ground provides the infrastructure, leadership, and accessibility to a great education that parents and students want and need.

I enjoyed observing the stable environment and the amount of individual attention youth receive from the team at Common Ground. Students walk the halls with their heads up high, smiles to the ceiling, and an energy that reflects a positive environment.

For these reasons, I am asking for your support in helping Common Ground and other charter schools reach equitable funding for their students by protecting Governor Lamont's proposed increase to charter school funding. This is vital in helping the school continue providing a quality education for many students for years to come. Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony and your consistent support of the community that needs you the most.

Sincerely,
Elvert Eden
Common Ground Parent
Executive Director of Sportsometry
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