

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

My name is Jami LaRue and I am a 2016 graduate of Achievement First Amistad High. I am also a 2020 graduate of Haverford College in PA who resides in your district.

As a graduate of Amistad High School and a student at Achievement First for eight years, I've been a witness to a lot of strengths and also the necessity for change. I am one of many people who have seen firsthand what this institution means for my community. My time at Achievement First not only shaped me as a student, it helped me find what it means to be educated, black and a woman, and what it means to occupy space in a meaningful way.

I'll be forever grateful for the motivation and work ethic that Amistad has instilled in me.

I was lucky enough to receive a seat through the lottery to attend an Achievement First school. Children shouldn't have to get lucky to break being disenfranchised. Continuing to underfund charter schools extends the systematic disparities communities of color experience often.

I am writing to ask that you show your support by helping in the best way you can and protect the Governor's proposed increase to funding for charter schools.

Sincerely,
Jami LaRue