

Appropriations Committee

SUPPORT: Executive Budget Charter School Per Pupil Increase

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Good Afternoon Appropriations Committee,

My name is Jessica Ramos-Mouning and I am a Bridgeport resident. I am born, raised and educated through our city of Bridgeport. I am a mother of 3 elementary school children that currently attend St. Andrew Academy of Bridgeport. I retired from the Bridgeport Board Of Education in the Summer of 2019.

Since then, I have had the pleasure of working in the public Charter sector with an amazing school called Great Oaks Bridgeport Charter School. I can truly say that I am blessed to have all 3 perspectives of education; Public, Charter and Private. This has given me a unique understanding when it comes to our school system in Bridgeport. One thing that is clear to me, is that families need choice in education, coupled by financial support and resources to serve a community like mine, with one of the largest educational gaps in our State.

My motto has always been, "Serve the children and serve them well". Throughout my professional career in our schools, I have always led with the principal of treating all of our families with respect and dignity being attentive to their needs.

One of the greatest moments of joy for me, has been to witness the level of commitment that Great Oaks has for our families in our city. They are committed to ensuring that all of our children are fully prepared to get to and through to college successfully!

I love the amazing leadership program/ tutoring program that encompasses the whole child!

I am sure that you have heard many speeches and testimonies from parents, teachers, school leaders telling you that it is imperative that we receive adequate/fair funding for our schools/students, and I am just another plea to add to your list.

I have one question for you to think about as you deliberate, would you be satisfied with this same unequal funding if it was for your child?

Before I conclude I would like to take the time to thank our Legislators and our city officials for continuing to rally and support all of our efforts to ensure that every student is given an opportunity to receive a quality education!

I want to thank the Governor for his proposal, it's a step in the right direction!

There is no time like the present to bring justice and equity in education for all of Connecticut children. Join me!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Best regards,

Jessica Ramos-Mouning



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