

March 9, 2021  
Latisha Williams  
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My name is Latisha Williams and I am a mother of a 5th grader at Achievement First Elementary School.

I wanted to write to you today because I know that we all have a lot on our plates with the coronavirus crisis we are facing. But there is another crisis we Connecticut charter school families are facing and that's the potential cut of millions of dollars from our schools that we love and that are excellently serving our children.

My son, Noah, is a thriving 5th grader at AF. Over the last two years, I have noticed tremendous growth in his academics, particularly in math. Before Noah attended AFHEA, he struggled in class and now he is on the Principal's List for academic achievement. His teachers continue to raise the bar every time. This is because, like a lot of our charter schools, Achievement First strives for excellence and pushes our scholars to move mountains.

There are academic and social experiences that our students don't get to enjoy, that could really enrich their school experience. Even though there are schools, like AF, that is doing more with less, we are still at a disadvantage because we can't take advantage of these many opportunities to create or expand programs due to inadequate funding; the Governor's proposed cuts will certainly now make that impossible.

I know that you are passionate about all our children having what they need to succeed in school. I ask that you, in your capacity as a legislator and representative for our community, vote against this steep cut to our charter schools and continue to give our kids every fighting chance they deserve to be successful.

Kindest Regards,

Latisha Williams  
24 Marshall Street  
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