
Testimony

1 message

Michael McCambridge <mmccambridge@indyschools.com>
To: Jason McAfee <jmcafee@indyschools.com>

Fri, Feb 2, 2024 at 10:09 AM

Dear K-12 Budget Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the recent bill that proposes tying at-risk funding to the achievement of 75% of the identified sub-group reaching a level 3 or 4 on state assessments. As both a parent and the Assistant Principal at Independence High School, I am deeply concerned about the potential implications of this bill on our students.

In my role, I work closely with students who, despite being beyond college and career-ready, may struggle to achieve a level 3 or 4 on state assessments and instead score in levels 1-2. These students are not accurately represented by their performance on these assessments, as they possess the skills and knowledge necessary for success beyond high school. This success is due to the work that Kansas educators are doing daily in our schools.

Linking at-risk funding to such a specific achievement metric is, in my opinion, preposterous. It fails to account for the diverse needs and strengths of students within the identified sub-group. Moreover, it overlooks the dedicated efforts of educators and the unique circumstances that may impact student performance on standardized tests.

I urge you to consider the perspectives of those who work directly with students on a daily basis. The proposed bill, if enacted, would not only be a disservice to our students but also a discredit to the hard work and commitment of our educators. Instead of making interpretations from a distance, I implore you to listen to the voices of those who are in the trenches, advocating for the best interests of our students.

Thank you for considering my testimony on this crucial matter. I hope that you will take into account the real-world implications of this bill and reconsider its potential impact on our students and schools.

Sincerely,

Michael McCambridge

Assistant Principal Independence High School and Parent of Kansas students

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Michael McCambridge

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"The mission of Independence Public Schools is to ensure all students develop the skills necessary to be productive citizens and reach their maximum potential in our diverse society."