

March 3, 2015

Good Evening Legislators:

I stand before you as a parent of two magnet school students. Both of them attend MPTPA (Medical Professions and Teacher Preparations Academy). My daughter is an 8th grader and has attended MPTPA for 3 years. My son is a 7th grader and has attended for two years. Both of them two very different learners, yet both of them have had positive academic experiences at MPTPA. The teachers they have worked with my children tirelessly. They want both of my children to succeed just as much as I do, and it shows. For example at conference times I receive detailed reports from each class about my child's strengths and weaknesses. To me as a parent that demonstrates that these teachers have spent some quality time academically to be able to break down my child's learning in this type of detail. The teachers are committed to what they do beyond a 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. job. They give of their time to coach sports, come to school for Saturday Academy, and many other extra curricular activities.

I also appreciate that MPTPA is a theme school. My daughter has always wanted to be a doctor since she was in Preschool, and that dream is still a goal of hers. Being at MPTPA she will be able as a high school student to choose medical as her career path and begin focusing on achieving her goal as a high school student. There are a lot of medical opportunities for her to experience as a high school student at MPTPA.

My son on the other hand requires a tad bit more attention and I feel had he gone to public school, he would have fallen through the cracks. Here at MPTPA, this is not so. Teachers have been working with him and have been dedicated to making sure that he has what he needs to be a successful and confident student.

I feel like without the proper funding a lot of the tools and technology that the teachers have would not have been possible and for that I say thank you.

I ask that you continue to fund Magnet Schools because these students are America's future and we need these type of preparations that students receive at MPTPA and other magnets schools for them to be able to be successful amongst their peers globally. Are tax dollars need to invest in the students of today so that are return can be great leaders of tomorrow, and magnet schools are the way to make it happen. thank you.

Respectfully submitted, Virginia Brown