

*Connecticut General Assembly  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Elementary & Secondary  
Education  
Public Hearing  
March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015*

My name is Charlotte Cabral and I am here today in support of LEARN magnet schools in southeastern Connecticut. I am 9 years old and in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. I go to the oldest magnet school in the State -- the Regional Multicultural Magnet School in New London. I live in Groton.

I love my school and I want to tell you about it.

I am here because at my magnet school, we need an increase to our school's funding, and an increase for the magnet school bus grant. I've heard that the funding for Connecticut magnet schools is not equal. I wonder if you know these important points about my magnet school.

At my magnet school, they don't just teach us facts, they teach us how to be a good citizen.

At my magnet school, we take responsibility for making positive changes in the world and we do things for the greater good.

At my magnet school, we wonder and notice things.

At my magnet school, we practice public speaking starting in kindergarten so that we grow up with the experience. That's an important one 😊

At my magnet school we learn about different cultures and languages, and we honor diversity.

At my magnet school, I feel like I am responsible for my learning. I know that if I work hard and do my best I will succeed.

At my magnet school, my classes have friends from all different backgrounds and cultures.

Those are just some of the great things about the Regional Multicultural Magnet School. I am here today because I would like to ask you for more funding for our school and buses, please.

I wonder if you know that my magnet school hasn't had an increase in funds in 4 years. The school needs an increase to keep our programs.

I noticed that every year I have some friends that have to leave my magnet school because their buses are being cut and they no longer can get to school.

I wonder if you know that the bus money for magnet schools outside of Hartford hasn't increase in 8 years.

Please help our great school stay great, and please help us keep the buses running. Please support LEARN magnet schools in southeastern Connecticut. Thank you for your time.