

Connecticut General Assembly
Appropriations Subcommittee on Elementary & Secondary Education
Public Hearing
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Hello Everyone:

I am Sara Beth Bouchard and I attend Dual Language Arts Magnet Middle School. I love my school for many reasons. I love that teachers know every ones' names and that we all learn about each other's cultures.

I also like that everyone can learn Spanish even if they have never spoken it before. Spanish is incorporated into all the subjects. My favorite subject is art. We have many art supplies and have the freedom to make a large variety of projects in small groups or by ourselves. Currently, I am brainstorming ideas for my capstone project. It is a cool experience making art with lots of cool, different and professional supplies.

I have made many friends from different cultures, religions and races in my school. I enjoy looking around and noticing that everyone is different. Some people speak only English. Some only know Spanish. Some people are from Hawaii and others are Native American. Where ever you look, magnet schools seem to be from all around the world. I am thankful that I have the opportunity to attend a magnet school.

I love the technology aspect at my school. I love how everyone gets an iPad in my school. I seem to learn better when programs like *Schoology*, *Kahoot*, *Newsela*, *Glogster*, and *Google Docs* are used for everyday learning. My school recently got a Technology Wizard (Technology Specialist), who is really funny. One day while I was walking in the hallway, he was scanning an image on his iPad. Then that image became a video on his iPad. It was really cool.

Funding and transportation are two major problems. LEARN Magnets Schools need an increase in funding so magnets schools can continue having students and providing them with great learning experiences. Transportation needs to be provided from all the districts so more students can get the education they wish to have.

Thank you all for listening.

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