

Dear State Department of Ed Appropriations Hearing Members,

When discussing the future of the Parent Trust Fund today, I ask that you continue to support it in our state budget. I am a graduate of two classes funded through the Parent Trust Fund: People Empowering People (PEP) and Parents Supporting Educational Excellence (Parents SEE).

On the morning of Wednesday, February 3, 2016, I attended a “Stand United” event at the capitol in Hartford sponsored by CT Parent Power. Along with my fellow parent leaders and their children, I shared my experience on what the discovery programs in Plymouth have meant to me and listened to legislators express their support.

We all spoke about the Plymouth Keys For Kindness community initiative we developed as our required PEP project. This was made possible through the Parent Trust Fund. It is what united all of us in not only community service, but in friendship. These programs bring people and communities together and empower them to make positive change, a much needed outcome in the world today.

We made our voices heard that day through song and hope it made an impact. We can’t do it by ourselves, as our song so powerfully stated, so we’re asking for your help! Together we are changing Connecticut and I hope we inspired others to do the same.

Please continue to support these programs and ensure that children and families remain a priority.

Sincerely,  
Jennifer DeForest  
Parent Leader  
Plymouth, CT

