Education Committee
SUPPORT: Executive Budget Charter School Per Pupil Increase
Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Dear Members of the Education Committee,

My name is Jessy Toro, I write this letter to thank you for your work and your commitment in our city of Bridgeport. In addition, I'm also reaching out to ask that you support me and other parents in my community in our fight for equal funding in education.

I was born in Bridgeport, I have lived in Bridgeport for the past 30 years, as a youth I attended Bullard Havens.
I raised my two children in Bridgeport, they attended Classical Studies and graduated from The Bridge- both are in the workforce currently. The solid education and overall atmosphere of positive empowerment at the Bridge Academy has played a vital role in how they handle challenges as they experience adulthood.

I returned to school as an adult and I am currently an Addiction Counselor at the Center for Human Service.

The beauty of our city in Bridgeport is that we are resilient amid so many challenges. But no one should confuse that with the notion, that we don't know our rights and that we won't fight for what is just and equitable.

Today I along with a community of more than 11, 000 families, supporters and 21 schools in over 10 Connecticut cities and towns, demand the end of inequitable funding for charter school students. We need public school funding to be student focused, equitable regardless of race, class, zip code or type of school they attend. Finally I ask that you help us secure the funding for Danbury prospect to open and for Stamford Excellence to secure its middle school grades. These children can't be left stuck in crowded schools in Danbury, and in Stamford left without access to a school that is top in the State.

I look forward to hearing from you.

I stand in support of SB 948, SB 949 and SB 886.

Best regards,

Jessy Toro

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