

Senator Andrew Dinniman
One North Church Street
West Chester, PA 19380

January 16, 2020

Dear Senator Andrew Dinniman,

I am writing to express my many concerns with equal funding for Charter schools. Most recently, the issues with the Coatesville Area School District and false communications to the Coatesville Community regarding how Charter Schools are funded.

First, I would like to share my support for areas that strengthen accountability and transparency standards for charter schools. As recipients of taxpayer dollars, every public school should be held to the highest standards to ensure they are acting ethically and fiscally responsible. Secondly, both charter schools and school districts would benefit from a uniform charter school application, as a way to create a level playing field. I also agree that the best way to examine these issues is by a legislatively created fair and balanced funding commission.

The problem in Coatesville Area School District is not Charter Schools; the problem in CASD is misappropriation of funds and a lack of transparency. To the detriment of the students they serve, the Coatesville Area School District (CASD), has mismanaged their funds. This mismanagement is not only unethical but has caused a deficit. The CASD deficit does not mean Charter Schools have surplus funding, it simply means that CASD mismanaged their own funds and are looking for a scapegoat to blame for increased taxes. The District is indicating the Charter School is "money grabbing" district funds, that the charter school is to blame for CASD increase in taxes. However, the Charter School is simply requesting CASD allocate the funds according the Pennsylvania Law. The Avon Grove Charter School operates efficiently and ethically on less dollars per student than CASD.

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to visit Avon Grove Charter School at any time. I am positive that you will find our school to be a productive environment for our students, a fantastic place to work for our staff and a proud representation of high-quality public schools in Pennsylvania run efficiently and transparently on a tight budget. If you would like to set up a school visit or would like to discuss the issues addressed in this letter, please feel free to contact me at the number below.

Sincerely,