

December 2, 2022

Dear District 3 School Board Director Chandra Hampson,

On behalf of the Bryant PTSA and the undersigned caregivers of students currently enrolled at Bryant elementary, we would like to *urge you to advocate to Seattle Public Schools (SPS) to ensure Bryant elementary school receives staff funding in accordance with the current enrollment level at the school this year. This includes funding the librarian position fully along with additional specialist teacher funding.*

To stabilize the school post-pandemic, adequate funding and staffing resources are critical. As you likely are aware, this year's school funding was impacted by SPS-based enrollment projections last spring which led to staff cuts. Following a recalculation of enrollment levels at the school this fall, some teaching positions were restored. However, funding remains outstanding for additional FTE time. This includes funding for our librarian.

Budget cuts have significantly impacted our school's programming and services. In particular, library programming and student reading development opportunities have been impacted at the school. Student library checkouts have been reduced to half, impacting students' independent reading opportunities and the early development of good reading habits.

However, based on the school's fall enrollment levels and a review of the funding formula that SPS uses to make staffing decisions, additional staff time should be assigned to our school by policy.

*For future funding decisions, given SPS's cited projected budget shortfalls, we would also like to request information on how the school district plans to address resource gaps in the future. We would like to know whether there is consideration for - and urge against - changes to staffing level formulas through updates to the Weighted Staffing Standard model, which would significantly impact and increase student-teacher class ratio sizes.*

Thank you for your time. We look forward to working with you to advocate for fair and full funding for the school to promote: its operational stability; effective service delivery for the students; and the work of the teachers and administration.

*Sincerely,*

*The Bryant Parent Teacher Student Association  
The 253 Undersigned Parents*