

March 20, 2019

Governor Charlie Baker
The State House
24 Beacon Street
Office of the Governor, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker:

We, the undersigned, are committed to seeing that all students receive the high quality public education they deserve and require to be successful in college, careers and citizenship.

We believe that public schools are the engine of our future economic growth and shared prosperity, and must receive the financial support they need in order for students to be successful. More resources are needed to address the findings of the Foundation Budget Review Commission and ensure that all students receive adequate educational opportunities.

Yet, money alone is not enough to close persistent and severe opportunity and achievement gaps that plague our most disadvantaged communities and leave too many of our students behind. Money alone cannot address the skills gaps that threaten economic growth.

Experience, research, and practice-based evidence (including evidence from bright spots of success in our state) have shown that just putting more money into the system – even when expressly for the purpose of addressing achievement gaps – does not get us improved outcomes.

Massachusetts public education is at a critical juncture. Our students cannot afford for us to squander this opportunity to ensure resources are used effectively and efficiently. This next chapter of education improvement must include a combination of *more* spending and *better* uses of our resources.

We, the undersigned, will support a bill that is aligned with the following principles:

- **Equitable funding**
- **Focus on outcomes and evidence**
- **Unleashing educator innovation**
- **Innovations in governance and educator autonomy**
- **Transformative school leadership**
- **Creating pathways to college success and future employment**
- **Enhanced state partnership tools and resources**
- **Data transparency**

We are committed to working with you to pass meaningful legislation that will have a true impact for our students.

Sincerely,

cc: Secretary James A. Peyser
Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley