

Good evening Board of Education President Brandman, Dr. Weast and Board Members,

My name is Brittany Nickens. I'm an 8th grade student and Student Government president of A. Mario Loiederman Middle School for the Creative and Performing Arts. Because of your funding and support the magnet program at Loiederman has been an amazing experience for my school. My peers and I are very thankful for your support and will be glad if you continue your support and fund our school.

Having the choices of taking multiple, year-long arts classes such as chorus, dance, art, theater, digital art and digital music has been a wonderful experience. Without performing arts classes, Loiederman would be an ordinary school with only social studies, math, reading, English and gym. I attended Brookhaven elementary school and I personally think having had 3 choices for middle school was a brilliant idea because I get to take classes that interest me, including high school credit classes like Spanish, French, Advanced English and arts classes. Speaking of classes, Loiederman has excellent staff that really cares for the students and getting their job done.

My peers and I very much appreciate your approval of taking 8 classes; without this we would only have the choice of taking one elective. I remember in 6th grade I took perspectives. In perspectives I did dance, art, and theatre. It was like a preview of what Loiederman is all about but as a class. Every 6th grade student takes perspectives.

A. Mario Loiederman Middle School is a special school to many students that live in different parts of our county because they get to perform and demonstrate what interests them. The magnet has drawn such a diverse group of students. I hope you will continue to fund us as we are so that we can have such a mix of kids and courses. My name is Brittany Nickens. Thanks for listening.