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**From:** Anne Forrester <anneforrester119@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 27, 2020 3:48 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** statement for city council meeting tonight

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Good afternoon,  
The following is my comment for the city council meeting tonight.

My name is Anne Forrester and I am an ESL teacher in RPS. I want to echo the statements that my colleagues have made and will make about the importance of maintaining funding to new positions and resources for English Learners. These resources include, but are not limited to the 10 new ESL teacher positions and, ESL compliance positions, and the Newcomer Programs. My students are overwhelmingly newcomers to the US and are mainly assessed for growth on their advancing English proficiency. Since school has been closed, my students have lost access to the main content to which they are assessed, language, since most of my students live in spanish speaking homes in communities that are also mostly spanish speaking. If and when school resumes, my students will need extra support to make the gains that will be expected of them. The RPS LEIP team has worked tirelessly this year to get our program where it should have been years ago. We have made progress, but there is much still to do. It's imperative that we have the resources and staff in place to continue making equity in education a reality for our English learners when we return from this extended closure.

thanks,

Anne Forrester  
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