

Good morning, Chairman Beard and members of the Senate Education committee. Hello, my name is Juan, I am a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at Wishek Public School. I came to Wishek from San Julián, Jalisco, Mexico when I was 3 years old. I want to share with you today the successes I have made at Wishek Public School.

When I first started school, I did not know any English. It was a challenging time, but also an exciting one, because I knew I was starting something new. I am so grateful to all the teachers who helped me along the way, especially Mrs. Weber, Ms. Scherbenske, and Mrs. Kuntz. Their support has made a huge difference for my sister and I as we adapted and learned English to be able to succeed and achieve personal milestones. I am now able to speak English with much more confidence.

Thanks to the teachers and staff at Wishek Public School, I was able to learn how to speak English and better understand this new place that I now call home. I do not have enough words to thank everyone for what they have done for me and my family.