

Good afternoon. My my son is part of Metro East Academy's Early College Program (MEWA). He switched from his traditional local high school immediately after his freshman year because he felt well beyond what he was being taught in high school and was simply not being challenged. It also seemed he had very little in common with other students. He had a lot of friends, but he really felt much more mature and goal focused than pretty much everyone he knew in high school. So, the summer after his freshman year, when he was 15 years old, we looked into alternate learning options and by chance came upon a flyer for MEWA. After several meetings with MEWA and Mt Hood community college reps, he enrolled in the early college program. He takes all of his classes at local community colleges and is now finishing up his second year of college with a 3.6 GPA, 76 college credits, and eligibility to graduate a year early from high school. My son is extremely happy and successful and I believe most of that has to do with having the option to attend this online charter school, and the chance for he and I to choose what we felt best for his situation. Traditional public schools simply do not fit every child, nor every family, and often times it has nothing to do with the "success" of the school or district itself, but more to do with what that child really needs in order to learn. Due to my son's success, I'm open to looking into online charter schools for my 6th grader when she gets closer to high school, if that's what she needs then. I sincerely hope that we parents will still be given the opportunity to choose and not be limited by what public school districts think is best for our children vs what parents know is best for them. Thank you.