

Submitter: Mark Pratt Russum
On Behalf Of: Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

Hello,

My name is Mark Pratt-Russum and both of my children are enrolled at Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School. Due to a leasing issue with the Gresham/Barlow School district, the school is being forced to find a new location. If this bill is passed, it will make the school that our children have thrived at disappear completely.

My son, who is neurodivergent has thrived at Lewis and Clark Montessori. When he started attending (3rd grade) he was reading at a kindergarten level. He is now in 4th grade and reading at an age appropriate level. Not to mention he has formed close bonds with his teachers and classmates, something that has never happened in previous schools.

To hear that his school could be ripped away from him makes me feel so angry and hurt. If we need to find a new school it will be devastating for my son and our entire family. We have finally felt relieved he is receiving the type of education that suits his unique developmental needs. Please consider how absolutely crushing this would be to me and my family.

Please don't do this.

Mark Pratt-Russum