

Submitter: Domenica Lam
On Behalf Of: Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter School
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure: SB767

My family loves Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School.

My children have attended since they were preschool age. It is more than a school, it is our community. We belong there. We are now being forced to relocate due to a lease termination by our sponsoring district, Gresham Barlow School District (GBSD). This has been a hardship and has required an extraordinary effort to find a suitable location to move.

It would, of course, be ideal for us to remain inside GBSD boundaries- however, with the extremely limited time frame and lack of existing facilities to accommodate 17 classrooms- our choices are very limited.

Our possible new home for Lewis and Clark Montessori Charter is located less than 1000 ft from the GBSD boundary.

We would like to turn an unfortunate situation into a positive impact by accomplishing the move from a rural location that is inaccessible by public transportation to one that opens access for enrollment to underserved, more diverse populations in Rockwood and the surrounding area while also continuing to serve our current families. Greater access & diversity is a key component of our current Strategic Plan.

Lewis & Clark Montessori Charter School has been in existence for over 14 years. To lose it now would be losing a community that is like family to our children and us as parents.