

Lake Oswego School District

Office of the Superintendent 2455 SW Country Club Road P.O. Box 70 Lake Oswego, Oregon 97034-0070 503-534-2000

Bill: House Bill 2767 Position: Support Name: Dr. Jennifer Schiele, Superintendent

Dear Chair Neron, Vice-Chairs Hudson and Wright, and members of the House Committee on Education:

I am writing today in support of House Bill 2767, which will create a long-term, sustainable funding and governance model for recovery high schools in Oregon. Recovery high schools provide a safe, supportive education for youth in recovery from substance use and mental health disorders and **it is critical that Oregon begin investing in these life-saving programs**.

HB 2767 is the product of an interim interagency workgroup commissioned by HB 5202 in 2022 and offers a clear, collaborative path forward to expand, support and govern recovery high schools across the state.

Lake Oswego School District is the proud sponsor of Harmony Academy Recovery Charter School. What Harmony is accomplishing for students' academic and social-emotional futures in the Portland metro area is nothing short of life-changing. If this bill passes, it will allow all students across Oregon access to the same high-quality wrap-around education for success. We are extremely proud of the work Harmony Academy is doing and are excited to support the expansion of their program.

Oregon ranks last in the nation for substance use treatment and recovery support. This legislation provides a cost-effective and proven way to support adolescents in recovery as they work to gain their high school diploma.

On behalf of the Lake Oswego School District, <u>I urge your support for House Bill 2767</u> and ask that you vote <u>YES</u> on this critically-needed, thoughtfully-created legislation. Thank you,

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Dr. Jennifer Schiele, Superintendent Lake Oswego School District