



March 10, 2023

Bill: House Bill 2767

Position: Support

Name: Larry Didway, 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.

Harmony Academy, Oregon's first high school dedicated to helping students recovering from substance use disorders, is located in Clackamas County and serves as a promising model for the State of Oregon. Clackamas ESD is proud to serve as a fiscal agent for Harmony Academy.

Oregon ranks 50th 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 Clackamas Education Service District, **I urge your support for House Bill 2767** and ask that you vote **YES** on this critically-needed, thoughtfully-created legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Larry Didway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "D".

Larry Didway
Superintendent

Lead, serve and innovate for learning.

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