

February 2024

Representative Lucetta Elmer Rep.LucettaElmer@oregonlegislature.gov

Representative David Gomberg Rep.DavidGomberg@oregonlegislature.gov

Subject: Letter of Support for Barbara Roberts CTEC Project Funding

Dear Representatives Elmer and Gomberg,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my strong support for the Barbara Roberts Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC) project and to advocate for the allocation of \$5 million as a Capital Grant from the State of Oregon.

Having reviewed the information about the Barbara Roberts CTEC project, I am deeply impressed by its potential to significantly benefit our community. This project represents a crucial investment in our educational framework, one that promises to empower students with valuable skills and opportunities for their future success.

Rural schools often lack the infrastructure to support students becoming CTE Concentrators. This inequity can be addressed by providing much needed funding to seed this project. A dedicated CTE center has the potential to transform the economy of Sheridan and the surrounding areas by providing a skilled workforce tailored to local industries, attracting businesses, and stimulating economic growth. By investing in the development of the Barbara Roberts CTEC, we not only invest in the educational success of our students but also in the long-term prosperity of our community.

The need for career and technical education has never been more pressing. With rapid advancements in technology and changes in the job market, it is essential that we equip our students with the knowledge and skills necessary to thrive in a competitive workforce. The Barbara Roberts CTEC project is poised to address this need by providing students with hands-on training in various technical fields, preparing them for careers in high-demand industries.

Furthermore, the construction of the Barbara Roberts CTEC facility will not only benefit current students but also future generations. By investing in this project, we are investing in the future of our community, ensuring that our youth have access to quality education and opportunities for personal and professional growth.

I wholeheartedly support Sheridan School District's request for \$5 million in grant funding to kickstart the construction of the Barbara Roberts CTEC project. This funding is crucial to bringing this vital educational resource to fruition and ensuring its success in serving our community for years to come.

I kindly request that you consider this letter as an official endorsement of the Barbara Roberts CTEC project and its funding request. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any further information or clarification.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your ongoing dedication to supporting education in our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse Watson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "J" and "W".

Dr. Jesse Watson

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