



Gladstone School District 115

Growing Great People

17789 Webster Road, Gladstone Oregon 97027
Bob Stewart, Superintendent – 503.655.2777

February 7, 2024

Annessa Hartman
900 Court St. NE, HJ-487
Salem, Oregon, 97301

RE: Letter in Support to Purchase and Renovate Gladstone YMCA Property

Dear Representative Hartman,

On behalf of Gladstone School District, I am pleased to offer our full support of Clackamas County Children's Commission (ClackCoKids) to purchase and renovate two former YMCA properties to become early learning centers. It is essential that the commission is able to continue to offer quality care and education to the most vulnerable children and their families, as well as to prepare to provide more services in an effort to address the child care desert Clackamas County lies in.

The need exists, as Clackamas County Children's Commission has just been notified their lease at their Wichita site will not be renewed and they must vacate by June 20, 2024, and they have been notified that their site at Oregon City View Manor will likely expire in 2024-25 and not be renewed. In total this is a loss of 7 classroom spaces. Facilities funding and classroom space are the most pressing needs local Head Start programs face. These investments are one-time investments and will have a significant impact that benefits communities and children. We are excited with the development of this project and would greatly appreciate a state investment to make this dream a reality.

Please accept this letter of support for Clackamas County Children's Commission pursuit of improving and offering quality care to the greater Gladstone community. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bob Stewart
Superintendent, Gladstone School District

Board of Directors:

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