



March 20, 2025

Representative Hartman
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street, NE (H-487)
Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Support for Capital Construction Funding – Gladstone Early Learning Project

Dear Representative Hartman,

I am writing to express my full support for the capital construction funding request for the Gladstone Early Learning building, a critical project that will bring much-needed early childhood education and care services to our community.

As you know, ClackCoKids, a dedicated non-profit organization, has already secured \$4.16 million in federal funding from the Office of Head Start for the purchase and renovation of this facility. However, an additional \$1.5 million is still needed to complete the project and bring these essential services to Gladstone families.

This project is vital because:

- It will provide full-day early childhood education for up to 64 children through Head Start and Early Head Start.
- It includes two preschool (Head Start) classrooms and three infant-toddler (Early Head Start) classrooms.
- Currently, Gladstone lacks full-day Head Start services, with only part-day options available at GCCF due to space restrictions.
- There are no Early Head Start services in Gladstone, leaving families with very few options for high-quality infant and toddler care.



- Gladstone is part of a 'Child Care Desert,' making this project even more critical for working families who need reliable, high-quality care for their children.

The completion of this project will directly benefit children, families, and the broader Gladstone community by providing essential early learning opportunities, fostering school readiness, and supporting working parents. I strongly urge your continued advocacy and leadership in securing the remaining funding needed to make this project a reality.

Thank you for your dedication to improving early childhood education and care in our community. I appreciate your efforts in supporting this investment in our children's future.

Sincerely,



Jeremiah Patterson
Superintendent
Gladstone School District

Board of Directors

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