



March 27, 2025

Dear Co-Chair Lieber and Co-Chair Sanchez,

As Superintendent of Bethel School District, I write in strong support of Lane County's 25-27 Capital Project Funding request for the Lane County Behavioral Health Stabilization Center.

This initiative represents a critical step forward in addressing the urgent mental and behavioral health needs of our community. The proposed facility will offer 24-hour urgent care for individuals in crisis, including specialized units for youth and adults, as well as services for substance abuse and post-acute care. This comprehensive, wraparound model will alleviate pressure on local emergency rooms while providing a more appropriate and dignified path to recovery for community members.

In particular, I want to highlight the profound impact this project will have on youth and their families. As an educational leader, I see firsthand how untreated mental and behavioral health issues can disrupt a student's academic progress, social development, and long-term well-being. The Stabilization Center will provide critical residential services for youth in crisis, but equally important are the supportive, family-centered services offered as they reintegrate into school and community life. These wraparound services will create a more stable foundation for students to succeed—academically, emotionally, and socially.

This project also exemplifies the power of public/private partnerships. By co-locating the Stabilization Center with PeaceHealth Timber Springs Behavioral Health Hospital, Lane County is leveraging resources in a way that will dramatically increase access and efficiency. This thoughtful collaboration allows for a continuum of care—from emergency intervention to longer-term treatment—right within our community.

The Stabilization Center will be a transformative resource for students, families, educators, and providers. It strengthens the network of care that our schools rely on to support the whole child.

I urge you to give this request your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kraig Sproles, Superintendent