



NEIGHBORS FOR KIDS

Kids Zone Afterschool Program * Academic Excellence & Achievement Program
USDA Food Program * Music Lessons * Science * Visual Arts * Computer Technology

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Neighbors For Kids
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NFK PROGRAMS:

Kids Zone Program

AXAP - Academics

USDA Food Program

Music Lessons

Science Education

Visual Arts

Computer Technology

CATCH Health & Sports

Teen Program

Rowing Club

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February 17, 2015

House Committee on Education

Att: Margaret Doherty – District 35

Tigard, Oregon

Re: House Bill 2650

Dear House Committee on Education,

Neighbors For Kids (NFK), a non-profit youth serving organization based out of the rural coastal community of Depoe Bay, Oregon is in full support of moving forward with House Bill 2650. Our organization operates programs during the school year and also 9-10 weeks during the summer months. Our board, staff and volunteers believe that providing Oregon's children educational activities and healthy food across the summer is critical to their development and school success. We are well aware of the fact that children experience summer learning loss and that they lose essential skills learned during the school year when they are not engaged in expanded learning opportunities during the summer. We try our best each summer to address this issue, however, summer programs are expensive and challenging to consistently deliver with such limited resources. NFK strongly advocates for HB 2650 as it will help the state make an investment in summer learning and in our children's education and future.

In addition to educational opportunities, our organization is proud to be a sponsor of the Summer Food Service Program from June-August. We have been providing free healthy meals to youth in our region for 11 years at our site. Children often travel 10 miles or more from the larger cities of Newport and Lincoln City because they are guaranteed to have healthy food throughout the day. Childhood hunger is a serious issue, particularly during the summer when the schools can no longer provide free meals.

NFK encourages the House Committee on Education to approve House Bill 2650. We feel it is our social responsibility as the state of Oregon and within each community to invest in our next generation of children. So please, let's open our doors, keep library books in their hands, teach them all we can, feed them and show them we truly care.

Most Sincerely,

Toby J. Winn

Executive Director

"Neighbors For Kids is an equal opportunity provider"
Neighbors For Kids, a 501(c)(3) public charity, EIN 93-1262846

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