

Hello,

My son is a Kindergartner at Sauvie Island Academy, a public charter school through Scappoose SD. It is a wonderful school, and I can't believe it is an option for residents of Columbia County.

Last fall, I had serious doubts about whether my son would be ready for public school - we live in the country outside of Scappoose, and have very few options about his education. He is bright, active and energetic and grew up being outside - I wondered if he would succeed in a traditional classroom. I heard I could enroll him in a lottery system to become eligible for a smaller, place-based education school in a setting that he would be comfortable in, and I was so excited for him.

I had no idea that my decision to help him get off to a good start in his education would have a financial cost to me as a parent. Our school has to fund-raise to fill the 20% gap in his 80% of state funding status - that is 20% of his education that we parents are responsible for, though we are all 100% residents of Oregon.

My son is thriving. He loves his school, which is a special place for him. Everyone on staff knows him, and the sense of security he has about his school being a good place of belonging for him is so strong. He belongs to his school 100% - not 80%.

Please consider voting for Senate Bill 915, Sponsored by Senator ROBLAN, Representative HUFFMAN to increase public charter school funding to 95%.

Thank you so much for your time - and your support of SB915.

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