I am the only parent of a student with asperger syndrome. He struggled with public school, I had to pay a lawyer to take his case before the school district. As soon as I agreed to drop the lawsuit, they transferred him to another school. It was punishing him, rather than fixing the school. Dismayed,I investigated every option in our area but could not afford any private options. Fortunately, I took a chance on an online charter school where my child stumbled, resisted, then bloomed. Not every learner can be successful in a brick and mortar school just as many do not do well online. That is why choice is paramount. My son is registering at PCC because he found himself and his unique talents. I hope he will hold a job and be a contributing member of society rather than dependent on disability for the whole of his adulthood. It would not have been possible had he been left to Portland Public School district.