



**Reynolds School District
Administration Offices**
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February 5, 2024

To: The Oregon House Education Committee
From: Dr. Frank Caropelo, Superintendent of the Reynolds School District
Re: HB 4082

Dear Committee:

Spanning five municipalities across East Multnomah County, the Reynolds School District proudly serves a beautifully diverse student population of more than 10,000 students. Hailing from more than 125 birth countries and speaking more than 70 home languages, Reynolds youth and families contribute a wealth of cultural knowledge and lived experiences to deepen the educational experiences for themselves, their classmates and our professional staff.

As Superintendent, I am also deeply aware of the systemic obstacles our families face that may curtail the boundless potential of their children. Among them are the traditional school year calendar and the disparity of trained professionals who reflect the diversity of our students' ethnic and cultural backgrounds. House Bill 4082 serves as a targeted investment to address both.

Access to summer academic and enrichment programming, delivered in partnership with our culturally specific community partners increases access to necessary academic supports to close predictable academic disparities. Administered in collaboration between district staff and trained community partners who look, speak, pray and celebrate like them, Summer programs strengthen students' sense of identity and belonging. These developmental assets are proven to be core factors for academic resiliency and success.

Maintaining the continuity of care, access to basic needs including nutrition and health services, while offering their caregivers confidence in our commitment to their students' success, please accept my full endorsement for passage of HB 4082 to invest in the Summer Learning Grant to the Oregon Department of Education – translating into critical summer academic programming for the diverse learners in the Reynolds School District and across the state. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "F. Caropelo".

Dr. Frank Caropelo
Superintendent
Reynolds School District



*As a community, we prepare lifelong learners to
achieve their full potential in a complex
and interconnected world.*

www.reynolds.k12.or.us