

Submitter: Richard Ritter
On Behalf Of: Baker Charter Schools
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Co-Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Memembers of the Ways and Means Committee,

I attended and testified at this hearing [Baker Charters Mobile Learning Lab]. My intention was provide as much information as possible; however, I am not the most comfortable in public speaking situations. Being very outside of my standard comfort zone, I was not able to fully present our ask for a capital expenditure request. Hence, I will try to elaborate the overall intention here for you.

Baker Charters Schools "BCS" (Also Baker Web Academy "BWA" and Bake Early College "BEC") is a statewide set of public virtual chater schools. We currently have 3200+- BWA students and another 500-600 BEC students. Our overall budget ask is 1.25 million but an Operations, Maintenance, and Repair (OM&R) portion that BCS will provide over the life of the Mobile Learning Lab. The actual yearly economic portion that BCS will provide is much more than that amount listed, as Employee Costs, Training, Curricula Development and the Logistical Operations are not factored into that number. Our overall, preliminary mission, is to provide STEM, CTE, and General Experiential Learning experiences to BCS students - but our overall goal is to include partner businesses, other ISD's, and invite Grad+ academics to study the efficacy of the mobile delivery. It would include Urban, Rural, Underserved Groups, and potentially, Indigenous Communities. Our 3000+ student count could grow dramatical if we can work with partners to offer the most to any student that is attending an activity. And, as other ISD's are already doing this type of delivery system, BCS has the employees with the diversified academic subject matter expertise to delivery positive, impactful, learning. Our teachers can model the behavior, present the subject curricula, provide fun interaction with creative assessments, and be trained to deliver on the latest career development criteria/tech.

The Baker Mobile Learning Lab will include VR, Drone, Tablets, Computer Stations, Robotics, Coding, Engineering, Mathematics, and advanced Science learning. It contain 3 large monitors for group type lessons/learning (1 outside under the awning, and 2 on each end of the learning area inside). It also contains 18 individual desks with Computers. The two center tables are for gathered activities like close inspection of a scientific observation or group/team learning activity. This allows for 3 areas of activities to occur or lots of space for a mix of use. Yes, we are not shovel ready, we are ready to put rubber to the road and show students that learning can be fun!

I was recently reminded that Retention and Recruitment were two sides of the same coin; however, I really come from the mindset that Retention and Relevance are that

coin. We need to make learning Relevant to students and that will increase Retention. I have a slide presentation that offers more insight to the subject as well as photos of what this project will look like. If you have the question as to why an ELA Teacher is leading a STEM led request, I will emphatically stand by the fact that writing is greatly increased when students can read and write about what they want to write about. I also greatly care about retaining our marginalized students that we don't want to lose to a drop out status.

A last thought: The road to educational self-efficacy begins with learning modeled behaviors in a setting that evokes relevance of the topic, allows from the freedom to investigate or observe, encourages peer interactions, and lets students uncover the mystery's of topics under the guidance of caring support. Please help us make this a reality and better the future of Oregon State!