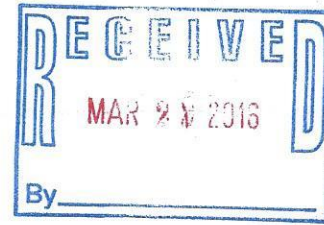


The Lighthouse School
" Lighting the way to a brighter future."
1500 16th Street, Suite 1
North Bend, Oregon
(541) 751-1649



February 17, 2016

Oregon Department of Education
255 Capitol St Ne
Salem, OR 97310-0203



RE: Petition for Waiver

Specific Waiver Requested

The Lighthouse School, a public charter school within the North Bend School District, petitions to the board the request for a waiver ORS 338.125 regarding student admissions for the 2016-2017 school year.

Cause for Request

The Lighthouse School will be relocating from the North Bend School District to the Coos Bay School District by August 2016. We feel as though the same students currently enrolled should have the first priority to enroll in the fall. Once a new charter agreement is in place with the Coos Bay School District, Coos Bay residents will then take priority over North Bend residents, and current waiting lists will reflect this change. Open "spots" will be given to Coos Bay resident families.

As The Lighthouse School looks to relocate to a facility that will no longer be required to share its facilities with another school, the outcomes and impact on our children will be huge. We do feel as though there will be a slight population shift that will lean more towards Coos Bay residents. Currently, we have about 52% North Bend students, 45% Coos Bay students, and another 3% from other districts (Reedsport, Coquille). It is expected that over time the Coos Bay/North Bend numbers will switch.

The North Bend School District has been very gracious and patient with us. The Lighthouse School will furnish numbers of North Bend families that intend on staying within their schools.

As a public charter school, we are open to everyone. Transportation for sponsoring district students is provided. This means all of those Coos Bay families that previously drove their children to school will now have busing provided at no cost. Similarly, those North Bend families that have had busing provided will now need to either carpool or drive their children. A survey was sent out to all Lighthouse School families asking if they would follow us to Coos Bay, and over 90% came back stating that they would follow us anywhere.

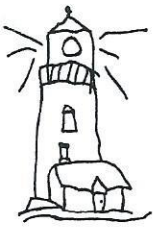
Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wade Lester".

Wade Lester, Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dawn Granger".

Dawn Granger, Coos Bay Superintendent



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March 15, 2016

Oregon State Board of Education
255 Capitol St., NE
Salem, OR 97310

Re: The Lighthouse School
Request for transfer of assets pursuant to ORS 338.105(6)

Dear Board Members:

The Lighthouse School (TLS) will be ending its charter agreement with the North Bend School District as of June 30, 2016, and starting a new charter agreement with the Coos Bay School District. TLS will operate under the sponsorship of the Coos Bay School District, beginning in the 2016-2017 academic year. ORS 338.105(6) states that if a charter is terminated or a public charter school is dissolved, the assets of that charter school (that were purchased with public funds) shall be given to the State Board of Education. The State Board of Education may disburse the assets of the public charter school to school districts or other public charter schools.

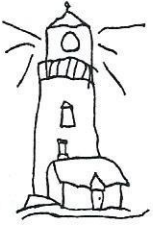
The Lighthouse School will remain in existence and will continue to serve the community under the sponsorship of the Coos Bay School District. To ensure that services and programs are not adversely affected, TLS respectfully requests that the Oregon State Board of Education allow TLS to retain all of its assets (See Exhibit "A") purchased with public funds upon commencement of its new charter agreement with the Coos Bay School District.

The Oregon State Board of Education has previously allowed the transfer of assets for charter schools that are transferring their operations from one sponsoring district to another sponsoring district. TLS respectfully requests that the State Board of Education follow this precedent and allow TLS to retain its assets upon commencement of its new charter agreement with the Coos Bay School District.

The 224 students and their parents thank you for consideration of this request. I am more than happy to provide any additional information relating to this matter.

Sincerely,

Wade Lester, Director



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1500 16th Street, Suite 1
PO Box 443
North Bend, Oregon
(541) 751-1649



February 17, 2016

Oregon State Board of Education
255 Capitol St Ne
Salem, OR 97310-0203

RE: Petition for Waiver

Specific Waiver Requested

The Lighthouse School, a public charter school within the North Bend School District, petitions to the board the request for a waiver of ORS 338.105 (7) which states, "A public charter school governing body may only terminate a charter, dissolve or close a public charter school at the end of a semester. If a charter is terminated by the public charter school governing body or a public charter school is closed or dissolved, the public charter school governing body shall notify the sponsor at least 180 days prior to the proposed effective date of the termination, closure or dissolution."

The cause of this request is so that The Lighthouse School may depart the North Bend School District and re-establish as a charter school in the nearby locality of the Coos Bay School District. Even though we are outside of the 180-day advanced notice, it is our intention to close our school in North Bend at the end of the spring semester (June, 2016) and re-establish our school in Coos Bay by August 2016.

In addition, the specific reason for this waiver stems from the time it took to locate a new building and negotiate with a new sponsoring district. This district, Coos Bay, currently has an empty school building that will fit us perfectly. We were able to keep the North Bend School District up to date with each and every option we were looking at.

Causes for Request

The Lighthouse School was established in the North Bend School District in 2002 and housed in the North Bay Elementary School. In August 2014 our school was moved from North Bay Elementary to the North Bend Middle School to accommodate for the district's full-day kindergarten. This relocation has created a serious lack of space and hardships to our programs as well as complaints and concerns from parents of our students and staff. We currently provide services for 225 students in grades ranging from kindergarten through eighth grade with 21 paid staff.

As The Lighthouse School looks to relocate to a facility that it will no longer be required to share, the outcomes and impact on our children will be huge. No longer will they need to be in classrooms for rainy day recesses as we will finally have control over the scheduling of our gym and cafeteria times. Our programs will further develop as we will now have classrooms for specialty teachers such as

Handwork, Spanish, Music, and Art. Having our own facility will once again allow us to have our own garden. Having a garden is not just for the children to learn and grow with, but it is also a source of community gathering as well as pride. Being able to construct and design our own garden fits our philosophy. We will finally be able to reach our full potential.

Notification

The North Bend School District has been very gracious and patient with us. Both of our boards have been in contact with one another. We have been working with North Bend on finding a viable solution that would allow us to stay in the NB district. Unfortunately, North Bend sold all of its school buildings that were no longer in use. Although they are disappointed to see us relocate, they understand that there are no facilities within their district that can accommodate us. We have been very transparent in our endeavors.

We were able to verbally notify the North Bend School District on February 11, 2016 of our decision to dissolve our charter with them. Written notice was also provided on February 11, 2016. The Coos Bay School District was notified on February 10, 2016 of our desire to relocate to their district, and they agreed to this proposal. The Coos Bay School District has expressed great interest in sponsoring our school, and we are looking forward to working with them in the future.

As a public charter school, we are open to everyone. I believe that the State Board of Education should consider the following fact in regards to our student population. Coos Bay and North Bend are somewhat connected. 45% of students come from the Coos Bay School District, 52% come from the North Bend School District, and 3% from other districts (Reedsport and Coquille).

Thank you for your consideration,



Wade Lester, Director

Dawn Granger, Coos Bay Superintendent

