



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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May 6, 2021

Sheridan School District
435 South Bridge Street
Sheridan, OR 97378

Sheridan Japanese School Board
430 SW Monroe Street
Sheridan, OR 97378

Re: Sheridan Japanese School Closure

Dear Sheridan School District and Sheridan Japanese School Board Members:

The Yamhill County Board of Commissioners would like to express our concern over the possible closure of the Sheridan Japanese School and encourage your Board members to support recent efforts to keep the school open.

Charter schools in Oregon play an important role in providing options for children whose needs can't be met in a traditional K-12 setting. Often, these are children who fall on either end of the learning spectrum, have disabilities, trauma or require wrap around support to facilitate a successful educational path. Even more impressive, charter schools provide these opportunities despite a smaller per-student funding allocation than traditional public schools. Supplemental support from the community is key, and it appears that local residents and supporters are willing to step up to keep the school open.

Students attending Sheridan Japanese School have found an educational delivery method that allows them to thrive, through heightened cultural awareness, rigorous academics and smaller class sizes that allow for direct support. Considering how integrated the jobs of tomorrow will be on an international scale, we believe this educational option should be preserved for students throughout Yamhill County.

We strongly encourage you to support ways to keep Sheridan Japanese School open. If there are opportunities for the county to assist, please let us know.

Respectfully,

Mary Starrett
Chair

Lindsay Berschauer
Vice-Chair

Casey Kulla
Commissioner

Accepted by Yamhill County
Board of Commissioners on
5/6/2021 by Board Order
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