

From: [BB Parents](#)
To: [Luhn, Amy](#); [Larson, Dan](#); [Hoelscher, Steve E](#); [Schaaf, Christina EB](#); [Olson, Tricia R](#)
Subject: Beaver Beginnings Petition
Date: Monday, April 20, 2026 9:05:15 PM
Attachments: [Beaver Beginnings Petition Signatures.pdf](#)

You don't often get email from osubbparents@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

[This email originated from outside of OSU. Use caution with links and attachments.]

Good Evening Amy, Dan, Steve, Christina and Tricia,

We respectfully present the attached PETITION TO PRESERVE BEAVER BEGINNINGS AND COMMUNICATE PLANS IN A TIMELY MANNER along with 123 signatures from impacted OSU families and supporters. The April 14th notice that Beaver Beginnings will be closing on June 26th has caused substantial concern for impacted families.

In short, we respectfully request that OSU and the Family Resource Center:

1. Immediately explore all viable options to preserve the existing BB program, including retention of current childcare staff, and maintain continuity of childcare services at BB;
2. Provide clear and timely communication of decisions regarding the future of BB (or an alternative care center managed by a different entity) so that affected families and KinderCare employees can make immediate informed childcare and employment arrangements;
3. Hold a town hall or open forum for impacted families to transparently share information and answer questions from families.

We have also gathered support from the broader community through the [OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR BEAVER BEGINNINGS FAMILY PETITION](#) with signatures from the OSU community of faculty, staff and students. This petition continues to gather signatures of support from the broader community.

We acknowledge the email sent by Amy Luhn at 5:10pm on 4/20 and welcome the communication as a necessary initial step in working together to support Beaver Beginnings families.

We respectfully request confirmation of receipt and look forward to a further response to the petition, expanding upon the information in Amy's recent email. Thank you.

PETITION TO PRESERVE BEAVER BEGINNINGS AND COMMUNICATE PLANS IN A TIMELY MANNER

Requesting that Oregon State University continue and maintain childcare solutions that meet the standards of Beaver Beginnings and provide immediate, clear information on decisions and plans to affected families.

To:

Amy Luhn, Director of the Family Resource Center

Dan Larson, Vice President for Student Affairs

Steve Hoelscher, Associate Vice President for Finance & Operations

Christina Schaaf, Work Life Coordinator

Tricia Olson, Sr. HR Strategic Partner

Petitioners

We, the undersigned students, faculty, and staff of Oregon State University (OSU), and families of Beaver Beginnings (BB), respectfully submit this petition regarding the future of BB and the planning process currently taking place.

Statement of Request

We respectfully request that OSU and the Family Resource Center:

1. Immediately explore all viable options to preserve the existing BB program, including retention of current childcare staff, and maintain continuity of childcare services at BB;
 - a. This may include re-engaging in negotiations with KinderCare. If not possible, provide clear and transparent communication as to why;
 - b. Communicate all options related to preserving BB to families. If there are options to pay higher tuition, fundraise, etc., families should have this information to contribute to the decision-making;
2. Provide clear and timely communication of decisions regarding the future of BB (or an alternative care center managed by a different entity) so that affected families and KinderCare employees can make immediate informed childcare and employment arrangements;
 - a. Provide weekly updates on re-negotiations with KinderCare or progress towards an OSU-run facility;
3. Hold a town hall or open forum for impacted families to transparently share information and answer questions from families.

Key Supporting Points and Impacts

OSU learned of KinderCare's termination of contract on March 20th, 2026. BB families were informed of the upcoming BB closure on April 14th, 2026. One hundred and twenty-two children will lose their care in just over two months. Families of these children need timely childcare solutions so this change does not negatively impact their jobs and education.

As a result of the announcement that BB will close on June 26th with no plan in place to open another childcare center, families are currently:

- Trying to find care at other locations in the area, a time-intensive process that detracts from work productivity;
- Considering not taking job offers in order to stay home with children;
- Considering taking jobs or applying for jobs outside of OSU in other locations where childcare options are better supported;
- Re-thinking the choice to move to Corvallis for a position at OSU due to the lack of security and community support that is now felt with the closure of BB;
- Unable to maintain normal consistent work hours, resulting in disruptions in work performance and productivity;
- Unable to make post-graduation plans with the uncertainty in childcare;
- Fearing the impact of the sudden change on children with the loss of friends and teachers they have grown close to;
- Unable to securely plan lives in Corvallis and as OSU employees without access to affordable subsidized childcare;
- Regretting recently leaving other childcare facilities to come to BB after waiting long periods of time on the wait list;
- Feeling fear and uncertainty due to the lack of a long-term plan;
- Feeling apprehension about switching care if a long-term plan ultimately does come into place. Many families have waited and switched from other care locations to be at BB. Every move is a significant transition for kids and families don't make these decisions lightly;
- Considering how OSU supports professional learning as BB serves as an invaluable, hands-on experience in early childhood education for OSU students and community members. The closure of BB represents a loss of a critical learning environment that directly supports OSU's educator preparation mission;
- Reconsidering employment with OSU if the option of secure and nearby childcare that allows parents to manage care for children with special needs is discontinued.

BB parents are students and employees of OSU and their academic and professional capabilities are severely hindered without appropriate childcare access. BB is a critical resource to support Prosperity Widely Shared (PWS) and the sudden closing of BB without an adequate replacement plan in place undermines student's and employee's ability to contribute to PWS. As a Land Grant institution, OSU risks reputational harm as a leader in the early childcare and education space by not providing suitable options or alternatives to the closure of BB. This closure announcement has created an issue that particularly impacts the most vulnerable members of our community, especially lower income earners, student parents, and women. OSU will struggle to hire and keep top-quality faculty, staff, and student parents without a strong, supportive childcare institution in place. Taking away high quality early childhood education will have a significant impact on OSU's ability to recruit and retain high quality employees, and

retain students through graduation, which puts the institution at risk in a volatile higher education environment.

Families are scrambling to figure out next steps in the absence of clear information on the Family Resource Center's plans. Families require timely clarity to plan for care, employment, and academic commitments. Short timelines for alternative childcare arrangements create significant hardship. Vague suggestions of possible OSU-run facilities are not sufficient at this time and families cannot afford to wait and see what decisions are made. Families need decisive, clear information regarding factual plans now in order to plan for their families. If OSU is exploring self-management of the BB facility, families need to know immediately if these plans will come to fruition.

We respectfully ask OSU to consider that many families are able, and wanting, to pay higher tuition to retain KinderCare staff and subsidize tuition for students and lower income families. Furthermore, we implore OSU decision makers to fully consider that the quality of childcare provided by KinderCare at BB is unparalleled, driven by the dedicated and talented staff currently employed by BB - retaining the teachers that have built relationships with our children should remain a priority.

Requested Action Timeline

We respectfully request that the Family Resource Center:

- Immediately re-open negotiations with KinderCare if possible;
- Communicate a clear decision on plans of whether or not to self-operate BB by May 1st, 2026;
- Hold a town hall or open forum for impacted families by April 27th, 2026;
- Provide weekly updates on re-negotiations with KinderCare and/or progress towards an OSU-run facility.

Conclusion

We appreciate OSU's commitment to supporting prosperity for all. We are coming to OSU in good faith as partners in determining a path forward for the university and BB families so that students and employees may continue to contribute to the mission of OSU in academic and professional endeavors. As partners, we urge thoughtful consideration of all possible negotiations with KinderCare, alternative options for a future for BB, and timely communication to the affected families.

Signatories (in alphabetical order)

Adrian	Alie	Student
Yadira	Ambriz	Student
Elsa	Anderson	Student
Colin	Arnowl	Faculty Research Assistant
Molly	Arnowl	Assistant Director, OSU Advantage Accelerator
Kyeong Jun	Baek	Student

Derek	Batiste	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Lindsey	Behonick	Head Volleyball Coach
Kendall	Berry	Student
Brian	Bickford	Director of Facilities and Operations
Leigha	Bickford	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Stian	Blockhus	Student
Kassy	Bonanno	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Riley	Bond	Student
Hope	Brazier	Public Health Undergraduate student, Peer Ambassador for the College of Health
Athelea	Brevard	Undergraduate student
Lucy	Brotherton	Student
Benjamin	Burtner	Student
Christopher	Butler	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Cameron	Call	Graduate researcher
Tianyi	Chen	Assistant Professor
Daram	Choi	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Jinhong	Choi	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Mary	Chuinard	Director of Advising and Student Success
Hailey	Coll	Research assistant
Catherine	Cortes	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Ben	Cote	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Autumn	Cote	Interpersonal Violence Services Coordinator
Whitney	Creason	Academic Advising Specialist
Dylan	De Baldo	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Jackquelin	De Leon	Full time Student and employee
Kayla	De Veux	Student and Student Residency Processing Assistant
Rachelle	DeSpain	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Jessica	Dietch	Assistant Professor
Taylor	Dinkins	Graduate Student, EECS
Norma	Dougherty	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Jake	Edelstein	Student
Jordan	Eusebio	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Lorie	Ewing	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Abby	Fassig-Fletcher	Confidential Advocate- The Center for Advocacy, Prevention, and Education
Andrew	Fletcher	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Gareth	Ford	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Danielle	Franklin	Professional Faculty
Ronald	Franklin	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter

Jonathan	Garcia	Associate Professor
Veronica	Gerber	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Paul	Gerber	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Stephanie	Grutzmacher	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Adriana	Harper	Administrative Assistant
Spencer	Harper	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Kelsey	Holmer	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Jami	Ivory	Logistics Coordinator
Cade	Jobe	Graduate Research Assistant
Bana	Jobe	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Kylie	Johnson	Student, student worker
Sukhyun	Joo	Senior Research Associate I
Hanako	Justice	Case Manager, Student Care
Kameron	Kadooka	Director of Equity, Access and Inclusion
Hannah	Kadooka	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Dr Rebecca	Kahn	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Yoni	Kahn	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Geri	Kemper Seeley	MPH Administrative Director
"Dawn" Hyosin	Kim	Assistant Professor (Senior Research)
Taejin	Kim	Postdoctoral Scholar
Bo Young	Kim	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Jordan	Krook	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Kelsey	Lane	Instructor
Luke	Larsen	Student
Ariel	Leshchinsky	Registered Nurse
Ben	Leshchinsky	Professor
Melissa	Livingston	Graduate student, College of Education
Ryan	Loftus	Able Seafarer Intermittent
Laura	Lonski	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Jennifer	Lupu	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Andrei	Lupu	Student
Jamie	Mann	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Ella	Manning	Student
Lizbeth	Marquez	Graduate Ecampus Program Coordinator
Naomi	Martin	Student
Ryan	McCabe	Student
Hilary	McMillan	Academic Advisor
Peter	McMillan	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Storm	Miller	Student Employment
Leif	Miller	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter

Teagan	Moran	Agricultural Program Coordinator
Nathalia	Moretti	Faculty Research Assistant
Luke	Murphy	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Christina	Murphy	Lab Technician
Sofia	Myers	Student
Amy	Neuman	Senior instructor and program manager
Lauren	Newsom	Clinical Assistant Professor of Diagnostic Imaging, Carlson College of VetMed
Sean	Newsom	Associate Professor
Ashleigh	O'Meara	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Matthew	O'Meara	GTA
Alex	Olenick	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Samuel	Paskin	Building Services Specialist
Shannon	Petrina	Academic Counselor in Athletics
Juan Carlos	Ramos	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Stephanie	Ramos	Associate Director, Office of Undergraduate Research
Sarah	Redden	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Tyler	Redden	Senior Financial Analyst for Budget Development
Megan	Ryusaki	Administrative Program Assistant, Team Oregon Motorcycle Safety
David	Ryusaki	Beaver Classic Retail Manager
Kari-Lyn	Sakuma	Associate Professor
Steven	Sanders	Assistant Professor of Psychology
Chris	Schmokel	Faculty Research Assistant
Jessica	Siegel	Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs and Associate Professor
Canon	Silver	Student
Matt	Smith	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Jenna	Stack	Research Associate
Joseph	Stack	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Whitney	Stone	Assistant professor of agricultural sciences and natural resources communications
Anthony	Stone	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Stacie	Summers	Assistant faculty
Lisandra	Trine	Unaffiliated with OSU, BB supporter
Chris	Trine	Coordinator
Haley	Turrell	Undergraduate Student
Ashley	Vaughn	Instructor
Elizabeth (Betsy)	Verhoeven	Instructor
Ben	Wickizer	PhD Candidate

Cristina	Wilson	Assistant Professor (Sr. Research)
Dragomira	Zheleva	PhD Candidate
Xi	Zhu	Postdoctoral scholar