## Dear KEX Kids Fund/

I am writing on behalf of a mutual 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student, Ryder. Ryder was born with congenital cataracts. He has had 2 surgeries at birth to remove said cataracts and 5 realignment surgeries for a total of 7 eye surgeries.

Ryders' vision prescription requires him to wear a vision tool to correct his aphakia and also a vision tool tocorrect his poor vision. What this means is that he needs to wear contacts <u>and</u> lenses. Mom is a single mom who works full time and has OHP. Mom says OHP will only pay for one standard frame prescription a year and one lens prescription a year. She is willing to pay the difference to get the special frame her student needs but insurance will not allow her. This means the blue plastic aphakic glasses he has are from first grade and they cut his nose.

School staff report student is wearing the outdated glasses in class and can see well near but not more than 3 feet away so he trips a lot and displays agitated behaviors. Mom says his life is like living in a fishbowl. School staff are concerned that his behavior escalates the worse his vision is.

Mom has used OHP to keep his corrective bifocals and corrective aphakic contacts lenses filled this year. Ryder and mom could use some <u>assistance paying for a new pair of aphakic glasses</u>. Mom was last up to KCI Eye institute in October and they go every 6 months so if you could assist with the aphakic glasses, she has a current prescription to fill them.

Please contact mom if you have any questions and thank you in advance/

Rhonda Moon, RN/ BSN School Health Nurse

Salem Keizer School District

Nurse Help Line x3376 Whiteaker Middle School x3244 Cummings and Keizer Elementary Schools Fax 503-316-3500

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"You cannot educate a child who is not healthy and you cannot keep a child healthy who is not educated." --Dr Jocelyn Elders, former US Surgeon General