



SCHOOL BOARD COMMITTEE UPDATES

The School Board approved three standing committees that will focus and drive the Board's work during the 2014 - 2015 school year. For this year the committees are focused on the following areas: Strategic Plan/Board Effectiveness, Legislative Advocacy and Policy. Committee members will report on:

- Legislative Advocacy
- Strategic Plan/Board Effectiveness

District Goal: All students will show continuous progress toward their personal learning goals, developed in collaboration with teachers and parents, and will be prepared for post-secondary education and career success.

The Beaverton School District recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups. It is the policy of the Beaverton School District that there will be no discrimination or harassment of individuals or groups based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, age, veterans' status, genetic information or disability in any educational programs, activities or employment.

HOW WILL POTENTIAL 2015-17 STATE SCHOOL FUND LEVELS IMPACT THE FUTURE OF OREGON STUDENTS?

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

*This information does not include BSD's Local Option Revenue

\$7.235 Billion **Underfunded** Schools

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CURRENT CO-CHAIRS' BUDGET LEVEL

With a State School Fund of \$7.235 billion, our schools would lose \$90 per ADM between our 2014-15 and 2015-16 SSF payments. At this level, we would have \$4.1 million less for next year than this year.

A state school fund of \$7,235 billion will cause Beaverton to once again make unfortunate choices that will impact students. This level of funding does not support all day kindergarten, which therefore will be implemented at the expense of 1st-12th grade students. It could equate to: 1) Eliminating teaching positions and raising class sizes, or 2) Loss of half of our counseling staff, or 3) Eliminating all summer school and after - \$90/ school programs, and still Student cut teaching positions.

OREGON

\$7.5 Billion Fragile Stability

A funding level of \$7.5 billion allows the Beaverton School District to maintain current programs and services, and have a full-day kindergarten. This funding level would allow us to: • Maintain current class size and counseling staff

- Increase programs for our English Language Learners to increase araduation rates
- Purchase new English Language Arts curriculum

However, this level of funding will result in continuation of the fundamental conditions that have caused:

- Beaverton students to receive about one year less of instructional time than the national average.
- Lack of flexibility for extended time for all students to be on track for araduation.

+\$108/

OREGON SCHOOL BOARDS

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• Lack of CTE programs that help students gain Student career and technical skills.

\$7.875 Billion Improvement Trajectory

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Oregon lags behind the

ion in our investment

and \$7.875 Bill

What would it take to bring Oregon schools up to the national average for

instructional time

+\$450

Million

class size

+\$1.2

Billion

Help Us Build

The Schools

Our Students Deserve

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This funding level will allow the Beaverton School District to make targeted investments in instructional time, Career & Technical Education and programs and services for students who need them most.

Made over time, these investments will result in:

- Increased CTE options and pathways for our students
- Additional instructional time for ALL students
- Higher and up to the second sec
- Improved outcomes for ELL students and reduce achievement gaps

\$7.875 billion represents the first step on a ten-year trajectory to reach the Quality Education Commission's recommended funding level of about \$9.2 billion – which happens to be the investment level needed for Oregon schools to reach the national average for +\$359/ instructional time and Student class size.



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EDITORIAL: K-12 Education Budget - March 10, 2015

It is not a secret where Oregon stands in terms of our support for schools compared to the rest of the country. Our kids go to school a year less than the national average during their 1st - 12th grade education. In terms of class size, we rank 49th in our student to teacher ratio. We are 46th in state expenditures as a percent of taxable resources. We can and need to do better for our children. Yet, the current State School Fund being considered for approval would have school districts actually take further steps backward.

The next several weeks are critical for the Oregon K-12 Education Budget. Several influential legislative leaders want to move quickly to determine the two-year state school fund for K-12 Education. The two-year funding level being considered for K-12 education is \$7.235 billion. This is not good news. This budget level means reductions across the state. This is an unacceptable level of funding given our improving economy. Now is the time to invest in education.

For Beaverton it means our schools would lose \$90 per student, which translates to a loss of \$4.1 million next year. A State School Fund of \$7.235 billion will cause Beaverton to once again make unfortunate choices that will impact students. This level of funding does not support Full Day Kindergarten, which therefore will be implemented at the expense of 1st - 12th grade students. In Beaverton reductions of this magnitude are equivalent to: eliminating teaching positions and raising class sizes, a loss of half our counseling staff, or eliminating all summer school and after school programs, and still cutting teaching positions.

Our state legislators need to keep talking about the K-12 Education Budget. It would be a crime to settle on this inadequate funding level. In Beaverton, we are committed to advocating for a minimum of \$7.5 billion over the next two years to just maintain current programs and services and implement full-day Kindergarten. This level of funding would provide fragile stability. Better yet, funding at \$7.875 billion would get us on a path to improvement and re-investment in K-12 Education. At this level we could in fact increase instructional time for students and increase our Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs that would help our state meet the immediate challenges of economic development and help students gain skills, technical knowledge, and real world experience they need to prepare for successful lives and careers.

Our students deserve stable and adequate funding to ensure that they have an education that prepares them for our global economy and a quality of life that makes our communities strong. A decision now that results in decreases to our schools is unconscionable. It's time to prioritize our children and the education that they deserve.

I implore our legislative leaders to wait for upcoming economic forecasts and weigh all of our options before deciding on something as important as our K-12 Education Budget. It is the right thing to do.