BOARD MEETING DATE

January 12, 2015



BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Resolution 15-503 in Support of Safe Routes to School Program

WHEREAS, the mission of the Beaverton School District is to "Engage our students in rigorous and joyful learning experiences that meet their individual needs so they may thrive, contribute, compete, and excel;" and

WHEREAS, when it is safe, convenient, and fun to walk to neighborhood schools, our children are healthier, our streets are safer for everyone, and our communities thrive; and

WHEREAS, kids that can safely walk and bike to their neighborhood school get regular physical activity and do better in school; and

WHEREAS, our kids who most need more opportunities for physical activity often don't have safe routes for walking or biking to school; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive Safe Routes to School programs have proven successful at getting more kids to bike and walk to school; and

WHEREAS, Safe Routes to School programs are a cost-effective way to improve children's health, make neighborhood streets safer for everyone, engage community members in promoting healthy and safe choices, and reduce school-related congestion; and

WHEREAS, the Beaverton School District has relied on federal and state funding to operate Safe Routes to School programs since 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Beaverton School District recognizes the value of Safe Routes to School in meeting its goals and realizing its mission; and

WHEREAS, new funding is needed to continue running Safe Routes to School programs in the meeting its goals and realizing its mission; and

WHEREAS, new funding is needed to continue running Safe Routes to School programs in the Beaverton School District and to serve every student; and

WHEREAS, the cost of fully funding Safe Routes to School for all students in the tri-county metropolitan region would be \$56.5 million, and the gap between existing funding and the total need to serve every kid is approximately \$40 million;

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.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Beaverton School District requests that the Metro Regional Government establish a policy direction for the 2019-2020 Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program that creates a regional Safe Routes to School program with a competitive grant application process to fund safety projects and programs that encourage walking, biking and transit use to get to K-12 schools throughout the greater tri-county metropolitan region.

By:

Mary VanderWeele, Chair Beaverton School Board