



BOARD MEETING DATE
March 18, 2013

School Boards United for Excellence

POLICY ISSUE/SITUATION

Board Chair, LeeAnn Larsen and Supt. Jeff Rose joined other School Board members and Superintendents throughout Washington County in January to meet with local legislators to advocate for adequate and stable funding for K-12 schools. Jim Green, Deputy Executive Director of OSBA also attended and offered advice on some of the proposed legislation that will have a direct impact on schools and funding.

RECOMMENDATION:

(13-265) BE IT RESOLVED that the Beaverton School Board discuss and approve the attached resolution.

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.

BEAVERTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BOARDS UNITED FOR EXCELLENCE

Resolution 13-265

WHEREAS, state level funding over the last several biennia for school districts throughout Oregon has not been sufficient to maintain adequate class sizes, provide for a full academic school year or provide for staffing levels to operate and provide the instruction needed for students to meet the state level goals and standards for student achievement; and

WHEREAS, local taxpayers in many school districts have approved local property tax option levies to provide additional local funding to address the shortfall from state resources; and

WHEREAS, due to the effects of voter approved Ballot Measures 5, 47 and 50 and the tax compression effects of those measures, school districts are not able to collect the full amount allowed under voter approved local option levies; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon Legislature has enacted numerous pieces of legislation that create new mandates on school districts without the funding necessary to meet the mandated requirements of the legislation; and

WHEREAS, school districts will face a cost increase beginning July 1, 2013 related to the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS); and

WHEREAS, the average school district PERS rates will increase from 19.48 percent of payroll to 26.69 percent of payroll on July 1, 2013; and

WHEREAS, school districts will need to make further budgetary reductions by such as increasing class sizes, eliminating programs, reducing staff or eliminating instructional days to cover the costs of unfunded mandates and PERS rate increases.

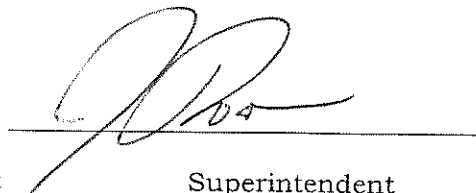
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Beaverton School District Board of Directors strongly encourages the members of the 77th Session of the Oregon Legislative Assembly to:

1. Refer a constitutional amendment to the Oregon voters to exclude local option levies from the effects of tax compression; and
2. Reduce the number of unfunded mandates and not enact any new unfunded mandates unless sufficient funding is provided to meet the costs of the mandate; and
3. Enact reforms to the Public Employees Retirement System that reduces costs for public employers while still maintaining a stable and adequate retirement benefit for public employees.

ADOPTED, this 18th day of March, 2013.



School Board Chair, Beaverton School District



Superintendent