

February 15, 2013

Dear Board Chair and Superintendent:

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Jim Green

I am writing to invite and urge your participation in the ***Strong Schools, Strong State*** campaign. This important statewide coalition effort is designed to urge state policymakers to prioritize education among our state investments by supporting adequate and stable funding that ensures a full academic school year for every child in Oregon.

We ask that you share the enclosed materials with your board of directors, adopt a resolution in support of this effort, and adapt enclosed materials to tell policymakers the story of how their investment will yield success for our students, and a strong economy for Oregon.

If you have questions, please contact Jim Green, Deputy Executive Director, at jgreen@osba.org, or Tricia Yates, Director of Communications, at tyates@osba.org.

Sincerely,



Betsy Miller-Jones
Executive Director

BMJ:jkf

Enc.

How can my school board join the ***Strong Schools, Strong State*** campaign?

We are a coalition of education leaders – the Oregon School Boards Association, Oregon PTA, Oregon School Employees Association, Oregon Small Schools Association, Confederation of School Administrators, Oregon Education Association, Oregon Association of Education Service Districts and Oregon Association of School Business Officials – united in the ***Strong Schools, Strong State*** campaign to prioritize education in our state investments by supporting adequate and stable funding that ensures a full academic school year for every child in Oregon.

Your school board can join this campaign by:

1. Adopting a resolution to support this effort (see sample resolution).
2. Sending your adopted resolution to your state legislators and Governor Kitzhaber (and a copy to OSBA).
3. Sharing the enclosed state ***“How would the potential 2013-15 State School Fund Levels impact Oregon school districts?”*** chart with your community.
4. Adapting the ***“How would the potential 2013-15 State School Fund Levels impact Oregon school districts?”*** format to tell what is happening in your own local school district. The enclosed attachment sample (entitled [*Your district name*]) will be available in the coming week on the OSBA website with instructions on how to personalize it with your district's information. Affix your district's personalized information to the enclosed ***Strong Schools, Strong State*** poster and share your story with your state legislators, Governor Kitzhaber and your community.
5. Using the enclosed talking points to talk with your community and local media about your involvement in the ***Strong Schools, Strong State*** campaign.
6. Posting the enclosed ***Strong Schools, Strong State*** poster, with your district's personalized information, in a highly visible place to promote the campaign.



Join the Strong Schools, Strong State Campaign!



We are a coalition of education leaders –



Oregon School Boards Association

Oregon PTA

Oregon School Employees Association

Oregon Small Schools Association

Confederation of School Administrators

Oregon Education Association

Oregon Association of Education Service Districts

Oregon Association of School Business Officials



everychild.one voice.

– united in the **Strong Schools, Strong State** campaign to prioritize education in our state investments by supporting adequate and stable funding that ensures a full academic school year for every child in Oregon.



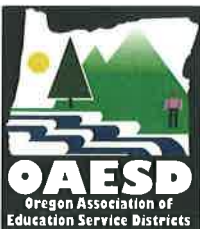
Vision and Purpose Statement



Oregon
Small Schools Association

Our Vision for Oregon

A dynamic 21st-century school system that provides each student a world-class education that results in Oregon students becoming responsible and productive citizens of our communities, state and nation. Oregon will make wise, strong investments in this vision, creating strong schools that serve as the foundation of a strong, prosperous state, now and into the future.



We will work as a unified body, speaking with one voice, in support of adequate and sustainable funding for public education at a level that provides for a full academic year; staffing levels necessary to operate and provide the instruction needed for students to meet state goals and standards; and a varied curriculum that meets the needs of Oregon's students.



The state must achieve and maintain funding and program access and equity for all students.