



Facts about Oregon's education system

- Oregon has one of the lowest graduation rates in the country.
- Oregon is 49th in the nation in class size (nearly six students more than the US average.)
- Oregon students receive on average one instructional year less in their K-12 education compared to the national average.
- Oregon spends about 88% of the national average per K-12 pupil.
- Oregon is 46th in state expenditures on K-12 education as a percent of state taxable resources.
- K-12's share of the Oregon state budget has dropped 6 percent to 39 percent since 2003-05.
- The state's economy is expected to grow by 11% in the next biennium

What a \$7.2 billion K-12 education budget means for Newberg schools

- Newberg will receive \$78 less per student next year compared to our 2014-15 funding level.
- A \$7.2 billion budget is nearly \$2.84 million short of what Newberg needs to maintain current programs, add full-day kindergarten, operate a full-school year and replace curriculum materials and outdated technology.
- The cost of implementing full day kindergarten is not covered.
- We would have to consider cutting teachers or days of school.
- Our projected fund balance (savings) in 2015-16 and 2016-17 would drop below 3 percent.
- We would have no ability to replace outdated curriculum materials that align to the Common Core State Standards.
- The 626 aging student computers in schools and classrooms would not be replaced and our outdated technology infrastructure will have to last even longer.
- Our ability to help teachers meet more rigorous expectations for 21st century learning through professional learning would be severely limited.

Legislators representing the Newberg School District

Senator Kim Thatcher

Party: Republican Party

District: 13

Phone: 503-986-1713

Address: 900 Court St NE, S-307 Salem, OR, 97301

Sen.kimthatcher@state.or.us

<http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/thatcher>

Senator Brian Boquist

Party: Republican Party

District: 12

Phone: 503-986-1712

Address: 900 Court St NE, S-305 Salem, OR, 97301

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Representative Bill Post

Party: Republican Party

District: 25

Phone: 503-986-1425

Address: 900 Court St NE, H-373 Salem, OR, 97301

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Representative Jim Weidner

Party: Republican Party

District: 24

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Sample message to legislators representing Newberg School District

Dear (Representative / Senator)

K-12 education in Oregon is in jeopardy of taking two giant steps backwards as the Co-Chairs try to pass a \$7.2 billion budget.

At a time of recent economic growth and increased state revenue, I fear that approving a \$7.2 billion K-12 budget would short-change Newberg-Dundee and all Oregon school children.

Consider the current status of Oregon's education system:

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- Oregon is 49th in the nation in class size (nearly six students more than the US average.)
- Oregon students receive on average one instructional year less in their K-12 education compared to the national average.
- Oregon spends about 88% of the national average per pupil K-12
- Oregon is 46th in state expenditures on K-12 education as a percent of state taxable resources
- K-12's share of the Oregon state budget has dropped 6% to 39% since 2003-05
- The state's economy is expected to grow by 11% in the next biennium

This is what \$7.2 billion in K-12 funding would mean for the Newberg School District:

- Newberg will receive \$78 less per student next year compared to our 2014-15 funding level.
- A \$7.2 billion budget is nearly \$2.84 million short of what Newberg needs to maintain current programs, add full-day kindergarten, operate a full-school year and replace curriculum materials and outdated technology.
- The cost of implementing full day kindergarten is not covered.
- We would have to consider cutting teachers or days of school.
- Our projected fund balance in 2015-16 and 2016-17 would drop below 3 percent.
- We would have no ability to replace outdated curriculum materials that align to the Common Core State Standards.
- The 626 aging student computers in our schools and classrooms would not be replaced and our outdated technology infrastructure will have to last even longer.
- Our ability to help teachers meet more rigorous expectations for 21st century learning through professional learning would be severely limited.

What we are doing to children today is going to impact Oregon and our economy over the next three decades. I am counting on you to vote to invest in Oregon's future. That starts with a \$7.5 to \$8 billion investment in K-12 education for 2015-17.

Thank you for time and for all you do for our community.

Sincerely,