



### **Portland Public Schools' top priority for the 2019 Legislative Session is to secure robust funding for advancing student achievement.**

There is no better long-term investment in the state than ensuring a high quality public education for every child.

During the 2019 legislative session, Portland Public Schools will work vigorously with our education coalition partners to ensure that education is prioritized in all state funding decisions.

#### **Funding**

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- PPS will advocate for a substantial investment and expansion of the full spectrum of education, from early learning through K-12, higher education and workforce development and job training.
  - PPS will advocate for a \$10.7 Billion appropriation for the State School Fund, to fully fund the Quality Education Model for K-12.
- PPS will advocate for major revenue reform to support increased investments in education and all other essential services, including funding to increase the length of the school year.
- PPS believes that students' social and emotional well-being is critical to their academic success and that school districts are increasingly responsible for and morally obligated to respond to the well-being needs of students and their families. Therefore, PPS supports and will advocate for substantial additional funding to address the social determinants of health and education such as anti-poverty programs, human services, access to health care, housing and other investments to support the stability and well-being of Oregon's families.
- PPS opposes budgetary carve-outs for mandated uses and unfunded mandates that do not include the requisite funding to successfully implement the mandate.
- PPS will advocate for major tax reform to provide revenue sufficient for the state to fulfill its responsibilities and reasonable measures to bring greater control over mandated expenditures and unsustainable cost drivers such as PERS and health insurance, thus allowing a more efficient leveraging of the current base investment.
- PPS supports and will continue to advocate for direct state investment in school district capital needs as a way of tackling the problems facing an aging education infrastructure, including efforts to address environmental health and safety issues, and support community resiliency after a seismic event. PPS encourages the state to advocate at the federal level for additional investment in public education infrastructure.

## Other Priorities

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- PPS will advocate for measures that promote safe and welcoming school environments for all our students and staff, regardless of race, ethnicity, immigration status, or gender identity.
- PPS will lead efforts to pass legislation to enhance the capacity of the state and school districts to protect students against adult misconduct.
- PPS supports and will advocate for legislation and funding to promote improved academic outcomes for all students and close the opportunity gap for historically underserved students, including students receiving special education services.
- PPS supports and will advocate to expand and enhance career and technical education programs through Measure 98. Additionally, PPS supports increased access for high school students to high-quality post-secondary programs with seamless transferability of credits earned.
- PPS supports and will advocate for measures and funding that will help districts attract and retain a diverse workforce reflective of the students they serve.
- PPS supports and will advocate for measures that promote high-quality professional learning opportunities for staff.