



# Board of Education's Legislative Priorities 2023

## INTRODUCTION

PPS's legislative priorities are grounded in our commitment to accelerate achievement for our Black, Native and students of color. We are focused most specifically on eliminating gaps in **third-grade reading, fifth-grade math, eighth grade readiness, high school graduation, and post-secondary readiness.**

## Legislative Priorities

### STABLE AND EQUITABLE INVESTMENTS

- PPS supports a \$10.3 billion investment for the State School Fund (SSF), an increase of a little more than 10% over the last biennium.
- PPS supports improving literacy across Oregon through investments in science of reading professional development, instructional coaches, and evidence-based and culturally responsive curriculum materials, extended learning, high-dosage tutoring, and ongoing evaluations to identify schools where disparities in literacy exist, especially for Black, Native, and students of color.
- PPS supports funding for universal school meals.

### A STRONG EDUCATION WORKFORCE

- PPS supports improving education workforce recruitment and retention practices in the state by:
  - ▶ expanding the educator workforce to meet evolving educational needs
  - ▶ expanding grow-your-own programming
  - ▶ increasing the racial and cultural diversity of Oregon's educator workforce to reflect our student population.
  - ▶ increased focus on recruiting for hard-to-fill positions such as paraeducators, SPED teachers, and dual language immersion educators.

### ENRICHING OPPORTUNITIES

- PPS advocates for continued funding to provide robust academic and enrichment programming including additional instructional specialists and high dosage tutoring.
- PPS supports dedicated and consistent funding for high-quality summer learning opportunities.

### WELCOMING AND SAFE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

- PPS advocates for resources and policies that support the emotional and mental health needs of all students, including investments in counseling, social workers, and a community schools approach to directly address student needs.
- PPS supports measures that keep students and communities safe and free of gun violence.
- PPS advocates for amending Bias Crime statutes to allow local law enforcement to investigate hate speech acts targeting an implied victim(s).

### SCHOOL FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS

- Explore amendment to increase or remove local option levy collection limits to ensure that voter-approved resources stay in the District.
- PPS advocates for sustainable school design and operations that align with PPS's Climate Justice Policy.
- PPS supports investments in cybersecurity workforce development, education, awareness and training.



# District Overview




LARGEST DISTRICT IN  
**OREGON**

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT BOND UPDATES

- **Leodis V. McDaniel** and **Kellogg** were completed in 2021.
- **Lincoln** reopened in the fall of 2022.
- **Benson Polytechnic** is now under construction.
- The modernization process for the historic **Jefferson High School** is underway. The building and site design will commence in January 2023.

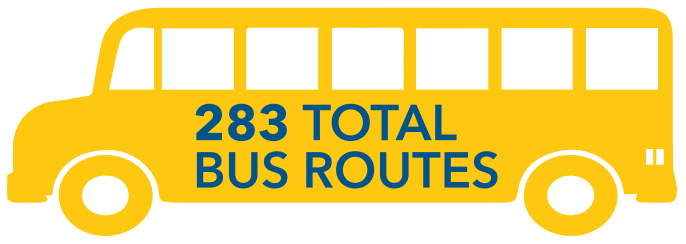
**8,722** TOTAL EMPLOYEES

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS	<b>45</b> ELEMENTARY		<b>10</b> HIGH
	<b>11</b> K-8	<b>14</b> MIDDLE	<b>1</b> K-12

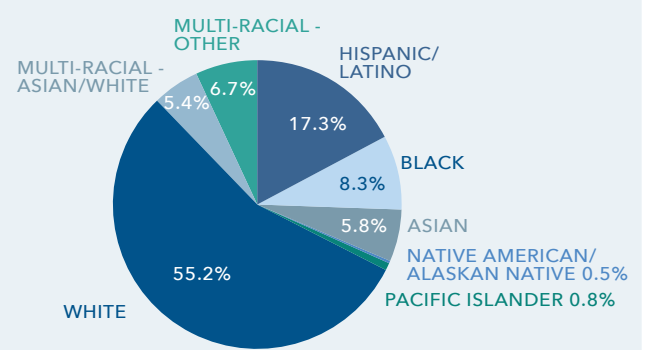
## STUDENT ENROLLMENT

**45,456** TOTAL

<b>43,023</b> STUDENTS IN DISTRICT SCHOOLS	<b>683</b> STUDENTS IN COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMS	<b>456</b> STUDENTS IN SPECIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS	<b>1,294</b> STUDENTS IN PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS
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## STUDENT INFORMATION



RECEIVE ESL SERVICES	ELIGIBLE FOR FREE MEALS	RECEIVE SPED SERVICES
<b>9.0%</b>	<b>22.6%</b>	<b>15.6%</b>

## WHAT'S AT STAKE THIS SESSION

- Being able to have one **counselor** and/or **social worker** at **every school**.
- Capacity to support **learning acceleration** through high dosage tutoring, additional instructional specialists, and summer learning opportunities.
- **Expanding** student learning opportunities and **improving** student outcomes
- Continue working to **eliminate gaps** in third-grade reading, fifth-grade math, eighth grade readiness, high school graduation, and post-secondary readiness.
- **Addressing workforce needs:** recruiting paraeducators, SPED teachers, and dual language immersion educators and increasing the racial and cultural **diversity** of Oregon's educator workforce to reflect our student population