



Portland General Electric Company

121 SW Salmon Street • Portland, Oregon 97204
PortlandGeneral.com

May 10, 2013

Dr. Rudy Crew
Chief Education Officer
Oregon Education Investment Board
775 Court Street, NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Dr. Crew,

I am writing to support the inclusion of funds in HB 3233 to increase the scaling of proficiency-based teaching and learning in Oregon schools.

My name is Lucia Dempsey and I'm an Investor Relations analyst at Portland General Electric Company. I have served on the Business Education Compact (BEC) Finance Committee for the past three years, and have led the Finance Committee as the Treasurer of the Board for the past year.

Over the past three years, especially this past year as Treasurer, I've learned a great deal about proficiency based teaching and learning, and the significant positive impacts the method has on children, teachers, schools, and communities.

Although I have many family members and friends in the field of education, I look at proficiency from a business perspective. Many companies are seeing an increase in retirements, and the utility space is a great example of this - a large portion of our workforce is eligible to retire over the next 5-10 years. To maintain efficient and effective operations, we need to hire competent employees - many of which may be new graduates. We need people that can demonstrate critical thinking, an ability to self-direct, a desire for challenge, and a sense of ownership and responsibility for tasks and outcomes.

Proficiency based teaching and learning prepares children with these important attributes by enabling students to take responsibility for their own learning, challenging students to tackle increasing levels of knowledge, and advancing students based on demonstration and application of skills and knowledge. Under this model, education is personalized, students do not fall behind, and diplomas will truly reflect demonstration of knowledge.

Funding proficiency is a wise investment - a minimal cost for optimal results. I strongly support this funding and believe that it can have a significant beneficial impact on Oregon's students, teachers, communities, and overall educational goals.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lucia Dempsey", is written over a faint, larger version of the signature.

Lucia Dempsey

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