



Molalla High School

Home of the Indians

357 Frances Street, P. O. Box 309 Molalla, OR 97038

503-829-2355, 503-829-6382 Fax

Randy Dalton, Principal; Dave Luce, Assistant Principal;
Kelly Hart, Dean of Students

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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 Randy Dalton, and I am the Principal of Molalla High School. This is my 17th year in education, and in my career, I know of no other "initiative" that has had such a dramatic impact on both teaching and learning. In fact, it saddens me to think that people consider proficiency an "initiative". In my opinion, proficiency is not a new fad or program, it is teaching practices that should have been the standard from the beginning. In my experience, teachers that are involved in this work are inspired and motivated. Time and time again, teachers tell me how guilty they feel about their past practices and wish they would of know about proficiency a long time ago. Though encouraging, not all teachers have had the opportunity to experience such valuable staff development.

If you have never experienced a proficiency based classroom or school, I would encourage you to do so. The culture in these schools and classrooms are like nothing I experienced going to high school. Students are now talking about their learning and how to achieve at a higher level. Teachers are collaborating more and more, providing on-going feedback to students and developing quality, common assessments. More and more students are seeking out assistance before school, during lunch, and after school to not chase points, but to better their learning. The demand from students is so much; many schools have been forced to develop systems for students to reach these higher levels.

There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that this should be a top funding priority. Though there is plenty of need for increased funding in education, money spent developing sound instructional and assessment practice is not only good for teachers, but for students as well.

Sincerely,

Randy Dalton
Principal
Molalla High School