

At the close of the constitutional convention in 1787, Benjamin Franklin was asked, " what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?" ...

HB 2955

In Support Increased Civic Education for Teachers

HB 2955 amends ORS 336.029, which created Oregon Civics Day for Teachers, to include money to support two teachers from every legislative district to attend the annual Civics Conference for Educators and receive follow-up support.

The following will be helpful when considering this bill:

- HB 2955 One-Pager
- Sample Conference flyer (2014)
- Agendas and lists of speakers from the past three conferences
 - 2012 Agenda at a Glance, Speaker list
 - 2013 Agenda at a Glance, Speaker list
 - 2014 Agenda at a Glance, Speaker list
- Excerpts from teachers' evaluations of the Conference
- Map showing the reach of Classroom Law Project statewide

... Benjamin Franklin replied, " a republic if you can keep it." Can we?

HB 2955

Support Increased Civic Education for Teachers

At the close of the constitutional convention in 1787, Benjamin Franklin was asked, " what have we got, a republic or a monarchy?" ...

WHAT HB 2955 amends ORS 336.029, which created a statewide Civics Day for teachers, to add money so that **teachers from every district can attend a statewide civics conference and receive follow-up classroom support.**

WHY Civic education needs shoring up.

- Mandatory testing in public schools shifted resources to math and literacy. Social studies teachers and Oregon students have suffered as a result.
- Oregon's system of frequent referrals and initiatives makes citizens into lawmakers. Oregon needs more high-quality civic education to support future informed voters.

WHY THIS HB 2955 builds on an existing, successful infrastructure.

- **Civics Day for Teachers is celebrated annually by a civics conference for educators.** Now in its 8th year, the conference is put on by Classroom Law Project, an Oregon non-profit organization that is a nationally recognized leader in civic education.
- **The conference is held at the State Capitol** and Supreme Court buildings with sessions in capitol hearing rooms and the Senate Chambers. For many teachers, it is their first time at the capitol.
- **Workshops are led by elected officials,** master teachers, and other civic leaders. Teachers value a professional development day rich in content, strategies, and inspiration. They can immediately use what they learn to teach Oregon students.
- **Every branch and both parties are represented.** Past speakers have included then-Secretary Kate Brown, Chief Justice Tom Balmer, General Ellen Rosenblum, Senator Jackie Winters, Representative Jeff Kruse, and Representative Jennifer Williamson (this represents a small sample). Teachers meet government leaders and bring their message back to classrooms.

EVERY DISTRICT BENEFITS Two teachers from **every legislative district** may receive grants to attend the Conference and receive follow-up support.

- With fewer resources devoted to social studies, this bill helps close the gap. It funds two teachers from every legislative district to attend the Conference and receive follow-up support. It is an **equitable distribution of funds across the state.**

FUNDING HB 2955 directs **\$200,000 per biennium** to fund grants for 180 teachers (two teachers from every House and Senate district) annually to both attend the conference and receive follow-up support.

Contacts: Marilyn Cover, Executive Director, and Barbara Rost Program Director,
at Classroom Law Project, 503-224-4424
Madeleine Dardeau, Rep. Williamson's office at 503-986-1436

... Benjamin Franklin replied, " a republic if you can keep it." Can we?

Classroom Law Project presents

Civics Conference for Teachers

Friday, December 5, 2014,* 8:00am – 4:00pm
State Capitol Building, 900 Court Street NE, Salem

This conference is for teachers of every discipline. Get an insider's view of government. Sit in the Senate Chambers, attend workshops in hearing rooms, and visit the historic Supreme Court courtroom. Learn more about your government from the folks we put in office. If you attended in the past, come back; you will find new content! If you are a rookie-attendee, come; you will find new content, too!

Join us for this remarkable opportunity and return to school knowing more about

- Oregon courts and cases,
- the legislature,
- the executive branch,
- recent elections, plus
- workshops with classroom-ready lessons, materials and ideas.

Conference Costs

- \$50 – registration fee
- \$25 – half-price for two or more teachers from the same building
- \$10 – currently enrolled full-time undergraduate or graduate student

Travel Assistance

- \$50 travel stipend for teachers traveling \$150+ miles round trip
- Hotel – up to \$125/night, 2-night maximum; see website for details

Sub Pay

- We can help; see website for details

Others

- PDUs available
- Optional .5 credit from Lewis & Clark College (additional fee payable separately)



Oregon Civics Conference

Register online at www.classroomlaw.org



**CLASSROOM
LAW PROJECT®**

Questions? Contact
Classroom Law Project at
office@classroomlaw.org or
503-224-4424.

*Oregon legislature declared first Friday in December "Oregon Civics Day for Teachers." It's the law! ORS 336.029

"This was my first time. It exceeded my expectations. I am excited to get into my classroom and put this info to use." – 2013 Attendee

2012 AGENDA AT A GLANCE

- 7:45-8:15** **Registration** Check in. Coffee available. Galleria, Capitol Building, 1st floor
- 8:20-9:10** **Welcome** Senate Chambers and Gallery
- 8:20** Marilyn Cover, Executive Director CLP **8:30** Keynote: Dr. Doris McEwen, OEIB
- 8:25** Oregon Senator Betsy Close, Welcome **8:50** Civic Educator of the Year Award
- 9:25-10:30 Breakout Session I**
- 1. Get the Legislative Low Down** C, H (see codes on reverse)
Rep. (and Senator-Elect) Arnie Roblan Location: Hearing Room B
- 2. Secretary of State – What’s That About?** C
Secretary Kate Brown – Oregon Secretary of State Location: Hearing Room C
- 3. Project Citizen** E, M, H
Mr. Paul Nolan – Teacher Sunridge Middle School, Pendleton Location: Hearing Room D
- 10:45-11:50 Breakout Session II**
- 4. Death Penalty Do Over** C, M, H
Mr. Harrison Latto – attorney Location: Hearing Room B
- 5. Citizens United After the Election: Should We Amend the Constitution?** C, M, H
Hon. Sue Leeson – Oregon Supreme Court, retired Location: Hearing Room D
- 6. State v. Goldilocks** E, M
Ms. Barbara Rost – Program Director Classroom Law Project Location: Hearing Room C
- noon-1:15** **LUNCH** Grab and go (Room 350, 3rd fl.). Holiday music in Capitol Rotunda.
- 12:30-1:05 optional tours** (assemble in Galleria at 12:30, leave at 12:35)
1. Governor’s office, or
2. Supreme Court Courtroom – Chief Justice Tom Balmer
- 1:25-2:30 Breakout Session III**
- 7. The Case of Comic Books in the Classroom** M, H
Ms. Marilyn Cover – Executive Director Classroom Law Project Location: Hearing Room B
- 8. Should Hate Speech Be Protected? Part 1 of 2 Free speech issues examined** C, M, H
Hon. Michael H. Simon – U.S. District Court Judge Location: Hearing Room C
- 9. Unpacking the Court: Understanding Oregon’s Third Branch** C, M, H
Hon. Thomas Balmer – Chief Justice Oregon Supreme Court Location: Hearing Room D
Hon. Jack Landau – Associate Justice Oregon Supreme Court
- 2:45-3:45 Breakout Session IV**
- 10. Should Hate Speech Be Protected? Part 2 of 2 Structured discussion strategy** M, H
Ms. Marilyn Cover – Executive Director Classroom Law Project Location: Hearing Room C
- 11. Education Policy in Oregon, Where Are We Headed?** C
Mr. Ben Cannon – Education Policy Advisor to the Governor Location: Hearing Room B
- 12. iCivics: Gaming for Government** E, M, H
Mr. Paul Nolan – Teacher, Sunridge Middle School, Pendleton Location: Hearing Room D
Ms. Tyler Kaltenbach – Program Manager Classroom Law Project
- 3:45-4:00** **Closing remarks** (are made in your last session)
- 4:00** **Adjourn**

CODES: Participants are welcome to attend any workshop. The following code may help you decide. C: Citizen – workshops are appropriate for all; they provide information to help you in your role as a citizen of Oregon. E: Elementary – teachers of elementary grades will find classroom-ready information. M: Middle – teachers of middle grades will find information they can use in the classroom. H: High – high school teachers will learn content that may be used in classrooms.

~ ~ ~
Classroom Law Project extends a special thank you to the Saling Foundation
for its generous support of this conference and civic education

2012 Speakers

The Honorable Thomas A. Balmer, Chief Justice Oregon Supreme Court

The Honorable Kate Brown, Oregon Secretary of State

Mr. Ben Cannon, Education Policy Advisor to the Governor

The Honorable Betsy Close, Oregon Senate

Ms. Marilyn Cover, Executive Director Classroom Law Project

Ms. Tyler Kaltenbach, Program Manager Classroom Law Project

The Honorable Jack Landau, Associate Justice Oregon Supreme Court

Mr. Harrison Latto, Attorney

The Honorable Susan M. Leeson, Oregon Supreme Court (retired), mediator, arbitrator

Dr. Doris McEwen, Deputy Director for Curriculum and Instruction,
Oregon Education Investment Board

Mr. Paul Nolan, Teacher, Pendleton School District

The Honorable Arnie Roblan, Co-Speaker Oregon House of Representatives

Ms. Barbara Rost, Program Director Classroom Law Project

The Honorable Michael H. Simon, United States District Court Judge

2013 AGENDA AT A GLANCE

- 7:45-8:20 **Registration** Check in. Coffee available. Galleria, Capitol Building, 1st floor
8:30-9:00 **Welcome** Senate Chambers and Gallery, 2nd floor
8:20 Marilyn Cover, Executive Director CLP
8:40 Oregon Senator Jackie Winters, Welcome Remarks
8:50 Presentation of the 2013-14 Civic Educator of the Year Award to Drew Moneke, West Salem High School

9:25-10:30 Breakout Session I

13. **Packs and Pokes: Two Cases before the Oregon Supreme Court** C, M, H
Hon. Susan Leeson, Oregon Supreme Court – retired, author, mediator, arbitrator Rm. D
14. **Oregon Election Law: What Passed, What Didn't, and Why It Matters** C
Secretary of State Kate Brown Rm. B
15. **From Birds & Trees to Sea Lions & Steelhead: Teaching about Environmental Law and Policy** E, M, H
Marilyn Cover and Tyler Kaltenbach, Classroom Law Project Rm. C

10:45-11:50 Breakout Session II

16. **What the Dems Say about the Last Session** C, M, H
Rep. Brent Barton and Rep. Jessica Vega Pederson Rm. B
17. **Klamath Basin Water Wars** C, E, M, H
Janet Neuman, water law expert, and Marilyn Cover, Classroom Law Project Rm. D
18. **There's an App for That and More: Online Stuff for your Classroom** E, M, H
Paul Nolan, teacher; Tyler Kaltenbach, Classroom Law Project Rm. C

noon-1:15 **LUNCH** Grab and go (Room 350, 3rd fl.). Holiday music in Capitol Rotunda.

12:30-1:05 *optional tours* (assemble in Galleria at 12:30, leave at 12:35)

1. Governor's office, or
2. Supreme Court Courtroom – Chief Justice Tom Balmer

1:25-2:30 Breakout Session III

19. **On the Eve of Its 50th Anniversary: A Look Back at Civil Rights in Mississippi** C
Hon. Jake Tanzer, former justice Oregon Supreme Court, mediator, arbitrator Rm. C
Moderated by Rep. Lew Frederick, Oregon House of Representatives
20. **Sinners & Saints – Indelicate Stories of Emigrants in the West** E, M, H
Gypsy Burks, Exhibits Specialist National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center Rm. D

2:45-3:45 Breakout Session IV

21. **Attorney or General or What? with AG Ellen Rosenblum** C, M, H
Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum Rm. C
22. **The Judicial Branch from the Boss** C, M, H
Hon. Thomas Balmer, Chief Justice Oregon Supreme Court Rm. D
23. **What the Republicans Say about the Last Session** C, M, H
Sen. Brian Boquist and Sen. Jeff Kruse, Oregon State Senate Rm. B

3:45-4:00 Closing Remarks

Closing remarks will occur in the same room as your last workshop, at the end of the session. Please stay where you are for paperwork, information on travel stipends, PDUs, etc.

4:00 **Adjourn**

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FIRST FRIDAY IN DECEMBER: OREGON CIVICS DAY FOR TEACHERS. IT'S THE LAW!

2013 Speakers

Mr. Drew Moneke, 2013-14 Civic Educator of the Year

The Honorable Thomas A. Balmer, Chief Justice Oregon Supreme Court

Rep. Brent Barton, Oregon House of Representatives

Sen. Brian Boquist, Oregon State Senate

The Honorable Kate Brown, Oregon Secretary of State

Ms. Gypsy Burks, Exhibits Specialist National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center

Ms. Marilyn Cover, Executive Director Classroom Law Project

Rep. Lew Frederick, Oregon House of Representatives

Ms. Tyler Kaltenbach, Program Manager Classroom Law Project

Sen. Jeff Kruse, Oregon State Senate

The Honorable Susan M. Leeson, Oregon Supreme Court (retired), mediator, arbitrator

Ms. Janet Neuman, international expert on water law

Mr. Paul Nolan, Teacher Pendleton School District

The Honorable Ellen Rosenblum, Oregon Attorney General

The Honorable Jacob Tanzer, Oregon Supreme Court (retired), mediator, arbitrator

Rep. Jessica Vega Pederson, Oregon House of Representatives

Sen. Jackie Winters, Oregon State Senate

2014 AGENDA at a GLANCE

- 8:00-8:20 Registration**
Check in. Coffee available. Galleria, Capitol Building, 1st floor
- 8:30-9:00 Welcome** Senate Chambers and Gallery
- 8:30 Marilyn Cover, Executive Director Classroom Law Project
- 8:40 Oregon Senator Ginny Burdick, Welcome Remarks
- 8:50 Presentation of the 2014-15 Civic Educator of the Year Award
- 9:25-10:30 Breakout Session I**
- 24. What to Expect in the Coming Legislative Session**
Rep. Sherrie Sprenger (R) and Rep. Jennifer Williamson (D) Hearing Room D
- 25. New Cases from the Oregon Supreme Court**
Hon. Jack Landau, *Oregon Supreme Court* Hearing Room B
- 26. Museum Education: Bridging Interpretive Learning and School Testing Culture**
Ms. Denise Brock, *Education & School Services Manager Oregon Historical Society* Hearing Room C
- 10:45-11:50 Breakout Session II**
- 27. Americanization for the 21st Century**
Hon. Susan Leeson, former Justice, *Oregon Supreme Court* Hearing Room C
- 28. What Do Elections, Corporations, State Land Board and State Archives Have in Common? The Secretary of State** Robert Taylor, *Oregon Deputy Secretary of State* Hearing Room B
- 29. Townhall Simulations in the Classroom**
Marilyn Cover, *Classroom Law Project Executive Director* Hearing Room D
- noon-1:15 LUNCH** Grab and Go (Room 50, basement level)
Holiday music in Capitol Rotunda
- 12:30-1:05 optional tours** (*assemble in Galleria at 12:30, leave at 12:35*)
1. Governor's office, or
2. Supreme Court Courtroom – Justice Rives Kistler
- 1:25-2:30 Breakout Session III**
- 30. ~~Breaking Chains: Slavery on Trial in the Oregon Territory~~ CANCELLED**
Mr. Gregory Nokes, *Author, historian*
- 31. Oregon Attorney General: Is That an Attorney or a General or What?**
Mr. Tyler Anderson, *Oregon Assistant Attorney General* Hearing Room C
- 32. Project Citizen**
Ms. Sarah Anderson, *SW Charter School* Hearing Room D
- 2:45-3:45 Breakout Session IV**
- 33. Oregon Elections Recap**
Prof. Jim Moore, *Pacific University* Hearing Room D
- 34. Beyond the Oregon Trail: Oregon's Untold History**
Ms. Kelly Cox, *educator Roosevelt HS*, Ms. Stephanie McBride, *retired educator* Hearing Room C
- 3:45-4:00 Closing Remarks**
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- 4:00 Adjourn**
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2014 Speakers

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Mr. Tyler Anderson, Assistant Oregon Attorney General

Ms. Denise Brock, Education & School Services Manager Oregon Historical Society

Senator Ginny Burdick, Oregon Senate President Pro Tempore

Ms. Marilyn R. Cover, Executive Director Classroom Law Project

Ms. Kelly Cox, Educator, Roosevelt High School

The Honorable Rives Kistler, Justice Oregon Supreme Court

The Honorable Susan M. Leeson, Oregon Supreme Court (retired), mediator, arbitrator

The Honorable Jack Landau, Justice Oregon Supreme Court

Ms. Stephanie McBride, Board Chair, Resolutions Northwest

Prof. Jim Moore, Pacific University; political news analyst, psephologist

Mr. R. Gregory Nokes, journalist, author, historian

Rep. Sherrie Sprenger, Oregon House of Representatives

Mr. Robert Taylor, Oregon Deputy Secretary of State

Rep. Jennifer Williamson, Oregon House of Representatives

Excerpts from Teachers' Civics Conference Evaluations

Participants provide anonymous evaluations at the end of the conference. They are overwhelming positive with comments such as the following:

On the Conference generally, teachers said:

- Thanks for the practical, relevant resources
- Keep it up! I love coming to this ☺
- Always enjoy the sessions and feel better prepared going back to my classroom
- Thank you – it was a great experience spending the day in the Capitol building with access to people in our govt. All the presenters were very friendly and accessible.
- I appreciate all the materials and just soaking in being in the capitol and learning more about how local government works.
- A great education for me – came away with a lot of material I can use in the classroom. I feel more informed!
- Enjoyed hearing from civic leaders and gaining knowledge first hand rather than doing research on my own. I found this conference to be very helpful and rewarding.

On workshops led by legislators:

- It was great to have access to the legislators who were all very open, friendly and accessible.
- Great presenter, positive warming presence, passionate, well organized, good information, great insight, knowledgeable, interesting to listen to during the session, and answered questions extremely well.
- Nice to be able to talk directly with officials that represent our state.
- Upcoming agenda was informative; also discussion of citizens' groups.
- Wonderful information for me personally and to share with my kids.

On other workshops:

- I learned so much! Felt like an excited college student again!
- Lots of great information & ideas for use in my AP Government classes.
- Engaging & entertaining. Plan to immediately use in the classroom, applies to present units we are debating in govt.
- Inspired me to try and start a Project Citizen social science elective at my school.
- This was awesome! So much useful material; I cant wait to use as much of this in my classroom as possible!
- Excellent – well informed and the packet very thorough and helpful for classroom useage.
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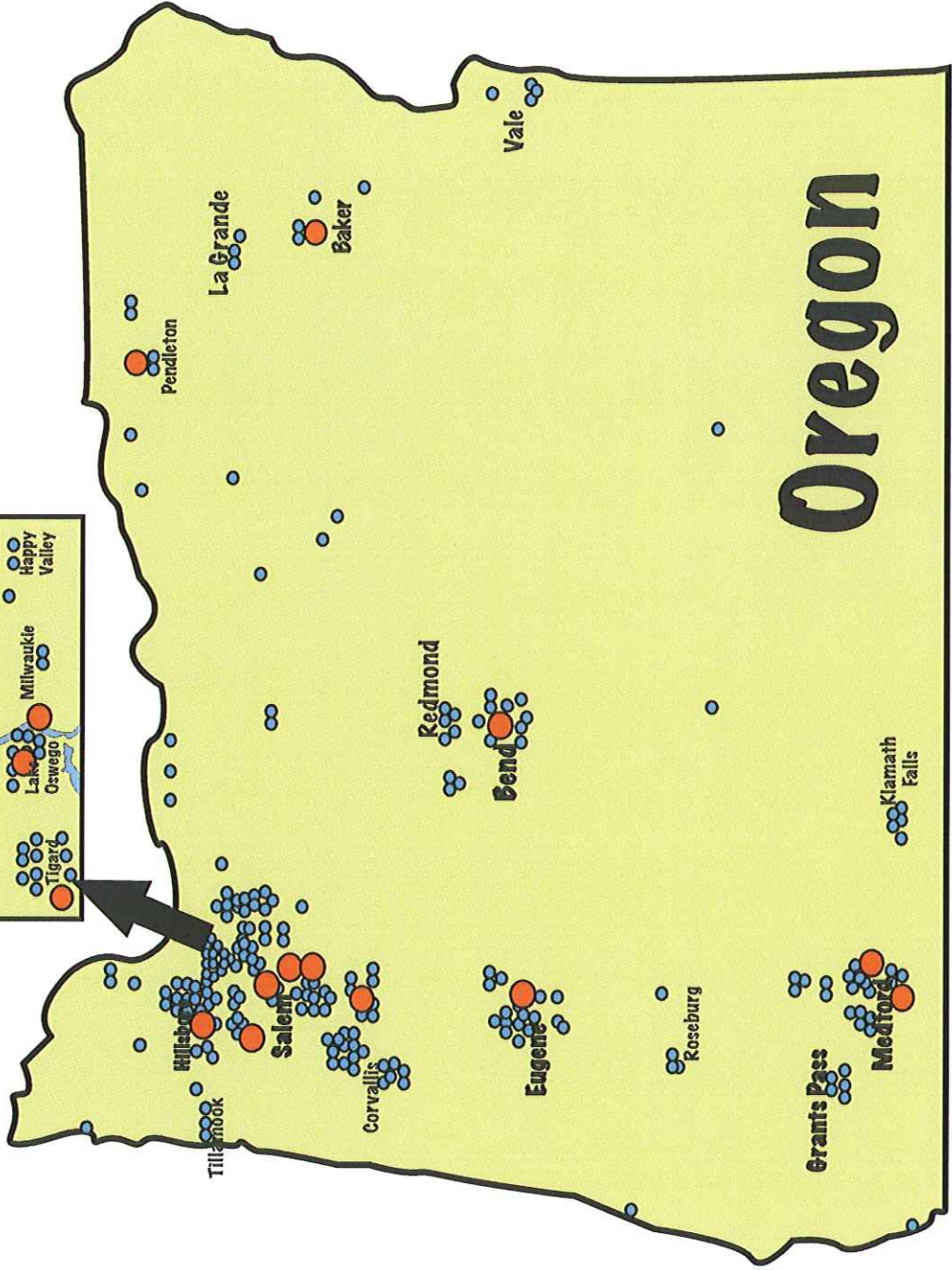
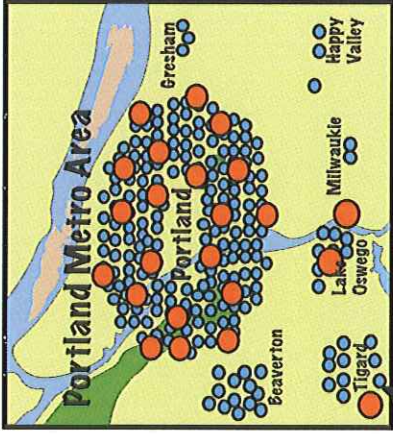
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Oregon

Classroom Law Project

Workshops, Events, and Participating Teachers' Locations