

Hello,

I just wanted to take a minute to ask that you somehow find a way to increase the funding for the state school budget for our kids. I understand there are so many programs to fund and that finding balance must be extremely difficult. I also see that without quality education our state and country will quickly lag behind the rest of the world and instead of supporting education budgets we will increase the social programs to pay for the increased crime, welfare programs, food stamps, corrections systems, and the lack of technology, business and economy that education ultimately supports. Oregonians continue to hear these scary statistics showing Oregon lagging in spending for education. How did we go from one of the top funded states to the bottom in such a short time period? It seems we now rank at the bottom for the percentage of state budget going towards education. I just hope that there is something that can be done to ensure we continue to have a budget that does not remove teachers, class time or days of education. Recently Hood River School District superintendent Dan Goldman mentioned a potential shortfall of 1 million dollars for the coming year and based on our budget this previous year, I see those types of cuts going straight to the classroom. Luckily our local option will continue to support keeping schools open but we need all the state support we can get to stop the cuts which will impact kids directly. Please help to ensure our state spending commits to a positive public education.

Thanks for your time and everything you do.

Best regards,

Tom Scully
Parent of 2 Hood River County School District Students
Hood River County School District Budget Committee Member
541 490-9234