



# HB 4031– Coordinated Student Success Act

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# Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs or Trauma)

- Exposure to trauma changes how the brain functions
- Children exposed to trauma have a harder time learning and they respond to change or new stress differently than others.
- In school, these children are more likely to get in trouble or be misdiagnosed with ADHD. Because of brain changes they may be impulsive and act out with anger or disengagement.

# ACEs and Educational Impacts

- Children who have an ACE score of 3 (out of 10):
  - >2x more likely to be suspended
  - 6x more likely to experience behavioral problems
  - 5x more likely to have severe attendance issues.
  - Reduced reading ability
  - Lower grade point averages.
- 23% of Oregon 11<sup>th</sup> graders reported being intentionally hit or physically hurt by an adult and nearly 30% of Oregon 11<sup>th</sup> graders reported missing school because of emotional health reasons.



## The Good News

- Positive experiences help build resilience and protect a child from the effects of trauma.
- Creating a safe environment and teaching children to reset their brains to a calm state means they spend less time in a survival state and more time learning.
- We can create safe environments in schools to help these (and all) children learn, attend school, and graduate.

# Trauma Informed School Definition

## A trauma-informed school:

- **Realizes** both the widespread impact of trauma and the role of schools in promoting resiliency
- **Recognizes** the signs and symptoms of trauma in students, families and staff
- **Responds** by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, and practices
- **Resists** re-traumatization of students and staff and fosters resiliency

*(Adapted from SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma Informed Approach, 2014.)*

## Key Components of the Bill

- Three year pilot project
- Use existing trauma-informed models, tailored to the specific communities in Oregon, coordinating schools with CCOs, public health, nonprofits, justice system, parents, etc.
- A school-based health center (SBHC) or equivalent school-based system for providing behavioral health services and care coordination.
- Require a minimum community match for each project and pursuit of **Federal Funding**
- Comprehensive Evaluation

# Outcomes of Trauma Informed Schools

## Lincoln High School, Walla Walla, WA

- Decreased fights by 75%
- 55% increase in math assessment scores
- Five-fold increase in graduation rates
- Three-fold increase in seniors bound for college

## Alexander Procter Elementary, Independence, MO

- 2013-2014: 542 referrals to the principal's office
- 2014/2015: 323 referrals
- 2015/2016: 98 through November.

## Oregon is Ready

- Moda is sponsoring a seven district Trauma Informed focused strategic planning process that includes Tillamook, Umatilla, N Wasco, Phoenix Talent, Portland Public, and Gladstone.
- Concept developed with input from Defending Childhood Initiative, Gladstone School District, Trauma Informed Oregon, Oregon Health Equity Alliance, Healthy Kids Learn Better Coalition, CareOregon, Christopher Blodgett, OEA Foundation, Oregon Alliance of Children's Programs, and others