


FROM THE DESK OF: 

Yes on SB 1564-2 Improve Annual Reporting around English Language Learners Finance & Student Progress

SB 1564-2 will ensure that annual reporting around English Language Learner (ELL) expenditures and ELL student progress is consistent and available to the public.

Streamlines Annual Reporting. This bill will shift annual reporting from school districts to the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to ensure that the data are validated and the reporting is consistent. The bill will also keep all of the ELL finance data and unidentifiable ELL student progress information all in one place on ODE's website.

Shares Annual Reports with Local Communities. Once the reports are finalized, all school boards will receive a copy of the annual report so that local school leaders, parents, and community members may analyze that data and work collectively to improve outcomes for ELL students.

Oregon's ELL student population has grown to 57,153. Oregon's 2014-15 data show that our current education system is not serving our ELL students well.

- Only 51% of ELL students graduate high school on time, compared to 75% of non-ELL students;
- By the end of 8th grade, 5% of ELL students met the standards in English Language Arts and math;
- Just 12% of ELL students met the English Language Arts and math standards by the end of 4th grade.

We still have a lot of more work to do. During the 2015 session, we worked with many parents, community leaders, educators, school board members, school administrators, advocates and lawmakers to unanimously pass HB 3499—90 to 0. HB 3499 creates a system of supports and progressive interventions for districts identified as not meeting the needs of their ELL students; focuses on long-term strategies for helping ELL students move towards meeting the academic standards and English language proficiency; and directs ODE to develop a uniform budget coding and reporting system.

Please support SB 1564-2 so that we can keep the momentum moving forward and ensure that all of Oregon's ELL students get the support they need to succeed.

SB 1564-2 is supported by a broad coalition of community and education advocates including Adelante Mujeres, Africa House, Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon, Asian Family Center, Center for Intercultural Organizing, Chalkboard Project, Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization, Latino Network, Northwest Health Foundation, Salem-Keizer Coalition for Equality, Stand for Children, and others.



Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality