



107 N.W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Pendleton, OR 97801  
Ph: 541-276-6711  
Fax: 541-278-3208  
www.pendleton.k12.or.us

**Matt Yoshioka**  
Interim Superintendent

May 23, 2017

**Michelle Jones**  
Director of Business Services

RE: Support for SB 182

**Brad Bixler**  
Director of Human Resources

Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

**Julie Smith**  
Director of Special Programs

I write in support of Senate Bill 182. As a member of Governor Brown's Council on Educator Advancement I have been involved firsthand with the contents and recommendations of the bill. The recommendations come from the perspective of many practicing educators from across the state and will bring about the changes so badly needed in our schools.

**Matt Yoshioka**  
Director of Curriculum Instruction  
& Assessment

Coming from the more rural part of our state I can say we have felt the effects of inequitable funding. The state currently offers many grants to support many wonderful programs such as early learning, teacher mentoring and cultural competence, however we rarely see any of this money. These grants are competitive grants where the larger districts in the metro areas of the state have professional grant writers and a larger influence on lobbyists and politicians.

**Dan Greenough**  
Principal  
Pendleton High School

I can also attest to the difficulty in hiring and retention of quality teachers of a diverse background. We have recruited for years to hire a more diverse teaching population representative of our student population without success. Just this past year we were able to finally hire the first Native American teacher in many, many years even though our Native American student population stands at 15-18%. We still have so far to go.

**Curt Thompson**  
CTE & Alternative Program  
Coordinator

The passing of SB 182 will bring equity to funding, support to high quality teachers and focus on early learning. In Pendleton we know firsthand the benefits of being focused on early learning. We were fortunate enough to pass a bond and build our own early learning hub where pre-school and kindergarten services have been merged and greatly expanded. We now have partnerships with local agencies and programs for young children all housed in one facility. The effects of which are seen in student achievement and increased family involvement. All children in the state would benefit from such a program and SB 182 is one step closer to this reality.

**Dave Williams**  
Principal  
Sunridge Middle School

Please feel free to contact me for additional support or clarification.

**Ronda Smith**  
Principal  
McKay Creek Elementary

**Theresa Owens**  
Principal  
Sherwood Heights Elementary

**Aimee VanNice**  
Principal  
Washington Elementary

**Brenda Giesen**  
Assistant Principal  
Sherwood Heights Elementary  
Washington Elementary

**Lori Hale**  
Principal  
Pendleton Early Learning Center

Sincerely,

Matt Yoshioka  
Interim Superintendent

**Board of Education**  
Debbie McBee, Chair  
Lynn Lieuallen, Vice Chair  
Michelle Monkman  
Dale Freeman  
Gary George  
Dave Krumbain  
Steve Umbarger