



FUNDING SCHOOLS IS A SMART INVESTMENT IN THE ECONOMY

All of us want a well-educated population that contributes to a thriving state economy. Many know that a decently-funded public education system has real economic value. But if you have any lingering doubts about increasing funding for schools, consider the findings of a recent study¹ that reported the **long term economic outcomes of a 10% increase in school funding that lasted over students' K-12 school years.**

- **Additional half-year of completed education**
- **6.1% reduction in annual incidence of adult poverty**
- **9.6% higher lifetime earnings**
- **10% increased likelihood of previously low-income children currently being married and never previously divorced**

Just imagine a more educated population with steady income increases over the course of a lifetime.

- **How would Oregon's business leaders respond to increased profits from a wider base of customers with livable incomes?**
- **What would legislators do with increasing income tax revenues?**
- **Could something as basic as a steady investment in educational spending actually change the lives of Oregon's citizens and support the ever-changing needs of our state?**

For those of you who think "throwing money at education won't . . .", you should know that the researchers also found that spending money on longer school years, smaller class sizes and highly qualified teachers significantly changed those economic gains. Right now, Oregon falls horrendously short in 2 out of 3! We do attract and keep quality teachers because our salaries and benefits respect the tough work of keeping young minds engaged. But then we ask those highly qualified folks to succeed with really large groups of students with the shortest school year in the country!

We are looking for a broad-based coalition of courageous leaders who will choose to support the Education Investment Initiative and the proposed tax reforms because they will create a thriving Oregon economy

1. Jackson, C K, Johnson, R. C, Persico, C. (2016) The effects of school spending on education and outcomes. Quarterly Journal of Economics. 131:1 (157-218).

We read the bills and follow the money