



Educators urge your support for SB 764, class size and caseload as a mandatory subject of collective bargaining

An important aspect of student success is missing from contract negotiations

Oregon continually ranks among the very worst states in the nation for large class sizes. Education stakeholders and experts agree that large class size and caseloads reduces the quality of a child's learning, reduces the amount of individualized attention students receive, and contributes to many of the classroom management, mental health and behavioral challenges our schools currently face.

Reducing class size continually ranks among the top education issues for Oregonians, and frustration is growing with the state's lack of action to address this problem.

In Oregon, when teachers and other educators sit down with school districts to negotiate their contracts, they discuss a variety of terms of compensation and working conditions.

However, in Oregon, there is no guarantee that class size and case load are discussed at the bargaining table.

Put students, class size, and caseload front and center in school contract talks

The answer is simple and straightforward. SB 764 adds class size to the statutes delineating mandatory subjects of collective bargaining, so appropriate class size may be a part of every contract negotiation.

Making class size a mandatory subject of collective bargaining is not a magic bullet and will not automatically solve Oregon's school funding problems. What it will do is guarantee that educators and school district officials consider ways to manage class size in the district budget at the same time they are setting benefits, compensation, and school year. There is no requirement for any specific outcome and no state benchmarks. Simply a requirement that they have the conversation.

Class size is one of the most important factors in the success of our students. Shouldn't it be at the top of the list for contract talks?

Oregon educators say yes. It is time to make class size a mandatory subject of collective bargaining in Oregon. Yes on HB 764