



We are a non-profit education advocacy organization focused on ensuring all students receive a high quality, relevant education, especially those whose boundless potential is overlooked and under-tapped because of their skin color, zip code, first language, or disability.

April 23, 2019

Dear Co-Chairs Smith Warner and Roblan, Vice Chairs Smith and Knopp, and Members of the Joint Committee on Student Success:

We write this letter to urge your support for the Student Success Act in House Bill 3427.

Thank you for listening to educators, students, and parents across the state, and your commitment to reflecting those views in the proposal you put forth, the Student Success Act offers a vital focus on early childhood and K-12 education. These targeted investments are critical to ensuring more students across our state graduate from high school prepared for college, a career, or both.

Of particular significance:

1. The Student Success Act provides additional funding for Measure 98. It is crucial that we build upon the \$170 million districts are now using. In its first year, Measure 98 funds have allowed districts across Oregon to hire more than 400 full time equivalent positions to support students. These are graduation coaches, guidance counselors, and attendance coaches. Districts are also using these funds to restore career-technical education (CTE) and Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs that better prepare students for high-wage, high-demand jobs in their area.
2. The Students Success Act builds incorporates foundational elements like equitable access to academic courses, sufficient time for teachers and staff to collaborate, and partnerships.
3. The Students Success Act prioritizes investments that are vital to improving student outcomes, such as early literacy and middle school supports, social and emotional learning supports, and more.
4. The Student Success Act includes funding for statewide equity initiatives. Statewide equity initiatives provide a much-needed focus on culturally-responsive practices and supports for our Latinx students, Black students, emerging bilingual students, and American Indian/Alaska Native students.

We look forward to working with you, our fellow partners, and others to make sure that the promise of the Student Success Act becomes a reality for Oregon students.

Please vote YES on HB 3427.

Sincerely,

Toya Fick  
Executive Director  
Stand for Children Oregon