SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Directs State Board of Education, in consultation with State Library, to adopt standards for school library program and academic content standards for library and media studies. Prescribes required components of standards.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to school library programs; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 329.025, 329.045 and 329.095.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) The State Board of Education, in consultation with the State Library, shall adopt by rule standards for a school library program.

(2) Standards adopted under this section must describe elements of a school library program that are necessary to ensure that the program:

(a) Provides instruction to students and school employees in library skills, information literacy and educational technology;

(b) Promotes an array of literacy experiences that support lifelong reading;

(c) Facilitates collaboration in lesson planning and instruction;

(d) Ensures equitable access to library resources and school librarians;

(e) Develops and manages current, plentiful and diverse library collections of print and electronic resources that support classroom curricula and student interests; and

(f) Provides a library and media studies curriculum that complies with academic content standards adopted under section 4 of this 2019 Act.

(3) Each school district board must ensure that each school of the school district has a school library program that complies with the standards adopted by the State Board of Education under this section.

SECTION 2. ORS 329.095 is amended to read:

329.095. (1)(a) The Department of Education shall require school districts and schools to conduct self-evaluations and to periodically update their local district continuous improvement plans. Except as provided by paragraph (b)(C) of this subsection, the department may not require school districts or schools to conduct self-evaluations or to update their local district continuous improvement plans more frequently than biennially.

(b) The department may require a school district to:

(A) File, periodically, or at the department’s request, its local district continuous improvement plan with the department;

(B) Notify the department of any substantial changes, as defined by rule of the State Board of Education, to the school district; or

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

LC 4032
(C) Update its local district continuous improvement plan when there has been a substantial change, as defined by rule of the board, to the school district.

c) The self-evaluation process conducted as provided by this subsection shall involve the public in the setting of local goals. The school districts shall ensure that representatives from the demographic groups of their school population are invited to participate in the development of local district continuous improvement plans to achieve the goals.

(2) As part of setting local goals, school districts shall undertake a communications process that involves parents, students, teachers, school employees and community representatives to explain and discuss the local goals and their relationship to programs under this chapter.

(3) At the request of the school district, department staff shall provide ongoing technical assistance in the development and implementation of the local district continuous improvement plan.

(4) The local district continuous improvement plan shall include:

(a) Goals to implement the following:

(A) A rigorous curriculum aligned with state standards;
(B) High-quality instructional programs;
(C) Short-term and long-term professional development plans;
(D) Programs and policies that achieve a safe educational environment;
(E) A plan for family and community engagement;
(F) Staff leadership development;
(G) High-quality data systems;
(H) Improvement planning that is data-driven;
(I) Education service plans for students who have or have not exceeded all of the academic content standards; and

(J) A [strong] school library program that complies with the standards adopted under section 1 of this 2019 Act;

(b) A review of demographics, student performance, staff characteristics and student access to, and use of, educational opportunities; and

(c) A description of district efforts to achieve local efficiencies and efforts to make better use of resources.

SECTION 3. Section 4 of this 2019 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 329.

SECTION 4. (1) The State Board of Education shall develop academic content standards for library and media studies and shall prepare materials to support teacher training and classroom instruction in library and media studies.

(2) In the development of the academic content standards in library and media studies and in the preparation of materials to support teacher training and classroom instruction in library and media studies, the board shall consult with the State Library.

(3) Academic content standards developed under this section must:

(a) Have learning goals for each grade from kindergarten through grade 12; and

(b) Be taught by a licensed educator with a library media endorsement.

SECTION 5. ORS 329.025 is amended to read:

329.025. It is the intent of the Legislative Assembly to maintain a system of public elementary and secondary schools that allows students, parents, teachers, administrators, school district boards and the State Board of Education to be accountable for the development and improvement of the public school system. The public school system shall have the following characteristics:

(1) Provides equal and open access and educational opportunities for all students in the state
regardless of their linguistic background, culture, race, gender, capability or geographic location;

(2) Assumes that all students can learn and establishes high, specific skill and knowledge expectations and recognizes individual differences at all instructional levels;

(3) Provides each student an education experience that supports academic growth beyond proficiency in established academic content standards and encourages students to attain aspirational goals that are individually challenging;

(4) Provides special education, compensatory education, linguistically and culturally appropriate education and other specialized programs to all students who need those services;

(5) Supports the physical and cognitive growth and development of students;

(6) Provides students with a solid foundation in the skills of reading, writing, problem solving and communication;

(7) Provides opportunities for students to learn, think, reason, retrieve information, use technology and work effectively alone and in groups;

(8) Provides for rigorous academic content standards and instruction in mathematics, science, English, history, geography, economics, civics, physical education, health, the arts, [and] world languages and library and media studies;

(9) Provides increased learning time;

(10) Provides students an educational background to the end that they will function successfully in a constitutional republic, a participatory democracy and a multicultural nation and world;

(11) Provides students with the knowledge and skills that will provide the opportunities to succeed in the world of work, as members of families and as citizens;

(12) Provides students with the knowledge and skills that lead to an active, healthy lifestyle;

(13) Provides students with the knowledge and skills to take responsibility for their decisions and choices;

(14) Provides opportunities for students to learn through a variety of teaching strategies;

(15) Emphasizes involvement of parents and the community in the total education of students;

(16) Transports children safely to and from school;

(17) Ensures that the funds allocated to schools reflect the uncontrollable differences in costs facing each district;

(18) Ensures that local schools have adequate control of how funds are spent to best meet the needs of students in their communities; and

(19) Provides for a safe, educational environment.

SECTION 6. ORS 329.045 is amended to read:

329.045. (1)(a) In order to achieve the goals contained in ORS 329.025, the State Board of Education shall regularly and periodically review and revise its Common Curriculum Goals, performance indicators and diploma requirements.

(b) The review and revision conducted under this section shall:

(A) Include Essential Learning Skills and rigorous academic content standards in mathematics, science, English, history, geography, economics, civics, physical education, health, the arts, [and] world languages and library and media studies.

(B) Involve teachers and other educators, parents of students and other citizens and shall provide ample opportunity for public comment.

(C) Encourage increased learning time. As used in this subparagraph, “increased learning time” means a schedule that encompasses a longer school day, week or year for the purpose of increasing the total number of school hours available to provide:
(i) Students with instruction in core academic subjects, including mathematics, science, English, history, geography, economics, civics, the arts, and world languages and library and media studies;
(ii) Students with instruction in subjects other than the subjects identified in sub-subparagraph (i) of this subparagraph, including health and physical education;
(iii) Students with the opportunity to participate in enrichment activities that contribute to a well-rounded education, including learning opportunities that may be based on service, experience or work and that may be provided through partnerships with other organizations; and
(iv) Teachers with the opportunity to collaborate, plan and engage in professional development within and across grades and subjects.

(c) Nothing in this subsection prevents a school district or public charter school from maintaining control over course content, format, materials and teaching methods.

(2) The State Board of Education shall continually review and revise all adopted academic content standards necessary for students to successfully transition to the next phase of their education.

(3)(a) School districts and public charter schools must offer students instruction in mathematics, science, English, history, geography, economics, civics, physical education, health, the arts, and world languages and library and media studies.

(b) Instruction required under paragraph (a) of this subsection must:

(A) Meet the academic content standards adopted by the State Board of Education; and

(B) Meet the requirements adopted by the State Board of Education and the board of the school district or public charter school.

(4) School districts and public charter schools are encouraged to offer students courses or other educational opportunities in civics and financial literacy to allow every student who wants to receive instruction in civics and financial literacy to be able to receive the instruction.