

Representative Margaret Doherty, Chair  
Representative Teresa Alonso Leon, Co-Chair  
Representative Cheri Helt, Co-Chair  
House Committee on Education

Oregon School Psychologists Association

February 3rd, 2020

Support of House Bill 4132 Relating Oregon Student Health Survey

The Oregon School Psychologists Association supports the proposed House Bill 4132, requiring the Oregon Health Authority to administer and collect data from student health surveys. The Oregon School Psychologists Association represents school psychologists in the state of Oregon. School psychologists are mental health professionals with unique and extensive training in behavioral theory, research, statistics, evidenced-based interventions, and school systems. We are trained to assist school teams in determining precise problems, identifying solutions, and evaluating outcomes of solutions. The knowledge, training and experience we bring to school teams allows us to aid in the implementation of school-wide systems, such as Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. Data-based decision making permeates all aspects of school psychology practice.

The Oregon Healthy Teens survey provides valuable data on student health and well-being, and school climate. The data gathered allow school psychologists, as members of school and district teams, to recommend appropriate interventions and initiatives for the needs identified within school communities. The annual survey also allows for the impact of initiatives on climate and school communities to be monitored over time. Data are crucial to school teams' decisions to start, stop, or modify the programs and interventions that address student health and well-being, and school climate. The new or expanded programs funded by the Student Success Act, for example, must be subject to data-based decisions that ensure accountability. The student surveys administered by the Oregon Health Authority are a meaningful way to collect that data.

The proposed House Bill 4132 would provide dedicated funding to administer the survey as well as personnel staffing necessary to provide school districts with technical assistance and support needed to maximize the scope and effectiveness of how survey data are used. Student health surveys are a monumental and vital undertaking: to ensure their success is to ensure that the appropriate resources are available to the administering agency. School psychologists across Oregon stand ready at the school and district levels to engage with the Oregon Health Authority and community partners; the Oregon School Psychologists Association supports the proposed House Bill 4132. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

National Association of School Psychologists. (2010). Model for comprehensive and integrated school psychological services, NASP practice model overview. Retrieved from [https://www.nasponline.org/assets/Documents/Standards%20and%20Certification/Standards/2\\_PracticeModel.pdf](https://www.nasponline.org/assets/Documents/Standards%20and%20Certification/Standards/2_PracticeModel.pdf)