

Enrolled
Senate Bill 732

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to educational equity advisory committees; creating new provisions; amending ORS 328.542 and 329.095; and prescribing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2021 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 329.

SECTION 2. (1) Nothing in this section shall interfere with the duties, responsibilities and rights of duly elected school district boards. There shall be established at each school district an educational equity advisory committee.

(2) The duties of an educational equity advisory committee shall include:

(a) Advising the school district board about the educational equity impacts of policy decisions;

(b) Advising the school district superintendent about the educational equity impacts of policy decisions; and

(c) Informing the school district board and school district superintendent when a situation arises in a school of the school district that negatively impacts underrepresented students and advising the board and superintendent on how best to handle that situation.

(3) The educational equity advisory committee may prepare an annual report that:

(a) Contains the following information:

(A) The successes and challenges the school district has experienced in meeting the educational equity needs of students in the school district;

(B) Recommendations the committee made to the school district board and school district superintendent, and the actions that were taken in response to those recommendations; and

(C) Any other information required by the State Board of Education by rule.

(b) Is made available by being:

(A) Distributed to the parents of the students of the school district;

(B) Posted on the school district's website;

(C) Presented to the school district board in an open meeting with adequate opportunity for public comment; and

(D) Sent to the State Board of Education.

(4)(a) An educational equity advisory committee shall be selected by the school district board and school district superintendent and must be composed of parents, employees, students and community members from the school district.

(b) For the purpose of selecting members, the school district board and school district superintendent:

- (A) Shall solicit names of possible members from the community;
- (B) Must ensure that membership is primarily representative of underserved student groups;
- (C) May not exclude members based on immigration status; and
- (D) Must comply with any other requirements established by the State Board of Education by rule.

(5) The State Board of Education shall adopt any rules necessary for the administration of this section.

SECTION 3. (1) A school district must first convene an educational equity advisory committee no later than September 15, 2022.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, if a school district has an average daily membership of 10,000 or less, the school district is not required to first convene an educational equity advisory committee until September 15, 2025.

SECTION 4. 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
- (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, **the educational equity advisory committee** 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;
- (b) A review of demographics, student performance, staff characteristics and student access to, and use of, educational opportunities;

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

(d) A needs assessment, which shall:

(A) Be conducted in a manner that is inclusive of school employees, students from student groups identified in ORS 327.180 (2)(b) and parents of those students.

(B) Address the following priorities:

(i) Reducing academic disparities for students from student groups identified in ORS 327.180 (2)(b);

(ii) Meeting students' mental or behavioral health needs;

(iii) Providing equitable access to academic courses across the school district or public charter school, with specific emphasis on access by students from student groups identified in ORS 327.180 (2)(b);

(iv) Allowing teachers and staff to have sufficient time to:

(I) Collaborate with other teachers and staff;

(II) Review data on students' grades, absences and discipline, based on school and on grade level or course; and

(III) Develop strategies to ensure that at-risk students stay on track to graduate; and

(v) Possible partnerships with other organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes, school districts, education service districts, regional achievement collaboratives, post-secondary institutions of education, education partners or nonprofit programs and community-based programs that have demonstrated achievement of positive outcomes in work with students from student groups identified in ORS 327.180 (2)(b).

SECTION 5. ORS 328.542 is amended to read:

328.542. (1) Subject to the Local Budget Law (ORS 294.305 to 294.565) and to sections 11 and 11b, Article XI, Oregon Constitution, each school district board shall prepare annually or biennially the budget of the school district and shall certify ad valorem property taxes to the assessor as provided by law.

(2) In addition to the requirements prescribed by ORS 294.305 to 294.565, a school district must include at least one member of the educational equity advisory committee of the school district on the budget committee.

SECTION 6. Notwithstanding ORS 328.542, as amended by section 5 of this 2021 Act, a budget committee is not required to include a member of the educational equity advisory committee of the school district until a vacancy on the budget committee occurs by a member who is not also a member of the school district board.

SECTION 7. This 2021 Act takes effect on July 1, 2022.

Passed by Senate May 5, 2021

Repassed by Senate June 16, 2021

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Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Passed by House June 14, 2021

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2021

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2021

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Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State