

Senate Bill 732

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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**.

Requires school districts to establish educational equity advisory committee. Prescribes duties and membership of committees.

Takes effect July 1, 2022.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to educational equity advisory committees; creating new provisions; amending ORS 328.542
3 and 329.095; and prescribing an effective date.

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

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

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

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

10 **(a) Advise the school district board about the educational equity impacts of policy deci-**
11 **sions;**

12 **(b) Advise the school district superintendent about the educational equity impacts of**
13 **policy decisions;**

14 **(c) Inform the school district board and school district superintendent when a situation**
15 **arises in a school of the school district that negatively impacts underrepresented students**
16 **and advise the board and superintendent on how best to handle that situation;**

17 **(d) Participate in the creation and revision of the school district's continuous improve-**
18 **ment plan under ORS 329.095;**

19 **(e) Participate in the creation and approval of the district budget under ORS 328.452; and**

20 **(f) Prepare an annual report that:**

21 **(A) Contains the following information:**

22 **(i) The successes and challenges the school district has experienced in meeting the edu-**
23 **cational equity needs of students in the school district;**

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

26 **(iii) Any other information required by the State Board of Education by rule.**

27 **(B) Is made available by being:**

28 **(i) Distributed to the parents of the students of the school district;**

29 **(ii) Posted on the school district's website;**

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

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.

1 (iv) Sent to the State Board of Education.

2 (3)(a) An educational equity advisory committee shall be selected by the school district
3 superintendent and must be composed of parents, teachers, students and community mem-
4 bers from the school district.

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

6 (A) Shall solicit names of possible members from the community;

7 (B) Must ensure that membership represents the diversity of the student population for
8 the school district;

9 (C) May not exclude members based on immigration status; and

10 (D) Must comply with any other requirements established by the State Board of Educa-
11 tion by rule.

12 (4) All educational advisory equity committee meetings shall be subject to the open
13 meetings law pursuant to ORS 192.610 to 192.690.

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

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

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

21 **SECTION 4.** ORS 329.095 is amended to read:

22 329.095. (1)(a) The Department of Education shall require school districts and schools to conduct
23 self-evaluations and to periodically update their local district continuous improvement plans. Except
24 as provided by paragraph (b)(C) of this subsection, the department may not require school districts
25 or schools to conduct self-evaluations or to update their local district continuous improvement plans
26 more frequently than biennially.

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

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

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

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

34 (c) The self-evaluation process conducted as provided by this subsection shall involve the public
35 in the setting of local goals. The school districts shall ensure that representatives from the demo-
36 graphic groups of their school population are invited to participate in the development of local dis-
37 trict continuous improvement plans to achieve the goals.

38 (2) As part of setting local goals, school districts shall undertake a communications process that
39 involves parents, students, teachers, school employees, **the educational equity advisory commit-**
40 **tee** and community representatives to explain and discuss the local goals and their relationship to
41 programs under this chapter.

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

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

45 (a) Goals to implement the following:

- 1 (A) A rigorous curriculum aligned with state standards;
- 2 (B) High-quality instructional programs;
- 3 (C) Short-term and long-term professional development plans;
- 4 (D) Programs and policies that achieve a safe educational environment;
- 5 (E) A plan for family and community engagement;
- 6 (F) Staff leadership development;
- 7 (G) High-quality data systems;
- 8 (H) Improvement planning that is data-driven;
- 9 (I) Education service plans for students who have or have not exceeded all of the academic
- 10 content standards; and
- 11 (J) A strong school library program;
- 12 (b) A review of demographics, student performance, staff characteristics and student access to,
- 13 and use of, educational opportunities;
- 14 (c) A description of district efforts to achieve local efficiencies and efforts to make better use
- 15 of resources; and
- 16 (d) A needs assessment, which shall:
 - 17 (A) Be conducted in a manner that is inclusive of school employees, students from student
 - 18 groups identified in ORS 327.180 (2)(b) and parents of those students.
 - 19 (B) Address the following priorities:
 - 20 (i) Reducing academic disparities for students from student groups identified in ORS 327.180
 - 21 (2)(b);
 - 22 (ii) Meeting students' mental or behavioral health needs;
 - 23 (iii) Providing equitable access to academic courses across the school district or public charter
 - 24 school, with specific emphasis on access by students from student groups identified in ORS 327.180
 - 25 (2)(b);
 - 26 (iv) Allowing teachers and staff to have sufficient time to:
 - 27 (I) Collaborate with other teachers and staff;
 - 28 (II) Review data on students' grades, absences and discipline, based on school and on grade level
 - 29 or course; and
 - 30 (III) Develop strategies to ensure that at-risk students stay on track to graduate; and
 - 31 (v) Possible partnerships with other organizations, federally recognized Indian tribes, school
 - 32 districts, education service districts, regional achievement collaboratives, post-secondary institutions
 - 33 of education, education partners or nonprofit programs and community-based programs that have
 - 34 demonstrated achievement of positive outcomes in work with students from student groups identified
 - 35 in ORS 327.180 (2)(b).

36 **SECTION 5.** ORS 328.542 is amended to read:

37 328.542. (1) Subject to the Local Budget Law (ORS 294.305 to 294.565) and to sections 11 and
38 11b, Article XI, Oregon Constitution, each school district board shall prepare annually or biennially
39 the budget of the school district and shall certify ad valorem property taxes to the assessor as
40 provided by law.

41 **(2) In addition to requirements prescribed by ORS 294.305 to 294.565, a school district**
42 **shall consult with the educational equity advisory committee of the school district when**
43 **creating and approving the budget.**

44 **SECTION 6. This 2021 Act takes effect on July 1, 2022.**

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