



Oregon State University
Extension Service
Outdoor School



GRAY
FAMILY
FOUNDATION



OUTDOOR SCHOOL FOR ALL!

April 27th, 2023

Measure 99 and the History of State Funding

ODS began in Oregon +60 years ago

Traditionally a week-long residential, hands-on learning experience for 5th or 6th grade students

In 2015, "Outdoor School bill" (SB439) passed establishing ODS as a statewide program

In 2016, voters overwhelmingly approved Measure 99, authorizing state lottery funds to provide access for all fifth-or sixth grade students to attend

The OSU Extension Service was chosen to administer the statewide program, and the program officially launched in the 2017-2018 school year



OUTDOOR SCHOOL 101

Immersive high quality learning experiences for every student

Diverse implementation across Oregon

ORS 327.390 outlines curriculum elements

Core elements

- Standards-based
- Field Science
- Teamwork, problem solving & collaboration
- High School Leadership

Extremely strong outcomes

Up to one week of residential programming for 5th/6th graders



Oregon State
University

Over 157,436 Oregon Students have Participated in Outdoor School Since 2017

Outdoor School Data Update

| | 2017-2018 | 2018-2019 | 2019-2020 | 2020-2021 | 2021-2022 | 2022-2023* |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Participating Districts, ESDs, and State Charters | 130 | 163 | 157 | 154 | 153 | 161 |
| Participating Schools | 385 | 529 | 172 | 539 | 547 | 557 |
| Number of Students | 30,739 | 37,965 | 13,764 | 34,645 | 35,274 | 43,115 |
| Equivalent Number of Days Outside | 115,131 | 148,887 | 55,462 | 116,701 | 139,402 | 175,939 |
| Number of Schools with Cancelled Programs | NA | NA | 346 | 186 | 63 | NA |



First Biennium - program growth with normal operation



Second Biennium - pandemic impact. When schools reopen, providers/districts respond to our call for participation



Third Biennium - numbers as of November 29, with minor changes anticipated

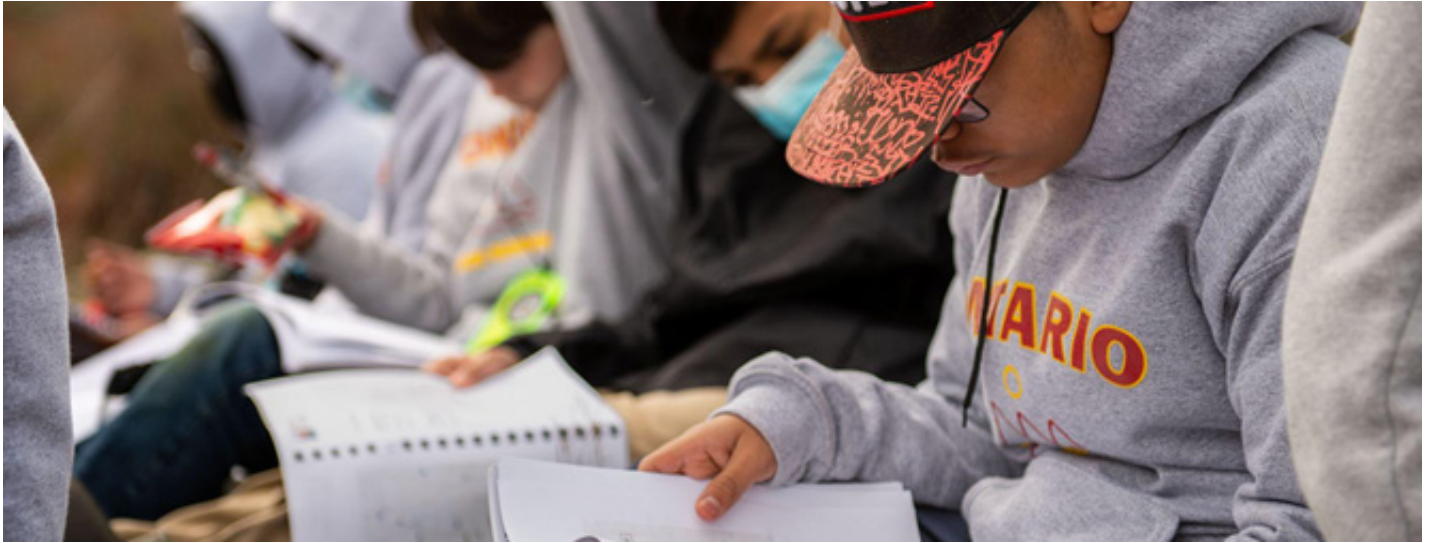
* Numbers are estimates based on application information. Final numbers will be actuals based on reports received at the end of the academic year.

Budget and Participation



| | # Students | # Schools | # Applications |
|------------------------------|------------|---|----------------|
| FY 21-22 Reported | 34,645 | 486 <small>(63 cancelled due to COVID)</small> | \$ 12,868,386 |
| FY 22-23 Applied | 43,108 | 555 | \$ 25,174,672 |

CHALLENGES



- Pandemic caused uncertainty, modifications, cancellations
- Staffing issues (including HS and parent/community volunteers)
- Significant cost increases

OPPORTUNITIES

Demand remains high

2021-2022 EDAI grants: Over \$11 million distributed

- Site accessibility (25)
- Program improvement (19)

EDAI efforts spreading outside of ODS, beyond Oregon

Rural economic development

High School Student participation

Ongoing networking and support



THINKING FORWARD



Outdoor school is an integral, transformative experience for K-12 instruction and Oregon's youth

We are seeing strong growth in student participation

ODS Workforce professionalization

Continued investment by schools, staff, and faculties, even with significant cost increases

Strong interest in the benefit and necessity of outdoor education

Full funding for Biennium 2023-2025

THANK YOU for your support - ODS is one of a kind



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT**