

## Paying our Teachers

There is concern about the budget. We take a large fraction of everyone's earning and it's never enough.

It is claimed that our teachers are underpaid and our schools are underfunded.

But the schools have plenty of money. It's being wasted on bureaucracy and other nonsense.

It is better to look at this a little differently and not get lost in details.

The average total amount of money spent in Oregon on education varies by school district, but its about \$10,000 - \$15,000 per child.

If we assume an average of \$12,500, a typical class of 30 children is costing Oregonians \$375,000.

If you gave \$375,000 to a teacher and asked her to educate 30 children, she could rent a building, hire an assistant, pay herself well and have plenty of money left over.

My daughter Bethany could probably handle 3 such classrooms on her own!

The idea of an organized public school is that a professional facility ought to be more efficient.

But our schools are failing. We are spending far more money for much poor results than we did when we had one room schoolhouses.

Let's get the state out of education, fire all the agencies and bureaucrats and let the local districts handle it.

We need actual reform. We need to starting educating children again.