



**COALITION OF  
OREGON SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS**

Coalition of Oregon School Administrators  
707 13th Street SE, Ste. 100  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
Phone 503-581-3141  
[www.cosa.k12.or.us](http://www.cosa.k12.or.us)

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**Date:** February 22, 2023  
**To:** House Education Committee  
**From:** Parasa Chanramy, Coalition of Oregon School Administrators  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for [House Bill 3037](#)

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Dear Chair Neron, Vice Chairs Hudson and Wright, and Members of the House Education Committee:

On behalf of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators, we submit this letter to express our support for House Bill 3037 regarding outdoor school participation.

Our organization has had the opportunity to connect with the Outdoor School advocates and partners to discuss the goals of the bill and scope of the data collection request.

Through this bill, the Oregon State University Extension Service shall collaborate with the Department of Education to identify and collect student data that is relevant for the purpose of the program. In doing so, OSU's Extension Service's Outdoor School program would be able to enter into a formal data sharing agreement with ODE to better understand student participation in outdoor school.

In reviewing and discussing the bill with advocates and partners, we wanted to:

- 1) Ensure that student data is handled with care, and in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), and state rules and regulations;
- 2) Maximize current ODE data collections that are already in place; and
- 3) Minimize the administrative burden of any new data collection that was being proposed.

In developing a formal data sharing agreement, both OSU's Extension Service program and ODE will be able to establish clear processes and procedures to ensure that the student data being gathered and shared is handled appropriately, and in compliance with FERPA and state rules and regulations.

The agreement will also allow for the OSU's Extension Service program and ODE to utilize data



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that the Department already collects to inform the implementation of the Outdoor School for All Initiative.

Lastly, in terms of new data being collected, our discussions have centered on how might an additional question be added to an existing request for data that is already incorporated into the current reporting and data collection timeline for districts and schools. With that, the new question that advocates and partners would like to include in a pre-existing data collection would focus on whether students in 5th, 6th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grade attend outdoor school.

We believe that this new question, once included in a pre-existing data collection, would help minimize the administrative burden, while also helping better understand access and participation in our outdoor school programs statewide.