

OREGON PARTNERS *for* EDUCATION JUSTICE



February 2, 2026

Co-Chair Kate Lieber

Co-Chair Tawna Sanchez

Co-Vice Chair Fred Girod

Co-Vice Chair David Gomberg

Co-Vice Chair Gregory Smith

Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez, Co-Vice Chairs Girod, Gomberg, and Smith, and Members of the Joint Ways and Means Committee,

We are [Oregon Partners for Education Justice](#) (OPEJ), a cross-cultural network of community-based organizations, culturally specific service providers, and education advocates working together to advance a high-quality, racially just, and community-centered public education system for Oregon.

As the committee weighs budget priorities, we are writing to express our strong support for **Oregon's Student Success Plans**. In the final days of the 2025 legislative session these plans lost \$23 million in funding, a 55% reduction over the prior biennium. We are grateful to the Department of Education and the Governor that no additional cuts have been proposed for the 2026 session. **As the legislature's budget balancing gets underway, we are counting on you to protect these critical investments.**

These statewide plans and grant programs have been developed by community-led advisory groups to address opportunity gaps and improve educational outcomes for historically underserved students. In the face of continued federal attacks on equity and inclusion initiatives, **Oregon must stand strong** in our commitment to making sure that **every student** has the support and opportunities to succeed in school and life.

Sincerely,

Oregon Partners for Education Justice

Adelante Mujeres

APANO

Arts in Education of the Gorge

Capaces Leadership Institute

Center for Black Excellence

Children's Institute

Consejo Hispano

EUVALCREE

FACT Oregon

Foundations for a Better Oregon

IRCO

KairosPDX

Latino Network

MESA Oregon

NAYA Action Fund

Open School

Oregon Business Council

Oregon Coalition of Community

Charter Schools

Project LEDO

REAP, Inc.

Salem/Keizer Coalition for

Equality

Stand for Children Oregon

Urban League of Portland

Self Enhancement, Inc.

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