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Oregon Department of Education

APRIL 2005



State Superintendent of Public Instruction

In Salem, House and Senate leaders have rolled out separate proposals for K-12 funding. I appreciate the difficult work the leadership of the Legislature has done in creating these budget proposals.

However, neither proposal, if adopted, would protect Oregon schools from further cuts.

Last month, when Governor Kulongoski came to a meeting of the State Board of Education, he explained that the state is facing three challenges: creating high-quality leaders for the public and private sectors, fitting into a competitive global economy, and improving education from preschool through graduate school.

In order to make progress toward those goals, we **must have** a public school budget that:

- Does not increase class size any more than we have already in the past five years
- Does not lose any more school days than we have already lost
- Does not eliminate any more programs, such as P.E., foreign language, art, music, and others.

The budget decisions we make today will impact the quality of education we can give our children. The education we give our children today will ripple across the waters of our economy for many years. If we are serious about getting Oregon back on track to economic prosperity, we need our schools to stay on track. An adequate state budget is the best way to support our schools in creating the results we all want.

If the Legislature passes a budget that continues the disinvestment in education, then I expect them to make it clear to the citizens that the decision is a policy choice to under fund our schools.

Instead of spending our time and efforts in trying to stop the backward slide in funding, we should be working to move forward on expanded Prekindergarten enrollment, full-day kindergarten, literacy at all grades, community schools, school and district leadership, and improving our middle schools and high schools.

I will continue to advocate for a budget that stops the backward slide in funding for public schools and results in real stability and progress from year to year. Please feel free to contact me at superintendent.castillo@state.or.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan Castillo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Susan Castillo

IN THIS ISSUE

Strategies for Student Success for Middle and High School Staff

Reading First, Second Round

English Language Proficiency Assessment Project

Leadership Opportunity for Teachers

Schools' Participation in NAEP 2005 Is Most Successful Year Ever

FAQs About Scientific Inquiry Work Sample Requirement

State Moves Writing Assessment to Grades 4, 7

SAELP Leadership Institute

Evaluators Needed for Instructional Materials Adoption In The Arts

Leadership Opportunity for Social Sciences Teachers

Second Language Standards Review Underway

Student Success Awards Banquet

Educator Talent Pool

Attention Middle & High School Staff**Strategies for Student Success**

Superintendent Susan Castillo's Summer Institute, Strategies for Student Success, is specific to middle and high school staff and administrators. The institute will be held July 19-20 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland.

Application materials are now available for this exciting professional development opportunity designed for administrators and cross-curricular teams from both middle and high schools. Check out the institute website now for complete information including presenter bios, www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=262.

Participants will be supported in developing strategies for improving student learning by utilizing tested approaches that can work in their schools. The institute schedule will

include nationally recognized experts providing daily keynotes and leading exciting topical break-out sessions specific to both middle schools and high schools.

Content will be structured around a range of research-based strategies for improving student success with an emphasis on improved literacy. In addition, leadership will be examined from several different perspectives, assuring that administrators have a variety of stimulating break-out sessions from which to choose. Teams will have time reserved to do preliminary planning.

For additional information go to the institute website, www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=262, or contact [Mark Barrall](#), 503-378-3600 ext. 4492, or [Julie Anderson](#), 503-378-3600 ext. 2294.

Reading First, Second Round

The second round of Reading First grants will be announced at the State Board Meeting in April. The grants range from \$175,000 to \$250,000.

The 21 districts and 52 schools that were eligible have gone through an orientation and a grant writing workshop. Of those eligible, 12 districts and 16 schools submitted applications. The completed grant applications were due on Mar. 4.

Contact [Mary Ann Smith](#), 503-378-3600 ext. 2711.

English Language Proficiency Assessment Project Awards Contract

The Office of Assessment and Information Services is pleased to announce that a contractor has been chosen to assist the Department of Education in the development of Oregon's English Language Proficiency (ELP) assessment. Language Learning Solutions (LLS), a Eugene-based company, has been awarded a contract to implement a web-based, assessment delivery system. As part of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation, states are required to measure and report the progress of Limited English Proficient (LEP) students in learning English. In Oregon there are approximately 62,000 LEP students.

LLS is a familiar face in Oregon. They have worked with several Oregon school districts providing web-based delivery of foreign language assessments. They are also currently

working with Minnesota Department of Education on a web-based delivery system for listening and speaking assessments of LEP students.

LLS has the expertise and manpower to make the ELP Assessment happen. The Department's goal is to work closely with LLS to ensure that Oregon has a high quality ELP assessment and to ensure a seamless interface between the Department and the contractor. It is essential that districts, schools, teachers, and students have a positive experience with this new assessment.

The goal of the partnership is to achieve an assessment that is efficient and a delivery system that is user-friendly. In addition, the system should use a minimal amount of resources in the field and at the same time make sure the ELP con-

struct, is valid, reliable and interesting for students to take.

The scope of LLS services is to develop and implement a web-based delivery system; conduct additional item development; provide technical support during testing windows, training, pilot, and field tests; develop scales and the performance standards process. They will conduct a pilot of the assessment in May-June with the help of five school districts.

We congratulate LLS on a successful proposal and look forward to working with them, along with the field, on the development of Oregon's ELP assessment.

For more information go to www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=256 or contact [Elaine Hultengren](#), 503-378-3600 ext. 2345.

Leadership Opportunity for Teachers of The Arts, Health, Physical Education, and Second Languages

An exciting leadership opportunity for a select number of high school teachers will be occurring this summer. Teachers with a strong background in the state content standards and benchmarks are encouraged to participate in the field test of the performance requirements for subject area endorsements in the following content areas: the arts, health, physical education, and second languages.

Field test teachers will:

- Submit a letter of confirmation signed by the teacher and their supervisor.
- Work with content area specialists from the Oregon Department of Education.
- Participate in two days of professional development and training, June 28-29 in Sisters, Oregon.
- Be compensated for travel expenses (mileage, food, and lodging) and be paid an hourly wage for the two-day training in June.
- Administer, during the 2005-06 school year, a number of teacher developed sample assessments. The quantity and nature of these assessments will be determined during the June training session for each subject area.
- Gather and share student performance data. All student work will be subject to parent/guardian permission to release student work.
- Meet twice during the 2005-06 school year as a subject area

team to share and analyze results of sample assessments and scoring tools.

The application deadline is April 15. A maximum of 12 teachers will be chosen for each subject area. Those teachers selected and their supervisors will be notified of their selection by May 1. If you have nominations of high school teachers to take part in the field test, please contact [Bob Lee](#).

Schools' Participation In NAEP 2005 Is 'Most Successful Ever'

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) 2005 assessment window closed Mar. 4. For the first time in its history, NAEP assessed 4th, 8th, and 12th graders in three content areas between January and March—reading, mathematics, and science. The success of this assessment is clearly the result of our dedicated school superintendents, principals, faculties, and staff working together with the Oregon Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education to provide our students with access and opportunity to participate in a national dialogue that can provide evidence to confirm the success our schools.

The results of the reading and mathematics assessments are scheduled for release in October 2005 and science results will be released in spring 2006.

For more information, contact [Susan Huggins](#), 503-378-3600 ext. 2266, or visit the Oregon NAEP website www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=163.

Frequently Asked Questions About the Scientific Inquiry Work Sample Requirement

The scientific inquiry work sample, a requirement since 2003-04, is being implemented over a number of years. The requirements for each year are outlined in the Scientific Inquiry Implementation Schedule available online at www.ode.state.or.us/teachlearn/subjects/science.

In 2004-05, scores in the Designing, Collecting, and Analyzing dimensions are required at Benchmark 3 and at the CIM level. The implementation schedule indicates that the scores in the Designing and Collecting Dimensions must be on the same work sample, while the score in Analyzing may be on a separate work sample. This means that students may combine scores from two work samples to meet the performance standard. A work sample that meets in Designing and Collecting OR in Analyzing provides a portion of the evidence required to meet the performance standard. At least one ESD has decided to use the term "partially met" to describe these work samples in their data management system.

If the term "partially met" is used, it is important to make sure that students, parents, and teachers are aware that the work sample does **not** meet the performance standard on its own merit.

For more information regarding the 2005 Scientific Inquiry Work Sample Requirement, please see the newly posted "Frequently Asked Questions about the Scientific Inquiry Work Sample Requirement" document available online at www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=240.

Contact [Aaron Persons](#), 503-378-3600 ext. 2242.

State Moves Writing Assessment to Grades 4 and 7

At their October 23 meeting, the State Board of Education approved a shift that moved the statewide writing assessment from grades 3, 5, and 8 to grades 4 and 7 beginning with assessments given during the 2004-05 school year.

This action was taken to ease the amount of testing at the benchmark grades, particularly grades 5 and 8, while at the same time maintaining writing assessment progress checks at critical points in a child's education: once at the elementary level and once at the middle school level, prior to CIM testing in high school. The change of grade levels also allows teachers at the current school to use the results to guide instruction. This is in contrast to the previous grade combination where the test was completed, as the student is about to advance to another school.

In addition to the reduction of testing time for students at grades 5 and 8, other benefits cited for making the writing shift included a better match to the state English/language arts standards where essay writing is an expectation at grade 4, and the equal interval of three years between each of the "progress checks" leading up to CIM certification.

Given that this year's writing assessment is administered to students at grades 4 and 7 rather than at grades 5 and 8, districts should exercise caution in making comparisons to results from previous years when this year's results become available. The Department completed a thorough field test on these prompts, as well as worked with teachers to develop expectations for the two new grade levels. With the shift in grades, districts can expect there may be some differences in the percentage of students meeting the standards.

There is a change at the CIM level as well this year. A paper that has all 4s

in the required traits (or "passing" scores) except for one trait which was scored a 3 from one rater will be read again by a third, more experienced, rater. The expert rater's score will supersede the other two, resulting in a more informed decision as to whether the student meets or conditionally meets the CIM writing standard.

Given these changes in administration and scoring procedure, the Department will be closely monitoring the scores and will determine, based on extensive analysis, whether

State Action for Education Leadership Project Leadership Institute

On Mar. 14-15, the State Action for Education Leadership Project (SAELP) convened the Network of Demonstration Districts for the Leadership Institute at the University of Oregon in Eugene. This Institute was the inaugural event in a three-year series to create a professional learning community across the state focused on leader development. The school districts of Beaverton, Bend-LaPine, Eugene, Lincoln County, Nyssa, Portland, South Lane, and Springfield each brought a leadership team—made up of district and school administrators and teacher leaders—to the two-day event.

The Leadership Institute engaged in discussions with national leaders in the areas of leadership, cultural competency, and K-12 literacy.

More information about SAELP and the Network of Demonstration Districts can be accessed on the Department of Education's website, www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=220.

any caution is needed in comparing results from 2004-05 with prior years' test scores.

For more information contact [Ken Hermens](mailto:Ken.Hermens@ode.state.or.us), 503-378-3600 ext. 2264, or [Jenny Kissler](mailto:Jenny.Kissler@ode.state.or.us), 503-378-3600 ext. 2271.

Evaluators Needed for Instructional Materials Adoption In The Arts

We need teachers and other educators who are knowledgeable in The Arts to participate in the evaluation of instructional materials submitted by publishers for adoption in Oregon. There are five categories for which materials are being submitted.

The evaluation committees are being chosen now and will reflect the size and geographic diversity of school districts throughout Oregon, as well as the racial and ethnic diversity of Oregon teachers. These committees will determine the degree to which the submitted instructional materials meet the State Board of Education's criteria as adopted under OAR 581-011-0065. The evaluators will meet Aug. 1-5 at Western Oregon University in Monmouth to complete this process. A stipend and travel expenses are paid for participants.

Evaluators should have experience in visual arts education, grades K-8; music education, grades K-8; and visual/performing arts which can include but is not limited to music, visual arts, theatre, dance, moving image arts, grades 9-12. Those interested in participating should e-mail their contact information including school, address, phone, e-mail address, grade level and subject to Sue Parton by April 22.

Contact [Sue Parton](mailto:Sue.Parton@ode.state.or.us), 503-378-3600 ext. 2279.

Leadership Opportunity for Social Sciences Teachers

An exciting leadership opportunity for 32 Oregon social sciences teachers (Benchmark 2, 3, and CIM) will be occurring this summer. Teachers with a strong background in the state content standards and benchmarks are encouraged to participate in a social science analysis instruction and assessment "training of trainers" institute. Participants will become members of a state cadre of teachers that will provide technical assistance about social science analysis to schools and districts throughout the state.

Interested teachers will:

- Submit a letter of confirmation signed by the teacher and their supervisor.
- Work with content area specialists from the Oregon Department of Education.
- Participate in two days of professional development and training, June 28-29 in Sisters.
- Be compensated for travel expenses (mileage, food, and lodging) and be paid an hourly wage for the two-day training in June.
- After the training institute, provide technical assistance to schools and districts in their region to implement sound practices of instruction and assessment to Oregon's social science analysis standards.

The application deadline is April 15. A maximum of 32 teachers will be chosen for this cadre. Selected teachers and their supervisors will be notified by May 1.

For an application or more information, contact [Andrea Morgan](#), 503-378-3600 ext. 2289.

Second Language Standards Review Underway

Draft 1 of the Oregon Revised Second Language Content Standards has been completed and distribution to Oregon superintendents and curriculum directors is underway. Included in the changes proposed by the content and assessment panel are a revision in the overall format to more closely connect Oregon standards with national standards, a change in column headers to allow the Oregon second language standards to be searchable online and make it possible to link sample lessons to the individual standards and the addition of "skills supporting standards" to support and inform language instruction at all levels

The standards review process includes an opportunity for public feedback during the months of April and May. The draft standards document and survey form are posted on the second language page of the Department's website, www.ode.state.or.us. Teachers, administrators, parents, students, and members of the community are invited to provide informal feedback via e-mail to [Rendy Delvin](mailto:Rendy.Delvin), or to complete the previously mentioned standards revision feedback survey.

We anticipate the first reading of the second language standards at the May 19 State Board meeting in preparation for adoption in June. The request for field-test volunteers has been sent to school districts and the field test panel will be in place by May 1. Field test training will take place on June 28-29.

Watch future editions of the *Superintendents Pipeline* for second language adoption and field testing.

For more information, please contact [Rendy Delvin](mailto:Rendy.Delvin), 503-378-3600 ext. 4450.

Student Success Awards Banquet

Superintendent of Public Instruction Susan Castillo proudly presents the Celebrating Student Success Banquet. The banquet will be held April 29 from 6–8 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center. The purpose of the event is to honor and award Oregon schools for their successes in closing the achievement gap. Join educators, business and civic leaders and reward leaders within the K-12 school system who are succeeding in meeting the educational needs of all their students. The cost for the evening is \$36 for an individual, \$360 for table of ten.

Recipients of the Celebrating Student Success awards are Beaver Acres Elementary, Beaverton; Fairfield Elementary, Bethel School District; Nyssa Elementary and Nyssa School District; Rocky Heights Elementary, Hermiston; Vernon Elementary, Portland; and White City Elementary, Eagle Point.

For additional information and online registration, please visit the Oregon Department of Education website, www.ode.state.or.us/initiatives/closinggap/2005/banquet.aspx.

The State Superintendent's office would like to thank the following banquet sponsors for their generous support: Verizon, Chambers Productions, Associated Oregon Industries, Oregon Education Association, Intel, Portland General Electric, Wieden & Kennedy, The Oregonian, Les Schwab, and Microsoft.

Portland State University will co-host the conference with the Department of Education at Smith Center on April 29. The banquet will be that evening. Separate online registration is required for the two events, links are posted on the website.

Contact [Ed Dennis](mailto:Ed.Dennis), 503-888-1134.

Educator Talent Pool

Is there a teacher or administrator who is making an outstanding difference in your school or community?

The Oregon Department of Education wants to know about them. We are developing an Educator Talent Pool to identify exceptional teachers, specialists, and administrators who:

- Show that they can respond to the needs of all students regardless of cultural or economic background, learning abilities, or language skills
- Teach in diverse, creative, and innovative ways
- Motivate and inspire students and the community
- You believe to be among the top 5% in their profession

Oregon participates in a number of educator recognition programs. One of them, the National Educator Awards, was established to reward, retain, and attract the highest caliber teachers in the profession. This award carries a cash prize of \$25,000.

We have other awards as well, such as the Teacher of the Year. The selected educator receives a trip to Dallas, Texas, for a wonderful train-

ing and a visit to the White House to meet the President.

Selection criteria for both of these awards includes exceptional educational talent as evidenced by outstanding instructional practices in the classroom, school, and profession; outstanding accomplishments and strong long-range potential for professional and policy leadership; and engaging and inspiring presence that motivates and impacts students, colleagues, and the community.

Please include:

- Your name and contact info (e-mail/phone)
- The name of your nominee
- The district, school, and principal where the educator works
- A one-paragraph recommendation which describes this educator and your reasons for the nomination
- The names and contact information (e-mail/phone) of other people who are knowledgeable about and could speak highly of this educator's work

Contact [Ed Dennis](#), 503-888-1134.

Numbered Memorandum Overview

Numbered memo sent out since the March *Pipeline* is listed below.

DATE	MEMO NO.	BRIEF DESCRIPTION
April 4	025-2004-05	04-05 AYP and School and District Report Cards

If you have questions or comments about this publication, please contact [Gene J. Evans](#), communications director, at 503-378-3600 ext. 2237.