

DPO Education Caucus Meeting Minutes
Nov. 17, 2019

Portland Community College, Sylvania Campus

Kathleen Jeskey, Chair
Scott Hays, Vice Chair
Lisa Stiller, Recording Secretary
Betsy Salter, Communications Secretary

Called to order: 12:00 PM

The meeting started off with a presentation from Oregon State Senator Mark Hass (District 14) and Laurie Wimmer, Government Relations Consultant for the Oregon Education Association and candidate for House District 36, about the Student Success Act (HB 3427).

Three years of disinvestment from education in Oregon has brought us to where we are now, and the Student Success Act was passed to make improvement in education. Individual bills to improve education and revenue came together to bring about this legislation.

Districts are holding community and staff meetings to determine their priorities for spending the funds they will receive strong community and stakeholder engagement to successfully implement the legislation.

The Act aims to bring funding close to the QEM (Quality Education Model). It includes funding for Measure 98 (High School Success), funding behavioral and mental health, and reducing class sizes among other efforts to improve education in Oregon. A new business tax will bring in the \$1 billion a year for funding to be used for early childhood and K-12 education.

Answering questions about accountability, Hass emphasized his intention to work to make sure the legislation works for Oregon students as intended. It provides a stable funding stream, said Wimmer, which will provide the basis for its success.

The community engagement piece is extremely important as funding is dependent on this process. Districts can create their own metrics, which have to relate to expenditures of the funds. In July, schools will start receiving funds. If districts don't meet their

metrics, rather than being punitive, the legislation provides for support. There is also additional grant funding available for districts with higher populations of 'at risk' students.

Sen. Mark Hass and Laurie Wimmer each made statements about their campaigns.

Sen. Mark Hass, running for Secretary of State, cited his work on the Student Success Act and his support for ranked choice voting. Laurie Wimmer, running for HD 36, cited her support for the Student Success Act, and work with paid family leave, education issues, and budget and revenue experience.

The Education Caucus Resolution going before the SCC on high stakes testing was discussed. Sen. Hass said it will come up in the upcoming short legislative session; possibly a task force study could be recommended. The caucus voted to support the high stakes testing resolution.

A short discussion was held about communication within the caucus between meetings. Some ideas that were suggested included conference calls and a google group (if you don't have a google account you can join by being added with an invite).

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Attendees:

Kathleen Jeskey, Chair	Trina Kosydar
Scott Hays, Vice Chair	Kevin Marr
Lisa Stiller, Recording Secretary	GM Garcia
Betsy Salter, Communications Secretary	Nicolas Salter
Ross Swartzendruber, SCC Representative	Lisa Ortiz
Senator Mark Hass, Guest Speaker	Ami Fox
Laurie Wimmer, OEA Government Relations Consultant, Guest Speaker	Nancy Sheehan
Mary Thamann	Louise Currin
Nancy Lewis	Jackie Weissman
Amy Unfred	Peter Nordbye
Mary Nikas	
Peter Hull	