



## HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE

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### **House Republicans Express Concern Over Latest Education Appointment**

**Salem, OR --** House Republicans expressed concern over Wednesday's announcement that Oregon Education Association (OEA) Assistant Executive Director Lindsay Capps will now serve as chief of staff for the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB). Mr. Capps' appointment was formally noticed by Chief Education Officer Nancy Golden. Last month, another figure with OEA ties, former OEA president James Sager, was appointed to the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission by Governor John Kitzhaber.

"Oregon's high school graduation rate is ranked 49<sup>th</sup> in the nation and student achievement levels are well below those in many other states," said Republican Leader Mike McLane (R-Powell Butte). "It's clear that we need aggressive and bold reform in our education system if we are going to prepare our students for college and the workplace. The OEA executive leadership has been very critical of key bipartisan reforms in the past and they continue to be critical of the Oregon Department of Education efforts to raise academic standards for students. I remain optimistic for future progress and look forward to working with Mr. Capps to deliver better results for our children."

"All appointees to our state's education boards and commissions should work toward policies and programs that benefit our students, not the political agendas of unions and special interest groups," said Representative Mark Johnson (R-Hood River), a member of the House Committee on Higher Education and Workforce Development and member of the Hood River County School Board. "I'm eager to work together with all recent appointees to achieve better outcomes for students throughout our public education system."

The OEIB was established in 2011 to help create and support an education infrastructure that can deliver better results in public education, including the execution of the 40-40-20 goals created by the Oregon Legislature in 2011.

The 40-40-20 goals include:

- 40 percent of the class of 2025 should hold at least a bachelor's degree;
- 40 percent of the class of 2025 should hold at least an associate's degree; and

- 20 percent of the class of 2025 should hold at least a high school diploma or the equivalent.

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