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**PRESIDENT OF THE OREGON SENATE**  
**&**  
**SPEAKER OF THE OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Record Funding for K-12 Schools Moves Forward Alongside Accountability Measures**

*To improve public education in Oregon, school districts will see increased state funding while being held to expanded accountability metrics*

**SALEM, Ore.** – Today, legislators demonstrated their continued support for Oregon's students by advancing from committee the largest K-12 budget in state history, paired with expanded accountability guidelines to better support students, educators, and administrators.

This investment comes during a time where state resources are spread thin with increased need, federal funding cuts, and an uncertain economic and business environment.

"Oregon's students represent the future of our economic and civic prosperity. It is our responsibility to make sure our schools are preparing Oregon's young people for their career and college pathway," said **Sen. Janeen Sollman (D-Hillsboro)**, co-chair of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education. "Increasing funding while providing clear expectations and ongoing oversight will help ensure our students and educators are getting the support they need."

[Senate Bill 5516](#) dedicates \$11.4 billion to the State School Fund, the primary funding source that school districts use to pay educator salaries, buy textbooks, maintain schools, and serve more than 545,000 students across the state.

This investment fully matches the request made by Gov. Tina Kotek in the Governor's Recommended Budget, including a \$512 million increase to current service level after significant work in the interim to modernize the CSL calculation. Under the old CSL calculation, State School Fund investment would have been \$10.8 billion.

Combined with local school revenues (primarily property taxes), Oregon's K-12 schools will receive \$16.7 billion for the upcoming biennium, a 10.5% increase over the previous biennium.

This funding comes in addition to the \$82 million the Legislature passed in April to support summer literacy programs.

"The end of Covid-era relief funds and declining student populations are putting our schools in a challenging situation," said **Rep. Ricki Ruiz (D-Gresham)**, co-chair of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education. "The Legislature is stepping up to fund schools while we look for targeted ways to improve outcomes for students across the state."

On Wednesday, the committee also passed [Senate Bill 141](#), which will add new student success metrics, strengthen district accountability for student outcomes, provide coaching and support to struggling districts, and help schools focus more on students and less on paperwork.

New metrics include 8th-grade math proficiency and K-2nd-grade regular attendance rates, both of which are indicative of future success.

Interim assessments will also be used to track student progress so schools can make adjustments to improve student learning in real time. Results of these assessments will be made public for transparency and accountability.

"Investment in schools is not a blank check," **Rep. Ruiz** said. "Providing for the education of Oregon's young people is one of our greatest responsibilities as elected leaders. We want to help school districts that are struggling and make positive changes as quickly as possible."

"Over the years, Oregon has made significant investments into our K-12 schools, but success stories remain too few and far between," **Sen. Sollman** said. "Senate Bill 141 is a critical piece to how we will build on our successes and improve outcomes for Oregon students across the state."

SB 141 and SB 5516 now move to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for final committee approval before consideration on the Senate and House floors.

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