



During the 2021 legislative session, Portland Public Schools will center the district vision and accompanying system shifts in all of its advocacy work. Additionally, PPS will work vigorously with our education coalition partners to ensure that education is prioritized in the coming legislative session.

The policies and priorities outlined in the categories below provide examples of policy which may be discussed during the 2021 Legislative Session. They are not intended to be a comprehensive or exclusionary list of bills or budgets PPS may engage in. Rather, these categories, guided by the five educational system shifts, are meant to serve as a filter through which PPS will approach legislation brought forward in the 2021 Legislative Session.

The PPS 2021 Legislative Agenda is aligned with the five educational system shifts as outlined in the PPS strategic plan for the 2020-21 school year:

- A Connected and Transformative School District
- Racial Equity Aligned Systems, Structures, and Culture
- Cultivating System-Wide Learning and a Diverse Workforce
- Transformative Curriculum and Pedagogy
- A Culture of Physical and Emotional Safety

Funding

System shift connection: all

- PPS will advocate for a \$XX billion investment for the State School Fund (SSF), an increase of XX% over the last biennium
- PPS will advocate to protect the Student Success Act from changes
- PPS will advocate to increase the Student Investment Account by XX%
- PPS will support full funding for Measure 98
- PPS will advocate to reimburse school districts for expenses incurred in response to COVID-19.
- PPS supports and will continue to advocate for direct state investment in the Oregon School Capital Improvement Matching (OSCIM) program and Seismic Retrofit Grant Program (SRGP).
- PPS opposes budgetary carve-outs for mandated uses and unfunded mandates that do not include the requisite funding to successfully implement the mandate.

Racial Equity in Education

PPS supports and will advocate for legislation and funding to promote improved academic outcomes for all students, especially our Black and Native students and students receiving special education services.

System shift connection: Racial Equity Aligned Systems, Structures and Culture

- PPS will support and advocate to change statutory language to add ability to investigate hate speech incidents as bias crimes.
- PPS will support and advocate for the [Reimagine Oregon education policy agenda](#).
- PPS will advocate for funding programs that support educator diversity.
- PPS will advocate for increased funding for specialized educational support through Regional Programs for students with hearing impairments, vision impairments, autism spectrum disorders, orthopedic impairments, deaf-blindness, and traumatic brain injury.
- PPS will advocate to eliminate the cap on special education services resulting in more funding.
- PPS will advocate for increased funding for the Long Term Care and Treatment program that supports the DART program.

Warm, welcoming, safe learning environments

System shift connection: A Culture of Physical and Emotional Safety

- PPS will advocate for continued refinements to sexual misconduct statutes that will protect students.
- PPS will advocate for investments and policies which support the mental health, counseling, social worker, community schools approach to directly address student needs.
- PPS will support and advocate for alignment with Title IV requirements to streamline investigations and avoid multiple interviews with victims.

School Reopening/Comprehensive Distance Learning

System shift connection: A Connected and Transformative School District

- PPS supports and will advocate for COVID-19 **liability protections** for school districts.
- PPS supports and will advocate for increased broadband access.
- PPS supports measures that alleviate the **child care** burden on families.

Operational improvements

System shift connection: A Connected and Transformative School District

- PPS will advocate to remove school districts from the Tax Supervision and Conservation Commission (TSCC), an undue burden on the district budget process.
- PPS will advocate to eliminate the Custodial Civil Service Board (CCSB), an antiquated statute that makes it difficult to hire

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