



PPS Legislative Agenda

Intergovernmental Council Meeting

October 26, 2022





PPS Government Relations Team



Courtney Westling
Director of Government
Relations
cwestling@pps.net



Lisa Merrick
Legislative Liaison
limerrick@pps.net





Upcoming Legislative Dates

- **November 16** Revenue Forecast: a quarterly presentation by State Economists on the state's projected revenue collection
- **December 7-9** Legislative Committee Days: Policy and Budget Committees meet to hear informational presentations on important issues and updates on bills
- **December 21** Pre-Session Bill Filing Deadline: Lawmakers can file bills they will be championing in the Legislative Session
- **January 17 - June 25, 2023** Oregon Legislative Session convenes





Overview: PPS Legislative Framework

- Traditionally, ahead of the Oregon State Legislative session, the PPS Board approves the District's legislative priorities.
 - This year, we will be aiming for the Board to approve the Legislative Agenda by mid-December.
- The Government Relations Team has put together the following draft framework organizing some of the legislative priorities by different topic areas.
 - This document is not intended to be a comprehensive or exclusionary list of bills or budgets PPS may engage in. Rather, these categories, grounded in the Board's goals, are meant to serve as a filter through which PPS will approach legislation brought forward in the 2023 Legislative Session.





PPS Legislative Framework

It remains the core mission and responsibility of PPS to ensure that every student has opportunities to thrive and experience success. COVID-19 has exacerbated educational inequities for all students, especially our Black and Native students and students of color, students from low-income backgrounds, students with disabilities, English language learners, students experiencing homelessness, students in the foster care system, and undocumented students.

It is more important than ever that Oregon invests in education to address unfinished learning, invest in equitable learning opportunities, and prioritize the physical, social, emotional, and mental well-being of students as our state continues to navigate these unprecedented times.

Here at PPS, we intend to eliminate gaps in opportunity and outcomes completely. We must accelerate achievement for students of color in order to eliminate the unacceptable gaps in **third-grade reading, fifth-grade math, high school graduation, and eighth-grade readiness.**





PPS Legislative Priorities

The PPS Legislative Agenda centers the Board Goals to eliminate unacceptable gaps in third-grade reading, fifth-grade math, high school graduation, and eighth-grade readiness by:

- Investing in the Education System through Stable and Equitable Funding
- Addressing Unfinished Learning and Increasing Enrichment Opportunities
- Meeting Child and Student Social, Emotional, Behavioral, and Mental Health Needs
- Supporting a Strong Education Workforce
- Improving School Operations and Buildings
- Cultivating Safe Classrooms and Communities





DSC Feedback

- Support maintaining state funding in CTE and arts programs
- Support strengthening the SUN system
- Support having one mental health professional in every school
- Support for addressing gun violence in our communities
- Support strengthening infrastructure to make schools climate resilient
- Interest in removing barriers for parent educators
- Interest in teacher trainings that can allow school staff to respond to hate speech and microaggressions
- Interest in advocating for funding to make all schools ADA compliant
- Interest in demonstrating that PPS's climate policy makes us a climate leader
- Interest in addressing the instrument shortage
- Interest in increasing culturally specific summer learning opportunities





Discussion

- Any questions, ideas, or reflections that you would like to share?
- What are we missing from the legislative agenda? What else should we include in our narrative? What are our blind spots? What issues are you most passionate about? What issues should we elevate as top priorities?
- Election considerations

