



Portland Public Schools' top priority for the 2019 Legislative Session is to secure sufficient and sustainable funding for advancing student achievement.

There is no better long-term investment in the state than ensuring a high quality public education for every child. For every dollar we invest in public education we avoid greater long-term costs in human services and public safety services.

During the 2019 legislative session, Portland Public Schools will work vigorously with our education coalition partners to ensure that education is prioritized in all state funding decisions. At this time, the Quality Education Model (QEM) will continue to be the benchmark for determining adequate funding of education, and the legislature must make significant progress toward achieving that goal. Our children deserve this investment.

Legislative Principles

- PPS supports and will advocate for a robust investment in public education through an increased State School Fund appropriation.
- PPS believes that policies to increase overall state revenues should be prioritized to ultimately increase the state's investment in education.
- PPS urges the Legislature to fund all new statutory and regulatory requirements for public schools to avoid unfunded mandates.
- PPS supports additional funding for non-school issues that affect/are associated with educational outcomes, as public schools are increasingly responsible for and morally obligated to respond to the wellbeing of the entire student.
- PPS believes that students' social and emotional wellbeing is critical to their academic success and, therefore, PPS commits to more robust collaboration with our local, state and federal partners to provide essential supports to our most vulnerable students.
- With the costs of non-salary compensation being a large reason for the increased cost of maintaining current service level, PPS supports legislative efforts to reasonably rein in costs while still providing robust health insurance and a reasonable pension for employees.
- PPS supports efforts to promote and secure funding for safe and secure school environments for students, staff, families and the community.
- PPS believes that the physical safety and emotional well-being of all children in the district, and ensuring that our schools are safe and inviting for all students and their families, is paramount to students being able to achieve.

