

OSBA Revenue Reform Advisory Workgroup Final Recommendations – Executive Summary

One of the main goals of the OSBA Board of Directors is to promote comprehensive school funding in Oregon with the primary objective of attaining a stable, politically viable, fair, equitable and adequate system of funding public education. To meet this goal, OSBA President Doug Nelson appointed a Revenue Reform Advisory Workgroup to make recommendations to the OSBA membership for consideration.

The OSBA Revenue Reform Advisory Workgroup met several times throughout 2016. The workgroup members reviewed various data, revenue and funding options and proposals. OSBA received input from school board members and administrators across Oregon throughout our Fall Regional meetings. After review of this feedback, the Advisory Workgroup has modified its initial recommendations. OSBA wants to create a plan that can be supported by school board members across Oregon, policy leaders at the state level, and the Legislature. Additional details explaining the criteria for the following recommendations are presented in the full Revenue Reform Advisory Workgroup final report.

The final recommendations of the Advisory Workgroup are as follows:

- 1. Amend Oregon’s Constitution to require the Legislature to provide adequate funding to meet the Quality Education Goals as established by the Quality Education Commission and the Legislature; and**
- 2. Work with various state-level partners to conduct a poll of Oregonians to determine what revenue reform package has the support of voters to be enacted during the 2017 legislative session. The poll would measure various options of revenue reform to determine the characteristics of a revenue reform package that could receive broad support from voters statewide; and**
- 3. Address cost drivers in the education system (PERS and health care) and eliminate unfunded mandates; and**
- 4. Provide accountability to local taxpayers and policymakers through transparent planning and communications of how any new revenues would be spent to impact student achievement.**

Again, these recommendations are based on the work of the Advisory Workgroup and feedback received from the Fall Regional meetings. Any revenue reform package would, at a minimum, need to raise enough revenue to fund the Quality Education Model as described in the first recommendation above. A final report with the above recommendations has been submitted to the full OSBA Board for consideration.

The final Advisory Workgroup report can be viewed at: goo.gl/TV5ITk