Strengthening Oregon's Preparation & Support for Educators



Recommendations from Governor Tina Kotek's Early Literacy Educator Preparation Council

Governor Kotek established the Early Literacy Educator Preparation Council through <u>Executive Order 23–12</u> in May 2023. The Council includes teachers, principals, literacy experts, an indigenous language expert, educator preparation program representatives, and a bipartisan group of state legislators. The Council's recommendations are below. All will be reviewed by Governor Kotek; some require action and approval by the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission.

Recommendations:

Strengthen educator preparation through streamlined & new standards

a. Consolidate and streamline existing standards and draw on Oregon's educator preparation program strengths. (e.g., Combine Reading Instruction Standards with Dyslexia Standards into one cohesive standard, "Literacy Standards").

b. Create a robust new set of "Literacy Standards" that relate to the content of Oregon's Early Literacy Framework and research-based models of reading acquisition.

Implement new standards at educator preparation programs

a. Phase in implementation to allow for capacity building amongst educator preparation programs to catch up to the new requirements, if adopted.

b. Invest in implementation infrastructure and State support needed to enable consistent research-aligned implementation of new standards.

c. All educators should be supported and held accountable for meeting high standards for literacy instruction. This means that the new standards should apply to all educators.

Implement new standards through the educator licensure process

a. Preliminary licensure requirements for all newly licensed educators should take effect in 2027.

b. Consider funding and capacity needs, develop process for how all educators can demonstrate competency of standards, and minimize economic barriers to certification.

"These recommendations are a significant step forward. I appreciate that the Council has not just layered on new requirements. They have also tried to streamline existing standards and build on the things we've had and continue to be important, like dyslexia standards."

Governor Tina Kotek

Background

The Executive Order is part of Oregon's Early Literacy Success Initiative – a comprehensive effort to improve the preparation and ongoing support available to teachers and school leaders around students' literacy instruction. <u>Oregon's Early Literacy Framework</u> is the "North Star" for the Council to create the recommendations for standards.

For more Information:

<u>Email Us:</u> Gov.LiteracyCouncil@oregon.gov <u>Web</u>: Visit the Council's webpage <u>here</u>.