



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Oregon Educators Report Improved Teaching and Learning Conditions**

*State leaders reflect on teacher feedback; consider opportunities to build on existing educator supports*

(Salem, OR)–Today, the Chief Education Office, in partnership with the Oregon Department of Education, Oregon Education Association, Confederation of Oregon School Administrators, Oregon School Boards Association, and the Chalkboard Project announced the results of the biennial Teaching, Empowering, Leading, and Learning (TELL) Oregon Survey which was administered state-wide this spring.

In its second year, the survey elicited more than 18,200 educator responses, providing an opportunity for teachers and administrators to share their perspectives related to teaching and learning conditions in Oregon schools and districts.

“Educators are critical to student success,” said Governor Kate Brown. “The feedback received through the TELL Survey informs state efforts to track and improve the conditions for teaching and learning across the State.”

Educator responses showed teaching and learning conditions have improved in seven out of eight categories surveyed over 2014 results. The most significant improvements reported by educators included: the time and resources available for professional development; opportunities for teacher leadership; availability of technology; time to collaborate with colleagues; and an improvement in the amount of time available for instruction.

Educators reported a decline in conditions in the managing student conduct category and with regards to the timely availability of student assessment data to impact instructional practices.

Twelve percent more educators than in 2014 agreed with the statement: *class sizes are reasonable such that teachers have the time available to meet the needs of all students*, making this one of the largest increases in the 2016 Survey responses. However, despite the increase, only 37.2 percent of educators overall agreed that this statement reflects the experience of students in their classroom.



TELL Survey partners preliminarily tie increases in results to: targeted state investments in mentoring, professional development, and educator effectiveness; programs such as CLASS (Creative Leadership Achieves Student Success); and increased collaboration between educators and administrators through initiatives such Leading for Learning. Further analysis of the results will be forthcoming in collaboration with TELL partners.

Moving forward, TELL partners believe it is critical to build on the programs, practices and investments that impacted teaching and learning conditions to ensure a process of continuous improvement in Oregon schools. The voices of educators from the survey will be used to inform policy and investment strategies at the state and local level, and will be critical inputs to the work of the Governor's Council on Educator Advancement and the creation of a State plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

“The results of the TELL Oregon survey give us an opportunity to engage in constructive conversations to improve the teaching and learning in schools across Oregon” said Hanna Vaandering, an elementary physical education teacher from Beaverton, and President of the Oregon Education Association. “We look forward to meaningful conversations that will ensure students, no matter what their zip code have the quality learning conditions they need to succeed.”

In addition to state-level data, survey results are available at the school and district level if certain participation thresholds were met.

“These results make evident the shared commitment from Oregon teachers and administrators to implement critically-important best practices,” said Craig Hawkins, Executive Director of the Confederation of School Administrators. “We have seen more partnering between school leadership and educators over time, through professional learning communities and data-informed decisions, where teacher leadership is encouraged, and that has contributed to improved outcomes.”

For more information on school, district, and state-level results visit [www.telloregon.org](http://www.telloregon.org).

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