



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Higher Education Coordinating Commission

255 Capitol Street NE, Third Floor

Salem, OR 97310

www.oregon.gov/HigherEd

March 21, 2019

Co-Chair, Senator Lew Frederick
Co-Chair, Representative Susan McLain
Joint Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Education

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and McLain,

Thank you for the opportunity to answer questions that arose during the March 19 presentation.

In reference to Slide 138 on high school college access programs, Senator Frederick and Representative Meek requested additional information about the geographic location of these programs in Oregon. Information for all counties can be seen in **Appendix A**. There are 180 high schools in Oregon with, and 140 high schools without a college access program such as AVID or ASPIRE.

In Senator Frederick's district, there are three public high schools and two have college access programs: Roosevelt High School has an AVID program, Alliance High School at Meek Campus has an AVID program and an ASPIRE site, and Jefferson High School has no college access program. In Representative Meek's district, there are four public high schools and two have college access programs: Putnam High School has an AVID and an ASPIRE site and Oregon City High School has an ASPIRE site, Gladstone High School and Oregon City Service Learning Academy SAGE both lack access programs.¹

Our initial slide showed 139 schools without a college access program. In Appendix A, we show 140 schools, as one additional school was located when assembling the county-by-county table.

In response to Slides 159-163 on workforce partnerships, Representative McLain asked about industry involvement in workforce development in Oregon. State workforce investments are leveraged extensively by Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDB) through federal and private sector investments. In general, workforce development efforts constitute a 50/50 investment strategy. Local businesses co-invest in workforce development efforts in many ways, by providing direct matching funds on training investments, in-kind contributions such as facilities, meals, equipment, supplies and staff resources for training and industry sector events, hosting youth internships, teacher externships, learning tours and training events, and donating their time as business leaders to sector work, advisory groups and meetings. Some of the types of workforce development efforts that businesses contribute to include sector strategies, innovation grant funds, high-performance events, incumbent worker training, as well as curriculum development for community colleges and customized training programs.

While we do not have data on the total dollars industries invest in activities in Oregon, recent projects reported from a handful of workforce areas resulted in \$3.5 million in investments from private business. Some examples of financial investment include incumbent worker training programs, which require businesses to pay their employees while in

¹ Public or charter high schools may have programs designed to improve college access outside of the programs tracked by the Commission. Programs tracked include ASPIRE, AVID, Gear Up, Trio, and College Possible.

training as well as pay for half of all training costs, as well as on-the-job training investments, through which a business is required to pay half the wages of the trainee. On-the-job training results in essentially a 1-1 co-investment by the LWDB and businesses.

LWDB and business partnerships in Oregon take many forms. As one example, the apprenticeship program in the East Cascades workforce area predominately utilizes federal funds with some state general funds to pay for classroom training, while business partners pay a placement fee and wages of apprentices while they are being trained on the job for a year with 1-1 mentor support. As another example, in Southwest Oregon, a series of Medical Assistant training initiatives are possible through partnership and co-investment of the private sector and the Board in costs for instructors, material costs, curriculum development and faculty fellowships.

In response to HECC's slides 166-177 on the agency's role with consumer protection and authorization of private institutions, Senator Frederick inquired after the hearing about the HECC's response to a potential decrease in federal regulations in this area. While there is a possibility that U.S. Department of Education led by Secretary DeVos will implement actions that reduce federal oversight of the proprietary postsecondary education sector, HECC's statutory regulation of both private career schools and degree granting for-profit colleges remains robust, within the resources available for the work. HECC and the Department of Justice vigorously pursue unlicensed and unauthorized schools purporting to offer career training or college degrees. The agency has pursued at least seven such cases in 2019 alone. Student and consumer protection are the responsibility of HECC's private postsecondary office and we will continue to monitor changes at the federal level while fulfilling our duties to serve the state's students and schools.

If you have further questions, please contact Kyle Thomas, Director of Legislative and Policy Affairs, at kyle.thomas@state.or.us or at 503-480-9596.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Cannon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ben Cannon Executive Director

Appendix A

County	No College Access Program	At least One College Access Program	Percentage of High Schools with at least One College Access Program
Baker County	5	1	17%
Benton County	4	3	43%
Clackamas County	13	13	50%
Clatsop County	2	2	50%
Columbia County	1	6	86%
Coos County	7	3	30%
Crook County	1	1	50%
Curry County	0	3	100%
Deschutes County	3	6	67%
Douglas County	13	4	24%
Gilliam County	2	0	0%
Grant County	3	2	40%
Harney County	3	0	0%
Hood River County	0	1	100%
Jackson County	4	13	76%
Jefferson County	1	2	67%
Josephine County	0	4	100%
Klamath County	5	5	50%
Lake County	2	1	33%
Lane County	12	21	64%
Lincoln County	1	6	86%
Linn County	1	6	86%
Malheur County	6	0	0%
Marion County	7	17	71%
Morrow County	2	2	50%
Multnomah County	11	19	63%
Polk County	1	3	75%
Sherman County	1	0	0%
Tillamook County	2	1	33%
Umatilla County	5	7	58%
Union County	4	2	33%
Wallowa County	3	0	0%
Wasco County	3	1	25%
Washington County	6	17	74%
Wheeler County	3	0	0%
Yamhill County	3	8	73%
Oregon	140	180	56%