

**From:** [matthew brown](#)  
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To whom it may concern

I have been a public school teacher in Oregon for 21 years. I have had the opportunity to teach at both the secondary and elementary levels. In addition, both my kids are students in public schools. One thing that I have found to be consistent in every school and grade I have taught is the dramatic impact of chronic underfunding. We have let oversized classes and lack of critical support staff and services (like nurses, counselors and SPED staff) become the "new normal", even though we know the direct impact it has on outcomes for our students.

Furthermore, when I visit family in other states, conversations about our kids always turn to talk of schools. People in other states are shocked when they learn about class sizes and school conditions in Oregon. And, they are dumbfounded that a state like ours that purports to be "progressive" and "innovative" would neglect to adequately fund the cornerstone of progress - education.

Let's find the political will to do what we all know is right - change the tax structure in Oregon so that education is fully funded.

Matt Brown  
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