

Oregon Kids Read



Oregon's Most Vulnerable Students Need Immediate Help To Become Readers

Dedicating COVID relief or other funds to immediately offer expert, proven training to all K-5 teachers and reading specialists at our lowest performing schools will transform students' lives

Oregon had a reading crisis before COVID: over [HALF of our 3rd graders](#) weren't reading at grade level. Over 66% of economically disadvantaged, 70% of American Indian/Alaska Native, 71% of Latinx, 73% of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, and 74% of our Black 3rd graders weren't reading at grade level. [Studies show that without intervention, students who struggle with reading rarely catch up.](#) A first grader with poor reading skills has a 90% chance of continuing to be a poor reader.

Distance learning during COVID has only made the crisis worse, especially for [Black, Indigenous and other students of color.](#)

A Systemic Crisis Needs A Systemic Solution

Science proves that almost any child can learn to read, given the right type of [instruction](#). Unfortunately, Oregon students are unlikely to receive this instruction because [most of Oregon's colleges and universities do not offer our teachers the type of literacy training](#) that's grounded in how the brain works when it comes to reading.

There is a better way: districts and states that have trained their teachers in a clear, explicit instruction program called Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling ([LETRS](#)) have seen dramatic student improvement. In [Bethlehem, PA](#), after only three years, they've gone from 56% to 84% of their students reading at grade level. [Mississippi](#), which trained over 15,000 teachers in LETRS, was the only state in the country whose 4th grade reading scores [improved](#) - in contrast to Oregon's scores which have been [flat](#) and below the national average.

Recognizing the need to immediately address their district's literacy crisis, [Portland Public Schools have begun training its teachers in LETRS](#), a commitment that will transform PPS students' opportunities for becoming strong readers. Every Oregon student deserves the same.

Oregon's Lowest Performing Schools Are Located All Across The State

Oregon's CSI and TSI** schools span our urban, rural and coastal communities and include students of all races and economic backgrounds. By focusing first on these schools, we will immediately reach our most struggling students.

The cost of training about 2,900 teachers at CSI and TSI schools is approximately \$20 million. The economic cost of *not* training teachers is billions of dollars in [later interventions](#), lower high school graduation rates, higher incarceration rates, and [fewer taxpayers earning a living wage](#). The human cost of Oregon children never attaining foundational literacy is incalculable.

* Benchmark statistics from Oregon Statewide Report Card 2018-2019 , Oregon Department of Education

**TSI: Targeted Support & Improvement Schools; CSI: Comprehensive Support & Improvement Schools. These schools have been identified as the lowest performing 5 percent of schools.

Want to know more? Visit OregonKidsRead.com or email oregonkidsread@gmail.com

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Oregon School Districts with CSI/TSI Lowest Performing K-5 Schools

Banks SD 13
Bend-LaPine Administrative SD 1
Canby SD 86
Centennial SD 28J
Central Point SD 6
Central SD 13J
Coos Bay SD 9
Corvallis SD 509J
Crow-Applegate-Lorane SD 66
Culver SD 4
David Douglas SD 40
Douglas County SD 15
Douglas County SD 4
Dufur SD 29
Eagle Point SD 9
Eugene SD 4J
Falls City SD 57
Forest Grove SD 15
Frenchglen SD 16
Gervais SD 1

Glendale SD 77
Greater Albany Public SD 8J
Gresham-Barlow SD 10J
Hillsboro SD 1J
Jefferson County SD 509J
Klamath County SD
Klamath Falls City Schools
Knappa SD 4
La Grande SD 1
Lincoln County SD
McKenzie SD 68
Medford SD 549C
Molalla River SD 35
Morrow SD 1
Myrtle Point SD 41
North Bend SD 13
North Clackamas SD 12
North Lake SD 14
Oakridge SD 76
Oregon City SD 62
Parkrose SD 3
Phoenix-Talent SD 4

Port Orford-Langlois SD 2CJ
Portland SD 1J
Powers SD 31
Reedsport SD 105
Reynolds SD 7
Rogue River SD 35
Salem-Keizer SD 24J
Santiam Canyon SD 129J
Scio SD 95
Sheridan SD 48J
South Umpqua SD 19
South Wasco County SD 1
Springfield SD 19
St Helens SD 502
Three Rivers/Josephine County SD
Umatilla SD 6R
Union SD 5
Vernonia SD 47J
Willamina SD 30J
Winston-Dillard SD 116
Woodburn SD 103

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