



# Jefferson County Education Service District

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**Ken Parshall,**  
*Superintendent*

**Barbara Garland,**  
*Director of Special Programs*

**Martha Bewley,**  
*Chief Financial Officer*

March 23, 2021

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

***Reference: Support for Increase in Funding***

Dear Senator Frederick, Representative McLain, and Members of the Committee:

HB 3427 (2019) established the foundation and operational guidance for Oregon's Student Success Act including funding and support for improved educational outcomes for students across the state. As part of this Legislation, Oregon's education service districts (ESDs) were identified as playing a critical role in the implementation of the programs proposed by the Act. An appropriation of \$24 million was budgeted for grants from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account to ESDs to support component school districts in the development and implementation of their 2020-21 plans. This appropriation was later reduced to \$20 million in August of 2020. On behalf of Jefferson County ESD and our four component school districts, we are asking that this amount be restored to \$42 million for the 2021-23 biennium. This amount represents the original service level appropriation for the full two-year period of the upcoming biennium.

The support for component school districts in our region has focused on the following activities:

1. Coaching and mentoring of principals and teacher leaders in order to implement research-based practices focused on improving student learning outcomes in mathematics and literacy.
2. Increased community engagement in order to incorporate the voice of family members and students into district and school planning to better meet the needs of students.
3. Assistance in gathering needed information from stakeholder engagement activities and in completing required applications, reports, and budgets for the SIA process.

These supports have been valuable for each of our component school districts, but have been vital for our two small rural school districts which rely on teacher leaders for most of their administrative tasks.

We urge your consideration of \$42 million for the 2021-23 biennium from the Statewide Initiatives Account for ESDs to continue and further develop this work in our region with our four school districts and their approximately 3,600 students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Parshall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "K".

Ken Parshall

Superintendent

Jefferson County Educational Service District