



**COALITION OF  
OREGON SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS**

Coalition of Oregon School Administrators  
707 13th Street SE, Ste. 100  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
Phone 503-581-3141  
[www.cosa.k12.or.us](http://www.cosa.k12.or.us)

---

Date: March 27, 2025  
To: Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education  
From: Superintendent Majalise Tolan, COSA President  
Subject: SB 5516- State School Fund Allocation

---

Co-Chair Sollman, Co-Chair Ruiz, and members of the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Education,

My name is Dr. Majalise Tolan and I am the Superintendent of the Lincoln County School District (LCSD). I also serve as the President of the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators. I am here today on behalf of our 3000 members across Oregon, asking you to support the Co-Chairs \$11.4 Billion State School Fund budget proposal and fully fund the services needed to meet the growing needs of our students with disabilities.

I have been an educator for more than 21 years, the past 17 as an administrator in Lincoln County. I am in my second year as Superintendent and I want to acknowledge the investments the Legislature has made in our K-12 schools over the past several years and how those investments have improved outcomes for our students.

In 2024, LCSD's overall graduation rate was 83.3%, which is above the state average. This includes a 10% increase for our students experiencing homelessness. Our graduation rates for English Language Learners stand at 86.2% while 87.6% of our Hispanic and Latino students graduate on time, both surpassing the state average. We are proud of all of our community partners and district departments that collaborate to support students and families across the graduation finish line and help prepare our students for their post-secondary goals.

But even at \$11.4 billion, many districts across Oregon are looking at budget and staffing reductions. A State School Fund that does not support our ability to serve all students diminishes the impact of critical targeted investments the Legislature has made.

While we are grateful for the proposed \$11.4 billion SSF investment, as the needs of our students with disabilities continue to grow, Oregon's antiquated and inequitable funding models for special education funding must be addressed this Session. This will ensure that every school district and ESD in Oregon has the resources to meet the complex needs of our students.



**COALITION OF  
OREGON SCHOOL  
ADMINISTRATORS**

Coalition of Oregon School Administrators  
707 13th Street SE, Ste. 100  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
Phone 503-581-3141  
[www.cosa.k12.or.us](http://www.cosa.k12.or.us)

---

COSA and our members are proud to be part of a broad based coalition of parents, advocates for students with disabilities, educators, non-profit organizations, and education partners that have come together around a common agenda to fully fund Special Education services and supports this Session.

In Lincoln County, about 16% of our students qualify for special education service and based on the most recent data we have, we had to cover 702,552 due to lack of High Cost Disability funding for our 55 eligible students. We must make funding changes and investments in Special Education this Session.

That's why COSA and our members strongly support raising and funding the 11% Special Education Cap in the State School Fund by passing House Bill 2953 and fully funding the High Cost Disability Account by passing House Bill 2448. Passage of these two bills and the associated investments in the State School Fund will help close the \$750 million biennial gap in special education funding in the State School Fund, as reported by ODE

Last session you made historic investments in our schools and this session our students with disabilities need your support. Thank you for your time today.