

HOW WILL POTENTIAL 2015-17 STATE SCHOOL FUND LEVELS IMPACT THE FUTURE OF OREGON STUDENTS?

# EUGENE SCHOOL DISTRICT 4J

**\$7.235 Billion**  
Underfunded Schools

## CURRENT CO-CHAIRS' BUDGET LEVEL

At \$7.235 billion Eugene 4J cannot maintain our current, significantly reduced, level of service and implement full-day kindergarten without making additional cuts.

Years of underfunding have taken their toll. Over the past six years, our class sizes have grown substantially and the district has been forced to reduce services and staff at all levels to address continued deficits. It is common to have class sizes of 30 or more students at the elementary level and classes of 40 or more students at the high school level. Students have lost a great deal of instructional time to budget-reduction furlough days, including one planned for next year's calendar.

- \$95/  
Student

**\$7.5 Billion**  
Fragile Stability

\$7.5 billion maintains Eugene 4J's current, significantly reduced level of programs and services. The district would be able to implement full-day kindergarten at a basic level, and set aside a small reserve for emergency relief, allowing the district to intervene with additional staffing when individual classes become exceptionally large or special education caseloads become unmanageable.

While this level of funding avoids further reductions, it does nothing to repair the damage done by the past six years. The economic downturn has greatly decreased our level of service and increased the emotional and financial stress level of our students and staff, while funding for health services, counseling and interventions is at an all-time low. Our teachers struggle to help children succeed in an environment of large class sizes.

+\$130/  
Student

**\$7.875 Billion**  
Improvement Trajectory

This funding level would allow Eugene 4J to make strategic improvements in reducing class sizes and providing targeted professional development for teachers.

Significant improvements could be made in class size, health services, counseling, and interventions to strengthen the safety net for our most vulnerable students. Special education caseloads could be reduced, providing more time for our specialists to focus on the individual needs of each child. Investments could be made in elementary programs to ensure more students are reading at grade level by the end of the third grade.

This level of funding would not reverse all of the cuts made over the last six years, but it could address the most significant needs of our students and return some programs to near pre-recession levels. This would be a strong first step in tackling class sizes, graduation rates and achievement gaps.

+\$380/  
Student

Oregon lags behind the nation in our investment in education. Bringing Oregon schools to the national average would require investment beyond \$7.875 Billion.

What would it take to bring Oregon schools up to the national average for:

instructional time

**+\$450  
Million**

class size

**+\$1.2  
Billion**

**Help Us Build  
The Schools  
Our Students Deserve!**

