



# 2025 2026 Legislative Priorities

## Adequate, Reliable, and Flexible Funding



**16,730** Enrolled Students

**25%** Student Poverty

**88%** On-Time Graduation

### NCS Schools

- 18 Elementary
- 4 Middle
- 5 High
- 4 Charter
- 1 CTE Center



### Rising Costs



#### Rising Costs in Public K-12 Education

Over 80% of the school district's general fund budget is allocated to personnel costs, which include salaries, insurance, and retirement benefits for staff such as teachers, educational assistants, bus drivers, and principals. Retirement costs are projected to increase by \$13 million annually, with additional rises in salary and insurance expenses. Alongside these growing personnel costs, the district is also facing higher expenses for goods and services, including utilities, fuel, and facilities maintenance.

#### Decreased Investment of State Funding

Oregon currently invests less than 30% of its lottery and general fund revenues into the State School Fund, a significant decrease from over 40% in 1999. Since 2017, this investment has been on a steep decline, resulting in repeated disruptions to programming, cycles of hiring and staff reductions, and instability in long-term financial planning. This disinvestment has created ongoing challenges for the state's education system.

### Declining Investment

### Special Education



#### Address Special Education Funding Gaps

Oregon caps special education funding at 11% of a school district's total enrollment, even though the state average for students qualifying for and receiving special education services is 15%, with 17% in NCS. Additionally, the state under-reimburses districts for high-cost disability expenses, leaving many districts to cover the difference. In NCS, the district currently incurs up to \$1.9 million in unfunded expenses for students receiving high-cost services as outlined in their Individual Education Plan.

#### Stable Summer Program Funding

Summer learning programs offer valuable opportunities to accelerate academic progress while also providing essential services like nutrition and healthcare. However, the state does not allocate recurring, dedicated funds for these programs. As a result, each school district must cobble together funding to provide this critical service for its students.

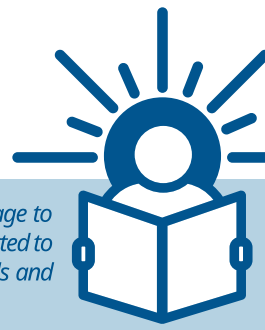
### Summer Programs



Please scan this QR code for more detailed information.



# 2025 2026 Legislative Stance



North Clackamas School District (NCS) prepares graduates who act with courage to strengthen the quality of life in their local and global communities. We are committed to examining and improving our system by nurturing inclusive, barrier-free schools and workplaces.

To fulfill this mission, NCS requires reliable and adequate funding. This funding is essential to provide for adult-to-student ratios that foster strong relationships between students and educators. It is also crucial for delivering high-quality academic and support programs, offering robust emotional and mental health supports, and maintaining a well-trained and supported diverse workforce. We recognize the urgent need to address chronic student absenteeism and to provide safe, modern, and accessible school facilities.

NCS calls upon the Oregon Legislature to fully fund public preK-12 education as a top priority, early in the legislative session. This would demonstrate a clear commitment to our state's children and allow for adequate planning for the upcoming school year.

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# 2025 2026 Legislative Agenda Priorities



### Adequate, Reliable, and Flexible Funding

- Fully fund the Quality Education Model by 2027
- Adequate State School Fund with at least \$11.4 billion to maintain current service levels
- Fully fund Special Education programs, including increasing the funding cap percentage and fully funding high-cost disability services
- Establish adequate, consistent funding for summer learning opportunities statewide
- Enhance school facilities capital improvements funding
- Support local control of state funding resources and oppose any new unfunded mandates while seeking funding for past unfunded mandates

### Student Experience & Success

- Protect and expand programs with a focus on historically underserved students
- Ensure adequate funding for adult-to-student ratios that allow for strong core instruction and positive relationships
- Include student voice in decision-making
- Protect and expand anti-bias, anti-racist curriculum and policies
- Protect existing programs, including student support services, high school success and early learning programs (Student Investment Account/Integrated Programs)

### People & Culture

- Promote educator diversity and advocate for programs that support diverse school staff
- Support statewide education workforce retention and Grow-Your-Own programs
- Invest in funding models that provide for strong employee compensation

### Family & Community Collaboration

- Expand access to preschool opportunities for families
- Invest in out of school time activities, including after-school and summer enrichment activities provided by school districts and community based organizations
- Expand affordable childcare options

### Resources & Services

- Promote and expand resources that support emotional, mental and physical health needs in schools and in the community
- Encourage policy development that protects student health, including addressing the availability of drugs, flavored tobacco and alcohol to youth
- Enhance programs that address food and housing insecurity
- Promote strategies that enhance school safety & security, including cybersecurity



Please scan this QR code for more detailed information.

