



A Path Forward

A vision of hope and unity constructed from the resilience of educators and students across the state.

April 7, 2022

Thank you



Oregon Department of Education



Reflect

Pivotal Points in Time

Oregon's first case
of COVID-19

Feb. 28, 2020

Distance Learning
for All begins

March 30, 2020

RSSL Resilience
Framework = In-person
Learning in Oregon

June 25, 2021

March 12, 2020

Statewide school
closure

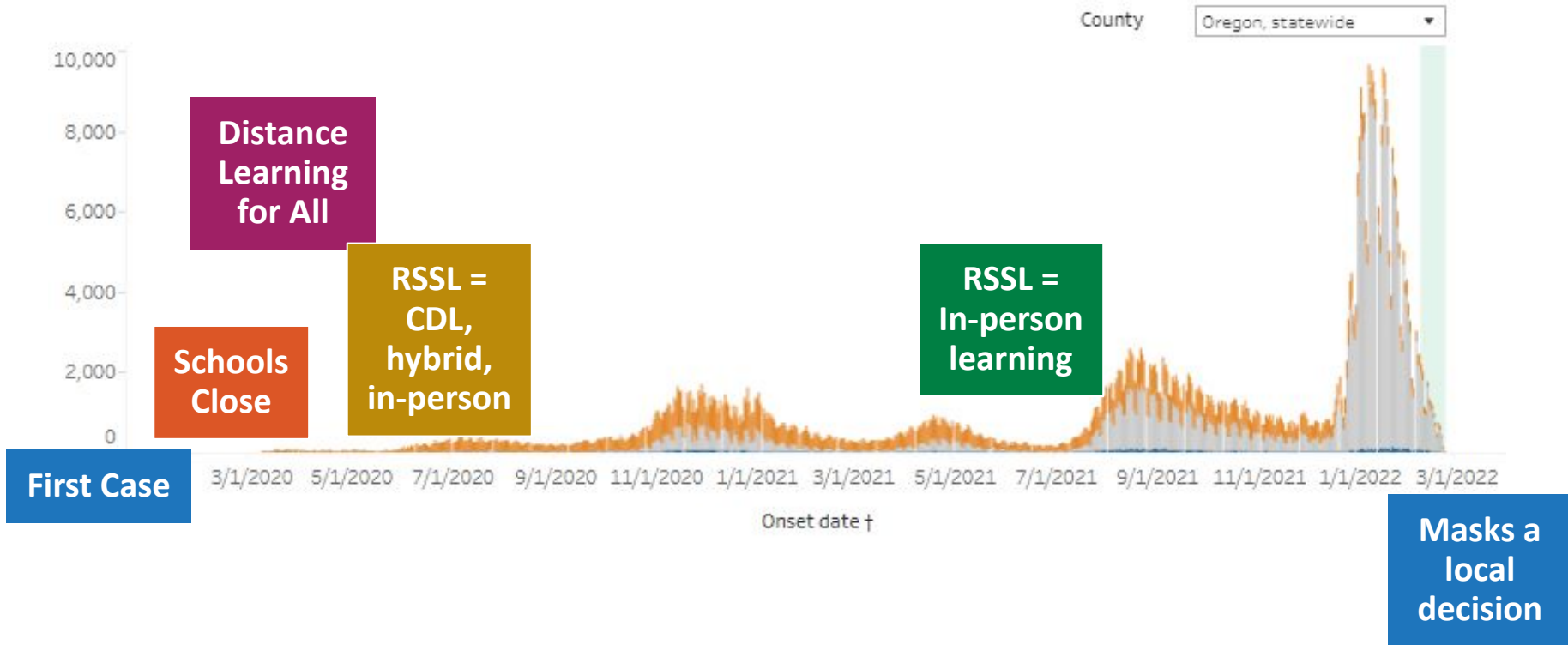
June 10, 2020

Ready Schools, Safe
Learners = CDL,
Hybrid, and
In-Person

March 12, 2022

Wearing face
coverings becomes
local decision

Oregon's Epi Curve



Navigating Unexpected Changes & Challenges

Loss, Grief and Hardship



We've navigated pivotal moments.

- Personal experiences
 - Illness, loss, financial hardship
 - Fatigue, social isolation, increased stress and responsibility
- Shared experiences
 - The first case of COVID-19 at an elementary school in February 2020
 - Distance Learning for All
 - Shared responsibility for public health

Take a moment to reflect.

What pivotal moments did you experience at your school and in your community?

Your Actions Made a Difference

- You learned and upheld health and safety protocols
- You maintained connection with students and families
- You pivoted to help Oregon stay ahead of the curve, preventing infections and over-burdening our hospital system.

You all made it work.

Educators and health care workers are true heroes of the pandemic.





Recognize

Oregon's Resilient Educators

Gratitude for their tireless efforts



Oregon Department of Education

Educators took on a heightened role during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Educators became experts in health and safety protocols - using face coverings, physical distancing and more.
- School staff had to take on new and expanded responsibilities, like quickly distributing technology, reinforcing health and safety protocols, and most importantly, making students feel comfortable and safe.
- They transitioned in and out of distance learning, navigating new technology.
- They reached out and created strong relationships with students and their families.
- Administrators experienced staff shortages, filling roles and responsibilities like bus driver, cafeteria worker and office staff.

New & Deeper Partnerships

Our schools established clear channels for problem-solving and sense-making.

- Cultivating new and unrivaled partnerships:
 - Local Public Health
 - Community based organizations
 - State education and health officials
 - Partner organizations

... all in support of the shared goal to prioritize in-person learning for students, every day.





Renew

How can Oregon's education
system emerge stronger?

Moving Forward Together

Oregon enters a new stage with lessons learned



Prioritizing Oregon's Children & Youth

- The pandemic opened the eyes of many to long standing disparities. We will rethink the policies and systems to support each and every student in our care.
- We will prioritize the needs of teachers and school staff, learning from their lived experiences
- We will build off of the trust that was established from two years of leaning into discomfort and difficult conversations.

Who We Serve

560,907 Students

More than 200 languages spoken

75,807 Educators

Staff of Color

- 21.3% of ODE Staff
- 11.4% of School Teachers
- 12.3% of School Administrators
- 16.4% of School Counselors
- 21.1% of School Educational Assistants

197 Districts

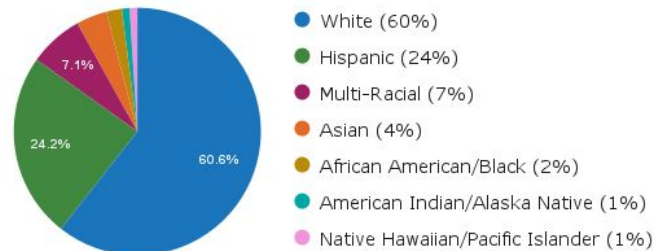
1,257 Schools

133 Charter Schools

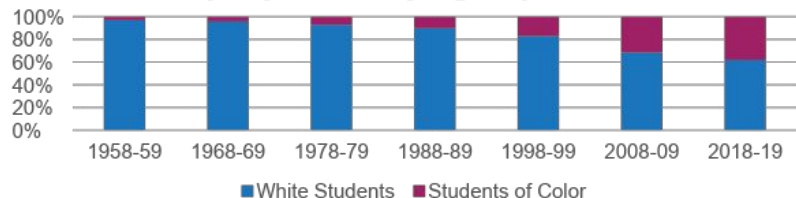
19 Education Service Districts

Student Diversity

- Economically Disadvantaged: 53%
- Ever English Learners: 18%
- Homeless: 3%
- Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual: 12.6%
- Mobile Students: 11%
- Students with Disabilities: 15%



Rapidly Diversifying Population



ODE Education Equity Stance

ODE is committed to the anti-racist and equitable implementation of policy, practices, procedures, and legislation that translates into resource allocation, education rigor, and opportunities for historically and currently marginalized youth, students, and families including civil rights protected classes.

This means the restructuring and dismantling of systems and institutions that create the dichotomy of beneficiaries and the oppressed and marginalized.

Staying Engaged in the Equity Effort

2021 Session

- **HB 2052:** Tribal Regalia & Objects of Cultural Significance
- **HB 2056:** Access to Linguistic Inclusion
- **HB 2697:** Every Student Belongs
- **HB 2166:** RJC - Social Emotional Learning Standards
- **SB 52:** LGBTQ2SIA+ Student Success Plan
- **HB 2536:** Access to School Meals
- **SB 732:** Equity Advisory Committees
- **SB 744:** Equitable, accessible and inclusive process to intentionally engage communities to put forward diploma requirement recommendations
- **HB 5006:** Study of the impacts of SSF spending on disparities between students who are BIPOC and those who are not BIPOC

2022 Session

- **HB 4026** - provided grants to wildfire impacted school districts
- **HB 4031** - Added ODE to the Educator Equity Act, gives ODE the goal of having it's hiring match the demographics of the students we serve
- **HB 4091** - Pacific Islander/ Native Hawaiian Student Success Plan (Moved to budget bill HB 5202)
- **HB 4030** - Educator Workforce Bill
- **HB 4124** - Survey of Assessments
- **SB 1583** - Minimizing Assessments
- **SB 1521** - Superintendents Protection Bill

A Path Forward

- Lift up lessons learned.
- Prioritize learning and academic growth for all (meaning each and every one of) Oregon's children and youth.
- Strengthen social and emotional supports.
- Create greater access to a well-rounded curriculum, including extracurricular activities and resources that jumpstart students' connection with peers and caring adults.



Collective Action

Unleashing the power of partnership



Oregon Department of Education

Our schools are strongest when diverse viewpoints are present and more community members are involved.

- Only by hearing from everyone can we serve everyone.
- Lean in to the experiences of teachers and school staff.
- Continue deepening trust through collaboration and open communication.



NOW
THIS

'May this be
the day we
come together'

One More Pandemic Pivot – Start Tonight

1. **Write out what you are currently imagining about the future and the emotions these images provoke.** Describe exactly what you are anticipating (for example, “still working from my bedroom next year”) instead of generalities (like “working from home”). *Specific images, not general ideas, have the greatest impact on our internal state.*
2. **Imagine things have gone well for you over the next two years and write a letter to yourself from that future.** Describe your life. What is going on in your work world? Personal life? The key question is: *“Where will I be if things have gone well for me?”* Crucially, it needs to feel *optimistic but realistic*.
3. **Stand in that future. Vividly imagine yourself in the future you've described.** Imagine the conversations you're having with colleagues, students, and families around you. Imagine your sensory experiences. This thought exercise will help you clarify what exactly to hope for — the first step toward actually realizing that life for yourself and for our children.

Thank You



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