



COLLABORATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE:

SUPPORTING ONGOING, SUSTAINABLE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS

Effective teaching can raise student achievement by up to 20 percent. Research proves it.

When professional development for educators is focused on the “most effective or needed” instructional practices, studies have shown student achievement can increase as much as 20 percent. Oregon needs to make sure every single teacher has access to meaningful professional development opportunities on a regular basis.

Did you know...

- » More than \$50 million is invested in professional development each year?
- » Oregon needs a statewide system to deliver more quality, ongoing professional development?
- » Many school districts in Oregon don't have the resources to connect teachers with the most appropriate learning opportunities?

The research is clear: Teachers make THE difference when it comes to raising student achievement. All teachers — even the best ones — need ongoing professional support to deal with the achievement challenges they face in their classrooms. We need to make sure the money we're spending throughout the state on in-service days, workshops and other types of ongoing training is truly helping teachers improve their craft and benefiting students in the classroom.

Some districts clearly do a great job of finding and delivering great professional development opportunities to their staff. Some districts need help. More than half of Oregon school districts have less than 1,000 students and few or no staff to plan and monitor professional development, and even many larger districts need more assistance directing staff to appropriate training opportunities.

Chalkboard has talked with teachers throughout the state. Over and over, they've told us they're disappointed in the quality of professional development they receive. They've told us they often have to pay for ongoing training themselves, and have little support for bringing back what they've learned to their peers and applying that learning in their classrooms. We owe it to those teachers — and the students who learn from them daily — to provide meaningful, ongoing professional development that uses time and money effectively.

THE BOTTOM LINE: Our teachers need 21st century skills to prepare students for a 21st century global economy and workforce

Chalkboard proposes a new statewide professional development network that will:

- » Be a public/private partnership, bringing significant matching dollars from Oregon foundations
- » Create a sustainable, ongoing professional development system every educator can use to build skills
- » Create a professional development clearinghouse so teachers can find the resources they're looking for quickly
- » Create a statewide infrastructure to deliver training, both online and through regional professional development centers (using existing locations) accessible to any teacher
- » Bring research about great teaching practices into the classroom more quickly
- » Align professional development with district priorities and school improvement plans

The proposed professional development network will:

- » **NOT** create a new regulatory agency
- » **NOT** take away decision-making about training from individual teachers or district administrators
- » **NOT** require districts to invest in more training (though many of them will be able to do so efficiently)

Who will run the network?

- » A statewide board of directors that includes representatives from major education groups and organizations
- » An executive director who coordinates the network with all professional development partners