

**Testimony for the State Board of Education
Dec. 11, 2014
re: OARs 581-022-1620, 581-022-0102, and OAR 581-022-1131**

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Vice President for Legislation, Oregon PTA**

Oregon PTA is the largest parent/teacher/student advocacy organization in Oregon, representing over 14,000 members statewide. We greatly appreciate being included in the Instructional Hours Stakeholder Group, and the professionalism of Oregon Department of Education staff in providing quality information and encouraging robust discussion among diverse stakeholders, including the engaged parents who provided the impetus for these proposals.

Your staff listened: we're grateful that parent teacher conferences and professional development were reinstated to the definition of instructional hours, and we encourage you to retain both.

We note that the staff report acknowledges a fiscal impact based on increased instructional time for half day kindergarten, full day kindergarten, and grades 1-3; ensuring that 90% of students are scheduled to receive the minimum number of hours, and other provisions.

We also note that staff recommends adoption of the proposed rules in January. Because of the fiscal impact and essentially flat state school funding of grades 1-12 in the Governor's recommended budget, we respectfully request that adoption of the proposed rules be postponed until they can be considered in context of the legislature's deliberations on education funding.

Thank you for your consideration.