AMENDED EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 11 – 02

OREGON EDUCATION INVESTMENT TEAM

This Order creates the Oregon Education Investment Team and charges it with creating a plan of policy and budget recommendations to comprehensively transform Oregon’s approach to education.

Public education accounts for fifty one percent of Oregon’s general fund budget. These investments are pivotally important for the long-term economic, civic and cultural health and safety of the state.

Oregon has established the goals for our public education system that one hundred percent of Oregonians earn a high school diploma, that forty percent of Oregonians obtain a college degree, and that another forty percent earn a post-secondary credential.

Oregon education leaders have strived over the past several years to meet these goals. Oregon has increased its investments in pre-kindergarten education. Clear learning standards and an assessment system to measure progress have been codified. Schools have adopted innovative practices for teaching and learning to help students meet those standards. Pathways between high schools, community colleges and universities have been strengthened to enable credit to transfer from one level to another more easily. Also, Oregon adopted the Shared Responsibility Model to help make college more affordable for low income Oregonians. These and many other innovations have helped strengthen student learning.

Yet for all this hard work, Oregon’s progress towards achievement of its goals is not moving fast enough. One critical barrier to our progress is Oregon’s “system” of education budgeting and governance, which is a product of incremental decisions made over many decades. No one deliberately designed it, and today the structure of the system stands as an inadvertent barrier to the achievement of our educational goals. Several systemic challenges exist: budget decisions throughout public education are opaque and disconnected; incentives created through the way Oregon distributes dollars to schools discourages practices educators want to support; data collection is fragmented and non-uniform; governance of our educational institutions is built around silos making consistency almost impossible.

The Education Investment Team will engage the public, legislators and stakeholders in the creation of a new investment and budget process for education in Oregon.

By 2020, the end of this decade – by the time the children entering kindergarten this year graduate from high school – Oregon must be a state where our children
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are ready to learn before they get to school; where they have the resources and attention to learn and our teachers have the time and support to teach; where drop-out rates are steadily falling and graduation rates are steadily rising; where all Oregon high school graduates are prepared to pursue a post-secondary education without remediation; and where eighty percent of them achieve at least two years of post-secondary education or training. Meeting these goals is the best way to ensure that we live in a state that creates family wage jobs and career pathways that lead to those jobs. The Education Investment Team will begin to chart the framework for how we get there.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HERE BY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Education Investment Team (Team) is hereby established.

2. The Team shall consist of no more than thirteen (13) members, who shall be appointed by the Governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

3. The Governor will Chair the Team and will have responsibility to develop a work plan, set the agenda and provide leadership, directions and specific timelines for the Team.

4. A quorum for Team meetings shall consist of a majority of the appointed members. The Team shall approve measures on an affirmative vote of a majority of voting members appointed to the Team.

5. The Team shall lead and coordinate a process to collect, review and evaluate the efforts of groups that have studied ways Oregon can most effectively reach its desired public education outcomes. In doing so, the Team shall engage public, stakeholder and legislator involvement in the evaluation and development of new policy and budget concepts called for in this order.

6. The Team will establish, prioritize and charge Design Workgroups (Workgroups) as deemed necessary by the Chair. Workgroups may include members of the public, public officials, stakeholders and/or legislators who are not members of the Team. Any Workgroup created will be given a specific charge and timelines by the Chair. These charges will include, but not be limited to:

a. Designing a new model for early childhood and family investment for implementation in the second year of this biennium;
b. Seeking cost-savings and efficiencies within the K-12 system to increase the resources available for classroom teaching in the second year of the biennium; and
c. Designing a unified, performance based 0-20 budget model for consideration by the 2012 legislative session.

The Team will consider proposals and opinions developed by Workgroups it establishes, and may consider proposals and opinions from any other sources, but it is the Team that shall be ultimately responsible for making final recommendations consistent with the charge of this Order.

7. The charge of the Team is to develop specific concepts to achieve a comprehensive redesign of Oregon's public education budgeting and governance system. The concepts developed by the Team must be strategically calculated to transform Oregon's approach to education from silos into an integrated and meaningful pathway to success for Oregonians of all ages. The recommendations must include systemic policy and budget recommendations that will most effectively and efficiently achieve the goals that one hundred percent of Oregonians earn a high school diploma, that forty percent of Oregonians obtain a college degree, and that another forty percent earn a post-secondary credential. The recommendations must also include measures that will ensure that every child enters school ready and able to learn, enters first grade ready to read and leaves first grade reading.

At a minimum, the Team will develop a framework to achieve these goals by developing recommendations which will:

a. Create an Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) to oversee a unified 0-20 Oregon Education Investment Fund (OEIF);
b. Create an integrated early childhood and family investment strategy;
c. Create a unified, performance based 0-20 education budget model;
d. Develop a strategy to ensure effective assessment and accountability throughout the public education system; and
e. Consolidate state level responsibilities for public education.

8. The Team shall produce a written report no later than May 31, 2011, that identifies the progress made under this order and outlines the budget and policy framework called for in this Order. The report shall include conceptual proposals for the consideration of the public and policy-makers.
9. The Team shall be staffed by the Governor's Education Policy Advisor and shall receive assistance of any State agency upon request.

10. The members of the Team shall not receive per diem for their activities as members of the Team, but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in attending Team business pursuant to ORS 292.495(2), subject to availability of funds.

11. This Order expires upon the enactment of the Education Investment Fund Board's enabling legislation and confirmation of the members of the Education Investment Fund Board.

12. This Amended Order hereby supersedes and replaces in total the Executive Order issued by me on February 11, 2011.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 22nd day of February, 2011.

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Kate Brown
SECRETARY OF STATE