

## SEED Survey Brief Overview

### **What is the SEED Survey?**

The “SEED Survey” stands for the Student Educational Equity Development Survey (or “SEEDS” if “survey” needs abbreviating as well). The SEED Survey is designed for administration to students in grades 3 through 8 and 11.

The 2020-21 school year is the pilot year for this survey. ODE plans to administer the SEED Survey annually in future school years.

### **What is the purpose of the SEED Survey?**

SEEDS is designed to help the Oregon Department of Education gather information about the educational experiences of students in Oregon. This information will help ODE to develop appropriate resources and supports for districts in Oregon, and better target those resources and supports where they are most needed. The SEED Survey will also help ODE better interpret information we are already gathering through statewide testing.

SEED Survey information may also help districts develop a more complete picture of their local contexts and make strategic modifications to curriculum, instruction, and para-academic supports that they offer students.

### **How was the SEED Survey developed?**

ODE researched a range of nationwide or international educational surveys: NAEP, TIMSS, PISA, and others. ODE customized items from these surveys to meet the context for Oregon. Items on national and international surveys undergo rigorous review on a regular basis; however, ODE recruited Oregon educators from diverse backgrounds and regions to review all prospective items for the SEED Survey using an Oregon lens. The items were modified based on feedback from the educator review panels. ODE will revisit the SEED Survey each year to evaluate survey items and update the questions as needed.

### **How is the SEED Survey related to statewide testing?**

Unlike state testing, which measures what students *know*, the SEED Survey measures what students *experience* during their education in Oregon.

Statewide testing is designed to find out what students know and what skills they have mastered. Statewide testing does not measure the obstacles students had to overcome to gain this knowledge, or the supports they were offered along the way. It does not measure what students *could have learned* or how their educational environment can be improved to maximize learning.

The SEED Survey fills in some of these gaps. For example, years of academic data demonstrate that students with a higher socioeconomic status tend to perform better in school (note that this statement needs heavy qualification!). A student’s socioeconomic status does not lie within state, district, or school control. However, some of the benefits of socioeconomic status (such as internet service, ready access

to varied enrichment resources in the student's preferred language, abundant school supplies) do lie within state, district, or school control. SEEDS may help identify areas where a full "opportunity to learn" can be better provided to every student.

### Is the SEED Survey required?

During this pilot year, districts may customize their participation in the SEED Survey. Districts may choose to administer the SEED Survey at all, some, or none of their schools.

### What exactly is measured on the SEED Survey?

The SEED Survey will measure student perceptions in four core constructs: Access to Learning Resources, Opportunity to Learn (OTL), Self-Efficacy Beliefs, and Sense of Belonging. The OTL and Self-Efficacy constructs focus on specific content areas in each grade level.

- The high school survey includes all core constructs, all content areas, and Extra-curricular Engagement and Post-Graduation Planning.
- OTL and Self-Efficacy are measured in English language arts at Grades 3 and 6, in mathematics at Grades 4 and 7, and in science at Grades 5 and 8.
- The Grades 3-5 survey contains questions about Well-Rounded Education.
- The Grades 6-8 and 11 surveys include questions pertaining to Career-Technical Education. Data regarding Well-Rounded Education is already collected from other sources in Grades 6-11, so is not collected in SEEDS to avoid redundancy.

This information is also summarized in the following table.



### SEED Constructs Assessed By Grade

Grade	3	4	5	6	7	8	11
Access to Learning Resources	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Opportunity to Learn*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Self-Efficacy Beliefs*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sense of Belonging	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Well-Rounded Education	X	X	X				
Career-Technical Education				X	X	X	X
Extra-Curricular Engagement				X	X	X	X
Post-Graduation Planning							X

*\*Note: OTL and Self-Efficacy focus on ELA in Grades 3 & 6, math in Grades 4 & 7, and Science in Grades 5 & 8. The high school survey includes all three of these content areas.*

**Why is the SEED Survey being implemented now?**

The SEED Survey addresses a recognized need. Both districts and national experts have long recommended that states gather information not just on student learning, but also accompanying factors such as opportunity to learn, school culture and climate, etc.

The 2020-21 school year is a unique opportunity to implement the survey. System reorganization from the COVID pandemic, combined with a reduced presence of statewide testing, means that SEEDS can be introduced with minimal impact on existing systems and procedures.

**How will information from the SEED Survey be reported and used?**

ODE will report state level aggregate data from the 2021 pilot by the following student groups: 1) race/ethnicity, 2) special education status, and 3) English learner status. ODE consulted with the Assessment Advisory and Accountability and Reporting Advisory Committees in February 2021 to determine what reporting expectations will best support appropriate system responses in service of historically underserved students, both for the pilot and beyond, as part of Oregon's assessment and accountability system.

**What is the future of the SEED Survey?**

During this pilot year, the SEED Survey is optional. In future years, ODE will implement SEEDS statewide, and continue developing an increasingly robust tool to support districts and schools in identifying their students' experience in the learning process. Additional development will center in the development of tools for examining and reporting SEEDS data. ODE will continue to analyze and refine the survey items and structure. ODE will continue its close partnership with districts, educational organizations, and community contacts in development and analysis of the survey.