

Purpose and Scope. The Northwest Regional Education Service District (NWRES D) has formed a consortium of its 20 component school districts and 4 higher education partners to engage in a transformational process designed to make Oregon’s 40-40-20 goal a reality. We are developing a set of core practices that will ensure *all* students envision themselves as college going and career ready, that *all* students have genuine opportunities to leave high school with up to 45 college credits, and that *all* students experience improved instruction and increased rigor in their educational experience.

Our region is already engaged in the effort to accelerate students’ attainment of college credit and career readiness. Our high schools offer multiple opportunities to attain credits through advanced placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), career and technical education (CTE), and dual enrollment offerings. Through our contract with Willamette Promise, 62 teachers in 14 high schools have experienced the “promise” approach to earning college credits while in high school. However, our current efforts fail to reach all students and are unevenly implemented across schools throughout the region. We are especially concerned about outcomes for students of color and economically disadvantaged students. The Chief Education Office’s Equity Lens will provide a foundation for development of the Northwest Promise’s policy and practice.

To realize the Northwest Promise, we will systematically build strong, sustainable practices for all five promise pillars: ensuring our efforts provide equitable opportunities for our most underserved students, creating a deep college going culture, accelerating college credit attainment for all students through a variety of pathways, increasing collaborative relationships between secondary and post-secondary institutions, and providing on-going professional learning that crosses traditional boundaries.

Our region is geographically, economically, and demographically diverse. In order to provide opportunities for all of our students, we know we must identify and develop practices that will address the unique characteristics of each of our communities. We are excited to bring the Northwest Promise to our students.