



## **District Administration Office**

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### **Brookings-Harbor Voices PSA – School Funding**

Hi, this is Sean Gallagher – Brookings Harbor School District 17C Superintendent here to discuss the K-12 school funding debate that is occurring right now in Salem Oregon. Oregon Department of Education recently released funding level details for a package worth \$7.8 billion to K-12 schools for the 2017-19 biennium. The general consensus amongst all school districts statewide is that the \$7.8 package will amount to cuts across the state. Each district will vary, but this would equate to around an 8% cut.

As a long time educator in both the classroom and administrative positions throughout the state for over 26 years, I have personally watched school districts respond to tough budgetary conditions. The people that really are hurt in the end when all of the dust settles are the students themselves. Possible results from budget cuts are larger class sizes, less elective courses, reduced athletic opportunities, outdated textbooks, reduced resources, increased fee, and reduced school year calendars.

The Brookings-Harbor School District has worked hard for many years to create a stable budget in the best interests of our students. Schools respond well to consistency and stability, not volatility. This week in Salem is a key week for K-12 funding. Superintendents throughout the state are unified and agree that a funding package of \$8.4 billion will simply allow for schools to maintain status quo and preserve current programming and staffing.

Please contact your legislatures this week, simply send a quick email or a phone call asking them to fund schools appropriately. School funding is a legislative function.

For more information on school funding and to download a school funding poster, please visit the district website at [www.brookings.k12.or.us](http://www.brookings.k12.or.us)

Remember that only together we can ensure that Every Student Can Succeed here at Brookings-Harbor School District