



The League of Women Voters of Oregon, established in 1920, is a grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

March 31, 2025

To: [Chair Courtney Neron](#), Vice Chairs [April Dobson](#) and [Emily McIntire](#),
and members of the [House Committee on Education](#)

Re: [HB 3941](#) – Directs the Department of Education to establish and administer a grant
program for community schools – **Support**

The League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR) supports HB 3941, which establishes a grant program for community schools.

LWVOR believes that the State of Oregon should support wrap-around services for schools during and outside of instructional time and in 1989 affirmed, “that child care is a social and economic issue that reaches beyond the family into the community.”

The community school movement was founded shortly after the end of WWII by CS Mott, who recognized the need for wrap-around services for students, their families, and the community. It has since grown to all 50 states. Portland used the community school model to found its Portland Children’s Levy in 2002 that provides multiple children’s services, including an after-school and partial summer program called Schools Uniting Neighborhoods (SUN), early childhood programs, mentoring, hunger relief, and child abuse prevention and intervention.

A [2023 League study](#) reported, “Community school programs are a wise investment. A recent meta-analysis of 143 programs found that the return on investment (ROI) was up to \$15 for every dollar spent on school-based wrap-around services ([Maier, 2017](#)).” Research shows that, “out-of-school-time (OST) programs influence the participants’ success academically and in future careers. The programs even benefit future generations. The investment is worth it.”

We ask that you support HB 3941.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this legislation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Klein".

Barbara Klein
Acting President LWVOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Riley".

Katie Riley
Child Care

CC: Representative [Hoa Nguyen](#), Senator [Lew Frederick](#)