

Deputy Superintendent to Appoint Advisory Committee on Safe and Effective Schools for ALL Students

Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction Colt Gill announced today that he will appoint an Advisory Committee on Safe and Effective Schools for ALL Students, charged with returning a set of recommendations to him by June 2018.

“We have the collective responsibility to ensure that current and future students are served by an education system that works to meet their diverse needs and supports their full access to a quality education that can help secure their future success,” Gill said. “This Advisory Committee will be charged with providing recommendations to help ensure that every Oregon student experiences an inclusive, safe and welcoming learning environment.”

Gill said the Advisory Committee’s charge will be consistent with Governor Kate Brown’s directive that the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) ensure Oregon’s children, students and young people are provided the full benefit of programs as intended and consistent with the [State’s Equity Lens](#) for education. It will also serve as another action step to ensure that ODE’s focus on equity is further embedded across all departmental programs and initiatives – including in this case harassment and bullying prevention, social/emotional learning supports, trauma-informed practices and restorative justice practices -- to better serve all students on their path to graduation.

“My vision is for every student in Oregon to graduate from high school with a plan for their future and that starts with creating a safe, equitable classroom environment where everyone can focus on learning,” said Governor Kate Brown. “I look forward to the work of the Advisory Committee in ensuring that every student has the support they need to thrive.”

“Oregon’s educators and community partners working together can find the ways in which we can ensure that all public school students can be served in our schools while at the same time providing positive and safe learning spaces for students and educators in our schools. We owe this to our students,” Gill emphasized.

Gill will charge the Advisory Committee with recommending a number of items by June 2018:

- Advising on the need and development of school and community-based best practices;
- Policy recommendations for the State Board of Education, local school boards and the Legislature; and
- Related policy investments for legislative consideration in the 2019 legislative session.

Advisory Committee members will be appointed in the coming weeks and will include a diverse group of invested stakeholders from across the state. Meetings of the Advisory Committee will begin in March.