## Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet



## Yes for Teachers. Yes for Kids. Yes on Measure 26-161.

Strong public schools are the foundation of a great city; supporting families, keeping neighborhoods vital, building community and strengthening the local economy.

Portland Public Schools - serving over 48,000 students - strives for every child, in every school to succeed and reach their highest potential in life and career.

Having a high quality teacher in every classroom, and class sizes that allows for individual attention and diverse, well funded instructional programs is fundamental to reaching this goal.

Renewing Measure 26-161 means:

## More Teachers, Same Tax Rate

The current local option levy funds 600 teaching positions. Thanks to a change in state law, Portland Public Schools will be able to fund about 40 more teaching positions without ANY INCREASE IN TAXES. Currently over $\$ 7.5$ million of levy funds are siphoned off for Urban Renewal. By voting yes, we can make sure the money goes where we intend - the classroom.

## Maintaining \& Lowering Class Sizes

PPS' student enrollment is projected to grow by over 5,000 students in the next decade. Measure 26-161 will provide more teachers to help meet this demand and continue the district's efforts to lower class sizes.

## Funding Programs for a Comprehensive Education

Measure 26-161 will continue support for diverse instructional programs essential to a comprehensive education. Without the local option levy, we won't have key electives and enrichment programs.

## Independent Oversight

The local option levy requires an independent citizen oversight to ensure tax dollars are used for purposes approved by voters. The Citizen Budget Review Committee will continue to provide this oversight and funds collected from the levy will be placed in a sub-account for accurate and transparent reporting.

## Please join us in supporting Portland's children, teachers, and classrooms.

Great Schools Build a Great City
Portlanders for Schools
Congressmen Earl Blumenauer_Portand Mayor-Charlie-Hates and Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury


As active parents and volunteers, we're in our local schools every day. We know first-hand how hard everyone is working to educate our children. Teachers work tirelessly to provide students with a challenging, rigorous curriculum and individualized attention. Additional supports are provided for struggling students. And students are getting more access every year to a wellrounded education that includes music; art; physical education; and hands-on, experiential, project-based learning opportunities. As a result, student achievement in PPS is rising each year.

Alongside parents, teachers are the most important ingredient in our kids' education. A great teacher in every classroom - with reasonable class sizes that allow for individual attention - is a must. The current teacher levy in PPS pays for about 600 teachers.

By renewing this local teacher levy early - and at the exact same rate as we currently pay - PPS will be able to hire another 40-50 new teachers. That's because - under the current levy - some funds are siphoned off to pay for urban renewal. When PPS discovered this, it successfully lobbied the legislature last session and got a law changed allowing all funds collected to go to their intended purpose ... hiring teachers in PPS.

Please join us in supporting Measure 26-161! Let's ensure that Portland remains a community where families can send their kids to public schools knowing they'll have great teachers, reasonable class sizes, robust class offerings and the individualized attention they deserve.

Join us in voting YES on 26-161!
Jenni Brown, Sitton PTA President
Sharon Meigh - Chang, PTA Clothing Center
Trace Salmon, Vice President King
Heather Leek, Beverly Cleary PTA
Michael Reunert , Wilson HS PTA
Kris Anderson, Benson High School
Ken Rumbaugh, Sabin School
Brian Hoop, Skyline School

Debra Zavala, Portland Council PTA
Carol Cooper ,Volunteer
Jessica Lindley Pioneer School PTA
Roger Kirchner, Parent volunteer
Chris Wiegand ,Alameda volunteer

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## ARGUMENT IN FAVOR

## Portland Council PTA says "Vote Yes" for Students, Teachers and Schools!

For over 100 years, Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) have brought parents and teachers together as a powerful voice for children, an important resource for parents, and a strong advocate for public education.

Yet PTAs cannot replace the basics of a good education. To learn, children need:

- Great teachers in every classroom;
- Reasonable class sizes allowing individualized attention to students; and
- Enriched, well-rounded and challenging educational programs.

Portland Public Schools' current teacher levy funds about 600 teaching positions. All monies raised in Portland stay in Portland. This early renewal will allow PPS to take advantage of a law passed during the last legislative session that fixes a quirk in the funding distribution. Today, some levy funds - intended by the voters to pay for teachers - actually fund urban renewal. With the change in the law, PPS can renew its current levy at the exact same rate and collect about $\$ 4$ million more - enough to pay for over 40 additional teachers - will help fund teachers rather than urban renewal!

With this renewal, the new teacher levy will fund over 640 teaching positions in our PPS schools.

That's great news for our students and for our community!

Portland Council PTA asks you to join with your local PTA in voting YES on Measure 26-161!

Submitted by:

## Lisa Kensel, President Portland Council PTA

## Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet

County Voters' Pamphlet' with your County Electlons office. Please note that each county produces a separate County Voters' Pamphlet. If the jurlsdiction or dlstrict is located in more than one county a separate 'Measure Argument for Voters' Pamphlet' form must be filed and the fee paid to each county where the argument is to be printed.

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|  | V |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Portland Association of Teachers



Jeremy Wright
Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument Phone: Cell: (503) 358-0694

Work:

E-Mail: jeremy@wrightpublicaffairs.com

Home:



## A message from the Portland Association of Teachers

Classroom teachers across Portland know that the Local Option Levy is essential to educating our community's children.

Measure 26-161 will provide:

- More teachers and counselors in our schools
- More individualized attention for students'
- More classroom opportunities for enrichment courses

Last year, during teacher contract negotiations with Portland Public Schools, the Portland Association of Teachers - representing 3,000-plus teachers and counselors - challenged the school district to hire more teachers and to reduce class sizes.

With the economy improving we worked to ensure funds got to where they're needed most ... supporting our students.

As a result, this year, PPS hired 180 more teachers, there is counseling support in every PPS school to support struggling students, and we are beginning to reduce our student-to-teacher ratio and counselor-to-student ratio for the first time in memory.

But we can do better and Measure 26-161 gives us the opportunity to do that.
A yes vote on Measure 26-161 will fund over 600 current teaching positions supported by the Local Option Levy and add a minimum of 45 additional educators into Portland Public Schools.

This levy renewal addresses a loophole in our current levy and will ensure that funds collected to pay for teachers actually pays for teachers rather than a portion going to support urban renewal. Fixing this levy will allow PPS to hire another $45+$ teachers to better support student success without raising any taxes.

That's great for our students and it's great for Portland.

## Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet



## CITIZEN BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE SUPPORTS MEASURE 26-161

The Citizen Budget Review Committee (CBRC) is composed of volunteers appointed by the Board of Education for Portland Public Schoois (PPS) and serves in an advisory capacity. Its duties include serving as the mandated independent citizen oversight group for the Local Option Levy.

CBRC strongly supports renewing Measure 26-161 at the same tax rate and recommends a yes vote.

Local Optlon Levies are used by school districts across the state to allow communities to supplement Oregon's state school funding, still among the lowest in the country. The current levy has delivered almost $12 \%$ of PPS's annual operating budget.

Thanks to recent legislative changes, new levies are no longer subject to a diversion of funds to urban renewal. Renewing the levy now will ensure that all revenues from this levy will be used as intended by voters, producing about $\$ 4$ Million more to support schools with no additional burden on taxpayers.

CBRC has worked closely with the District to develop accounting procedures that will channel levy revenues into a separate fund, assuring voters that the levy funds can be used only for its stated purpose - putting teachers in classrooms. CBRC will continue to monitor the use of the local option funds and publish an annual report available to the public.

We urge Portiand voters to continue their strong support of public education and renew the Local Option Levy. Vote YES on Measure 26-161.

Tom Fuller, Chair, on-behalf of the funl Citizen Budget Review Committee

## Signature redacted

## Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet



## SMALL BUSINESSES SAY PLEASE VOTE YES ON 26-161

## Strong Schools are essential to Portland's neighborhoods and business districts

As local owned small business owners in Portland, we're invested in our community and we're invested in our public schools. We know that strong public schools attract employees and their families to Portland and improve our quality of life. And as small business owners, we count on our public schools to produce outstanding graduates who might, one day, work for us or support our businesses in other ways.

## An Improving Economy, Improving Schools

We've watched PPS for years and it's clear that things are looking up. Our State Legislature is beginning to re-invest in K-12 and PPS is putting that investment to good use:

- PPS added two days of school this year, giving students more instructional time.
- PPS added 180 more teachers, lowering class sizes and providing more one-on-one attention for students.
- This year, PPS has full time career coordinators in every high school supporting students as they prepare for college, career or their next step.
- A capital facilities bond is providing family wage jobs in the community as school buildings get seismic upgrades, new roofs, elevators, new science labs and other improvements.
- Most importantly, PPS' graduation rate has increased each of the past 5 years.


## A Renewal Means No Tax Increase

As small business owners we are constantly looking at the bottom line. Renewing Measure 26161 funds over 640 current teaching positions with no increase in tax rates.

## More Teachers

The net result of renewing Portland's teacher levy early is that we'll pay the same taxes as we currently pay but over $\$ 4$ million additional funds will go to PPS allowing it to hire over 40 more teachers. That's good for students and for our community. And that's good for business.

## PLEASE VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-161.

## It's a good business decision

Mike Roach - Paloma Clothing
Kim Osgood - Paloma Clothing
John Whisler - Kitchen Kaboodle
Nicholas Blosser, Chinook Book

Kourtney Nelson, Co-Owner, The Growler Guys
Timothy Bartling, Owner, Red Radish Catering


Fre med the Coalidion of Communities of COloR (CCC American, African imndisrant, AsianXPagific Islander, Latino, Native American and Slavic communities came together to form in ecoalition of commumities of Cotor(ece). We address the socioeconomic and racial and ethnic disparities experienced by our families, children and communities, seek social and policy changes that result in a thriving, more engaged community for all. and

The CCC supports the renewal of the Portland Public Schools teacher levy. The renewal of the levy will allow for the hiring of an additional 40-50 teachers while keeping the tax rate the same. Today, $47 \%$ of all PPS students are students of color and $8 \%$ emerging bilingual students. PPS is committed to implementing Oregon's Minority Teachers Act, which is the state's commitment to increasing the diversity of educator workforce.

These changes will greatly benefit all students over time. Teachers that reflect our student population are critical to preparing all youth to become tomorrow's leaders.

Four years ago the CCC successfully advocated for the creation of the PPS Racial Equity Policy, which resulted in increased dual language and family engagement programs, and a more diverse and bilingual educator workforce necessary to meet the needs of a changing student population. But we can't stop now.

PPS must continue this important work of building a high quality education program that all our children deserve. Additional diverse teachers in the classroom means more reasonable class sizes, more individualized attention for students of all backgrounds and an enriched curriculum relevant to today's young person.

Please joln us in voting YES on 26-1611

Julia Meier, CCC Executive Director<br>Gerald Deloney, CCC Co-Chair<br>Carmen Rubio, CCC Co-Chair<br>Lee Po Cha, CCC Executive Committee<br>Matt Morton, CCC Executive Committee

## Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet

Importantl Please read all Instructions before completing thls form. This form is to be used when filing a 'Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet' with your County Elections office. Please note that each county produces a separate County Voters' Pamphlet. If the jurisdiction or district is located in more than one county a separate 'Measure Argument for Voters' Pamphlet' form must be filed and the fee paid to each county where the argument is to be printed.

## Filing Information



By signing this document, I (we) hereby state I (we) am (are) responsibie for the content of this arsoment? $\mathbf{Z k s} 251.415$

| Bobbie Regan | Signature redacted |  |  |
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Organization name person(s) is(are) authorized to represent, if applicable: $\qquad$
Note: If this argument Is not being filed by a registered Oregon Poiltical Committee, you may be required to register as a polltical committee with the Secretary of State. Refer to the Campaign Finance Manual for further detalls.

## For Office Use only:



Word Count (325 max):
Digital copy? $O$ Yes

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## Measure Argument for County Voters＇Pamphlet



## VOTE YES ON MEASURE 26-161I

Our Portland Our Schools, a program of Community \& Parents for Public Schools of Portland (CPPS), urges parents and communlty members to vote YES to renew the local option levy for Portland Public Schools. Local optlon levies are used by school districts to supplement inadequate state school funding. This renewed levy will fund more teachers at no additlonal cost to taxpayers. That's good for kids, parents, and the whole community.

More money for teachers: a small portion of the revenues from the current local option levy is siphoned off for urban renewal. The legislature recently changed the law that ends this practice for new levies. Renewing the levy now will produce more money for more teachers at the same tax rate.

Same tax rate, $40+$ more teachers: using the same tax rate, this levy will bring in an additional $\$ 4$ million by ending the diversion of funds. That will pay for 40 to 50 additional teachers in the classroom, helping to lower class sizes or add electives for students.

More teachers for students who need the most help: Portland Public Schools has adopted a funding formula that sends more teachers to schools with a higher proportion of low-income students, giving them the extra support they need to succeed.

All funds will go to pay for teachers: all of the money raised by this local option will pay for teachers. And only teachers.

Accountability: Portland Public Schools has established a separate fund account for revenues from this local option levy that can be spent only on teachers' salaries. A citizen budget oversight committee monitors those funds to verify that they are being used appropriately. Our Portland, Our Schools pledges to track district spending to ensure that PPS keeps its promise to voters.

VOTE YES FOR KIDSI VOTE YES FOR OUR SCHOOLSI

Rita Moore<br>Paul Anthony<br>Ted Wolf<br>Betsy Salter<br>Mike Verbout<br>Scott Bailey<br>Will Fuller<br>Michele Arntz

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| "This information furnished by" (as it should appear in the Voters' Pamphlet): |  |  |  |
| Mike Rosen, Lisa Zuniga, Monique McClean, members of the Parents Co |  |  |  |
| Argument paid for by: |  |  |  |
| Members of the Parents Coalition |  |  |  |
| Name of person or organization paylng for argument |  |  |  |
| Contact information for authorized changes: |  |  |  |
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| $\frac{\text { Mike Rosen }}{\text { Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument }}$ E-Mail:mikanter@comcast.net |  |  |  |
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| Name of person authorized to make changes to Argument <br> Phone: Cell: (503) 309-9894 Work: <br> Work: Home: |  |  |  |
| Filer checklist for Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet (VP). |  |  |  |
| Typewritten \& signed Measure Argument form and Argument for County VP.Fee or certlfled petition provlded.(If applicable) Endorsement Statement \#: $\qquad$Word Count ( 325 MAX). |  |  |  |
| By signing this document, I (we) hereby state I (we) am (are) responsible for the content of this argume <br> Mike Rosen "Signature redacted <br> 09/07/7 |  |  |  |
| Printed name of person furnishing argument <br> Lisa Zuniga <br> Signature redacted <br> 09/07/14 |  |  |  |
| Printed name of person furnishing argument <br> Monique McClean <br> Signature redacted |  |  |  |
| $\qquad$ <br> Organization name person(s) is(are) authorized to represent, if applicable <br> Parents Coalition <br> Note: If this argument is not being filed by a registered Oregon Political Committee, you may be required to register as a political committee with the Secretary of State. Refer to the Campaign Finance Manual for further details. |  |  |  |
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# Measure Argument for County Voters' Pamphlet 

## Measure \# 26 - 1.161 (Order \#___) <br> Maximum 325 words/numbers. <br> PARENTS COALITION URGES A YES VOTE <br> AND <br> CALLS FOR MORE ACCOUNTABILITY FROM SCHOOL BOARD!

We support the renewal of the local option levy, as it will provide supports for students...in every school and in every neighborhood.

As longtime school volunteers, we know our schools and principals need more teachers, counselors, and classified staff to better support students.

## Board's Past Actions Cut Teachers and Shortchanged Students!

In the 2012-13 school year, only $17 \%$ of high school students had a full school day, primarily because the School Board made massive cuts to high school teaching staffs. Part-time high school became the norm, not the exception.

## Parents Fought Back

Parents saw students leaving high school unprepared for college or work. We mobilized to restore teachers and end the practice of part-time school, and filed a formal complaint with the Oregon Department of Education, which found PPS in violation of state rules on instructional hours.

## Accountability to Students, Parents, Taxpayers

These local option funds are needed for schools and classrooms. To ensure they actually end up there, we must hold the School Board accountable.

This measure says there will be "independent citizen oversight to review expenditures." This should NOT be another handpicked group of rubber-stampers selected to avoid scrutiny.

Vote Yes and send a strong message to PPS School Board to:
prioritize students in all grades and all schools OVER funding administration and pay raises for central office administrators;
add teachers and support staff to Grant, Wilson, Cleveland, Lincoln, Franklin, and Madison-the comprehensive neighborhood high schools that have been chronically understaffed;
implement education recommendations from the 2013 Internal Auditor report that found PPS was gctting worse results despite spending more money per student than comparable districts; continue equity funding.

Submitted by parents Mike Rosen, Lisa Zuniga, Monique McClean, Amy Carlsen Kohnstamm, members of the Parents Coalition.

Follow us on Facebook: SE Parents Coalition, NE Parents Coalition, Wilson-Lincoln Parents Coalition. Email: fullschoolday@yahoo.com

