



A charitable gift annuity can **GUARANTEE INCOME FOR LIFE.**
 » CONSULT WITH OUR GIFT PLANNING DIRECTOR TODAY



Sign in to OregonLive.com »
 Not a member? Register Now »

Site Search Search Local Business Listings

Search by keyword, town name, Web ID and more...

- [Home](#)
 - [News](#)
 - [Opinion](#)
 - [Sports](#)
 - [Entertainment](#)
 - [Living](#)
 - [Interact](#)
 - [Jobs](#)
 - [Autos](#)
 - [Real Estate](#)
 - [Classifieds](#)
 - [Shop](#)
 - [Place An Ad](#)
- [News](#) [Business](#) [Education](#) [Environment](#) [Metro](#) [Obits](#) [Photos](#) [Politics](#) [Special Coverage](#) [US & World](#) [Weather](#) [more News](#)

OREGON EDUCATION

News on public, private and state schools and teachers

INSIDE EDUCATION with The Oregonian

- [Oregon Education](#)
- [Oregon Graduations](#)
- [Oregon News](#)
- [School Closures](#)
- [Classroom Tools](#)
- [School Subscriptions](#)
- [Contact Information](#)
- [Oregonian Newspaper](#)
- [Feedback and Questions](#)

Browse by month:

Select a date

GO ▶

CHALK IT UP

- [Oregon university presidents take pay cuts](#) 10:00 a.m. PT
- [Study shows youth have more mental health issues now than in 1938](#) 5:02 p.m. PT
- [OSU reinventing itself, president says](#) 2:45 p.m. PT

[MORE CHALK IT UP](#) »

ADVERTISEMENT

[Breaking News, Chalk It Up](#) »

Oregon gets huge buy-in for its Race to the Top plan

By **Betsy Hammond, The Oregonian**
 January 19, 2010, 2:51PM



Associated Press

U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan and President Barack Obama talked up their Race to the Top initiative at a Virginia elementary school today.

U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan made it crystal clear today that two big factors will determine which few states will win a share of his **\$4 billion Race to the Top fund** this spring:

How bold the innovations a state proposes *and* how large and unified the coalition committed to making the innovations happen.

It's unclear how Oregon will stack up on the first criterion. But the application, submitted today by **Gov. Ted Kulongoski** and state schools

Superintendent Susan Castillo, shows Oregon has it in spades on that second factor.

The big victory for architects of Oregon's application is their success in **getting the state teachers union to sign on**. Fewer than 28 states have the full support of their state union, so it's no accident the **Oregon Education Association** is placed first on the list of enthusiastic supporters for Oregon's plan.

But the list runs for three pages and spans the gamut, from the Republican leaders of the state House and Senate to the state PTA and school boards association to national figures such as the National Council of La Raza and the **education leadership program at Harvard University**.

Also lending support to Oregon's bid for the national award: Intel, Nike, **Oregon's charter school association**, **the state's biggest test developer** and the leaders of the state university system.

And then there are the 93 Oregon school districts that signed on take part, including **Portland, Beaverton, Hillsboro** and North Clackamas. Statewide, three-fourths of schools, serving 77 percent of Oregon students, are in.

Oregon Education headlines

- [Portland nonprofit distributes surplus food from grocers, restaurants to those in need](#)
- [Oregon gas terminals' futures hang on global supplies](#)
- [Oregon university presidents take pay cuts](#)
- [Hit-run car injures two students near Franklin High in Portland](#)

More: [Oregon Education News](#) »

Follow OregonLive.com News

- [Twitter](#)
- [Facebook](#)

How **BIG** is your **WEIGHT LOSS** goal?

5-25 lbs ▶

25-50 lbs ▶

50+ lbs ▶

JILLIAN MICHAELS

YOUR SCHOOLS: TEST SCORES

Find out how your school stacks up under state and federal standards:

- [Search by school or district](#)
- [Understand the data](#)



[TEST SCORES, FEDERAL RATINGS & MORE](#) »

three tenths of schools, serving 77 percent of Oregon students, are in

Duncan's comments today said that huge sign-on bodes well. Forty states applied, and most will lose in the first round, he said. Winners will be announced in April.

"We will be investing in states where all the adults there are working together. We want to invest in places that are collaborating and have a collective willingness to challenge the status quo," he said.

States that get a lot of buy-in by watering down the proposals won't win, however, he said.

"This is not a race to the middle. This is a race to the top. We are convinced we are going to have a set of states that are able to push a very strong reform agenda and also get all the adults working together."

- **Betsy Hammond**

EDUCATION RESOURCES

- [Blue Book education resources](#)
- [Oregon Dept. of Education](#)
- [Oregon State University](#)
- [Portland State University](#)
- [University of Oregon](#)

Zion Academy - K-12

Homeschooling advantages under an accredited Private School. K-12
www.ZionAcademy.com

"New Smokeless Cigarette"

Smoke where you want, when you want. No second hand smoke or ashtrays.
National-Dental-Society.org

Obama Urges Refinance

\$180,000 Refinance \$939/mo. See Rates- No Credit Check Req.
www.LowerMyBills.com

Recommend (0)

[Print this](#) [Email this](#) [Share this:](#)

Previous story: Employers seek well-spoken, problem-solving grads

Next story: What's controversial in Oregon school reform? Duh -- merit pay

Story tags: [duncan](#) | [education](#) | [oregon](#) | [oregon education association](#) | [race to the top](#)

Comments (13 total) [RSS](#) [Post a comment](#)

Oldest comments are shown first. [Show newest comments first](#)



Posted by **The Daredevil**
January 19, 2010, 3:29PM

Why didn't you provide links to Intel, Nike, National Council of La Raza & Republican in your story? Seems biased.

[Inappropriate comment? Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **betsyhammond**
January 19, 2010, 3:44PM

Excellent question!
I provided links to organizations for which I did not provide the proper name, such as Northwest Evaluation Association, the Northwest Center for Education Options or the Harvard Graduate School of Education Doctoral Program in Education Leadership. (I left out their proper names because I thought readers might not be familiar with them or because their names are too darn long.) I did not provide links for Intel, Nike or La Raza because I figured readers know about them already or can easily Google them to learn more, since I provided the correct name.
To be honest, it's also a time management issue (maybe another term for that is laziness). I have other tasks to start, so I don't provide every link possible. Do readers really click through on them?

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **obamasarmy**
January 19, 2010, 3:50PM

Unions signing up to exploit more money? I can believe this; must be a misprint.

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **The Daredevil**
January 19, 2010, 3:51PM

Thank you for your answer. Some do. Some readers research things, too.

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **Resistol**
January 19, 2010, 4:03PM

"Unions signing up to exploit more money? I can believe this; must be a misprint."

You need to move to Texas. Gov. Rick Perry refuses to participate... he says it's all a Federal plot against the state. You two would get along perfectly... two peas in an anti-government pod.

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **shallowender**
January 21, 2010, 10:59AM

You mean the guy who is trying to deal with a \$10 Billion shortfall for the year and blames it on all the minimum wage jobs that he "created"?

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **beavswin**
January 19, 2010, 4:25PM

Gee, I thought we had already "reformed" education with the CIM/CAM scam. We aren't at the top yet?

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **arresteddevt**
January 19, 2010, 4:38PM

Resistol,
You're going to let Washington, DC (more big government) run Oregon education? Be careful for what you ask for, you might get it.

From the Houston Chronicle (what is not printed in The Oregonian):
[Perry said last week that Texas wouldn't compete for up to \$700 million available in the "Race to the Top" fund because the state would lose autonomy in educating children.]

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **Resistol**
January 19, 2010, 5:00PM

Arrested development:
Yeah. What I said.
Do you know why the Feds are involved in education to begin with? Hint:
Think color. Think poverty.

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **rykats**
January 19, 2010, 5:29PM

I love the concept that teachers will be fired, removed for poor student scores on tests. I even like the idea that teachers can earn bonus money for doing a great job, but it should be "significantly" great--beyond reasonable expectations for pay received to start with. Unfortunately, we know change will never happen. Administrators will protect their old pals in the classrooms. The tenured faculty will avoid removal by taking a district office job. It's like any other profession, friends and colleagues look out for each other. Teaching is no different. But the new teachers will be targets and scapegoats. These promising stars will be chewed up in a system that will do very little to support them. Newbies and subs will take the blame--out they'll go! Meanwhile, administrators and old-timers will make excuses, print bogus studies and policies that do and say nothing to address the real problems--clearly. Chairs on the Titanic will be shuffled again. This is an endless cycle. Taxpayers take a punch in the gut again. What a waste. The system is corrupt.

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **obamasarmy**
January 19, 2010, 5:40PM

A girl I know wrote gullible on the ceiling of her school. She kept telling people that the word was written on the ceiling.

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **baddogcarl**
January 19, 2010, 5:48PM

These comments/questions:

1. Big Coalition! What have they committed to doing, exactly?
2. How many School Districts (the ones that actually have to do something) submitted MOU's by the deadline?
3. What in the application qualifies as a bold innovation? Tracking test scores by teacher? It's toothless enough that the union agreed to it, probably doesn't

register on the 'bold' meter!

It's very disappointing that the Charter Association would support this. It's amazing what people will do in order to try to buy a seat at the table for the next conversation.

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)



Posted by **bpeterson1931**

January 20, 2010, 9:35AM

Since the 1980s we have had a string of political and economic problems that have affected education. Rather than solve these underlying problems it appears that we are going to pour money into the assessment business, and rely on Federal programs like Race To The Top (RT3). All forms of testing and assessment extract energy and money from the system. In connection with RT3, I would think that distributing Federal education funds based on competition as opposed to need would be unconstitutional. Also RT3 holds children hostage to the nature of a State's political characteristics and to any peculiarities in judging the competition. I would suggest that the first steps in fixing the system would be to insure that every teacher has appropriate sized classes, a first class educational environment, and a reasonable wage. For students I would recommend a TLC environment with proper nutrition, parents with jobs that provide a reasonable income for the hours worked, and a home not in foreclosure.

[Inappropriate comment?](#) [Alert us.](#)

[Reply to this comment](#) | [Post a new comment](#)

You must sign in to post a comment.

Sign in to OregonLive.com

Username Password

Don't have an account?

[Register Now!](#)

We've upgraded our community features on OregonLive.com

[Learn more! >>](#)



Site Search

Search Local Business Listings

[Site Map](#) | [Advertise](#) | [Contact us](#)

[▶ Make us your home page](#)

[Home](#) | [News](#) | [Weather](#) | [Sports](#) | [Entertainment](#) | [Living](#) | [Interact](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Autos](#) | [Real Estate](#) | [Classifieds](#) | [Shopping](#) | [Place an Ad](#)

- [Your Photos](#)
- [Your Videos](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Forums](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Music](#)

- [Post a job](#)
- [Post a free classified ad](#)
- [Sell your car](#)
- [Sell/rent your home](#)
- [Apartments & rentals](#)
- [Claim your Business Listing for free](#)

- [Obits / Death Notices](#)
- [Business News](#)
- [Environmental News](#)
- [Contests](#)
- [Dining](#)
- [Movies](#)

- [Subscribe to our content \(RSS\)](#)
- [News alerts | Sports alerts](#)
- [Twitter feed](#)
- [OregonLive.com Multimedia](#)
- [View OregonLive.com mobile site](#)
- [View mobile product offerings](#)



[The Oregonian](#) - [The Oregonian Business Center](#) | [Hillsboro Argus](#)

© 2010 Oregon Live LLC. All Rights Reserved ([About Us](#)). Use of this site constitutes acceptance of our [User Agreement](#). Please read our [Privacy Policy](#). [Community Rules](#) apply to all content you upload or otherwise submit to this site. [Contact interactivity management](#).