

OREGONASK PROJECT UPDATE, MARCH 2022

EXPANDED LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

New to OregonASK Partner Meeting

OregonASK is hosting its quarterly partner committee meeting on March 4th from 9 am-11 am. We invite all incoming and existing partners to join in on this virtual meeting in order to receive updates on what the network has been working on, provide feedback to help guide and impact our work, and to connect and build relationships with other partners. If you are new to OregonASK, [click here](#) to read more about our work and [RVSP here](#) for the virtual meeting. We hope to see you there!

Commitment to Quality

Several years ago, Oregon launched our *This Is Afterschool* video series, to highlight programs who are continually demonstrating a commitment to one of the core quality components we are working to support. Amid updates to COVID guidance, work on school age license rules, and continued training needs for so many new hires, we are looking at how we can continue supporting programs in this work. This work will include review of Oregon Quality Standards and competencies, along with templates or tools for supporting equitable practices through document such as handbooks.

Healthy Schools CDC Grant

Partnering with Oregon Department of Education, OregonASK is working alongside statewide partners to support the Oregon Healthy Schools initiative funded by the CDC. This is a 5 year grant that focuses on the whole school, whole community, whole child model (WSCC). OregonASK aims to include out-of-school time partners and increase the health of Oregon's youth through collaborative community efforts. Videos about this work are being produced to showcase the importance of the WSCC model, and focus on social-emotional support, physical activity and family engagement.

School and AfterSchool Wellness Awards

The Oregon Department of Education, the Nutrition Council of Oregon, the Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council, and OregonASK teamed up again to acknowledge two exemplary School & Afterschool Programs for creating and sustaining a culture of wellness for youth and staff. With consideration to the current circumstances, the application was simplified to reflect just selected categories of work. Winners will receive statewide recognition, a personalized plaque, and a custom banner, as well as a monetary award to be used to further nutrition, physical activity, and/or other wellness efforts within their school/program. Winners will be announced this month. [Check out this video](#) to learn more.

Day One Tech PDX

OregonASK helped Day One Tech PDX (DOTPDX) apply for and fiscally manage a CARES-funded grant to provide immediate relief services to youth and families last fall. This relationship allows a small direct service provider to make the most of Federal relief funds while focusing efforts on supporting youth and family engagement during this especially challenging time. Last summer, DOTPDX was able to continue providing services and run summer programming, including using OSMO kits at parks and partner locations throughout East County. Contact Founder Benjamin Lostheart with questions or inquiries; benjamin@dayonetechpdx.com.

North East STEAM Coalition

OregonASK has joined the Policy and Data subcommittees to support systems level efforts for engaging and inspiring young people of Northeast Portland. Contact [Wade Hopkins](#), the director at North East STEAM Coalition, for more information.

East Metro STEAM Partnership (EMSP)

As one of the state funded STEM Hubs, they collaborate with district, community, industry and expanded learning partners to support STEM learning for K-12. They have an active Youth Advisory Council and action teams. For more information about EMSP, you may contact the EMSP Director, Jarvez Hall, jhall@mesd.k12.or.us.

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POLICY

[CLICK HERE](#) to see Oregon specific reports, such as our Summer 2021 and Return on Investment

Mask mandate update

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will lift statewide mask requirements in schools March 12th. OHA is currently working on distributing high quality masks to community organizations such as schools, to protect the high risk individuals who require access to masks even after the lift occurs. After the mask mandate is lifted in schools, school districts will be the ultimate decision-makers moving forward. Be sure to read the [Mask Requirement FAQ](#) and find access to [COVID-19 Test and PPE available HERE for community Organizations](#).

School Age Child Care Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC)

The Early Learning Division is seeking diverse applicants to serve on the RAC committee. This is an opportunity for community members to help assist agency staff with shaping and developing rule language to carry out implementation of the school age rule set and positively impact school-age child care programs across Oregon. To apply, simply complete the RAC application which can be found on the [ELD website](#) and submit the packet as a PDF to kelly.scales@ode.oregon.gov by Friday, March 11. Feel free to Contact Kelly Scales at (971) 304-4001 or by email if you have questions.

Summer Learning Survey

The historic 2021 Summer Learning and Child Care funding package transformed the landscape of summer learning in Oregon, making publicly-funded summer learning opportunities available at a scale that has never been seen before. With funding support from the National Conference of State Legislatures, OregonASK conducted the Summer Learning Survey, and published a report exploring what the funding package made possible. The full report, [Whatever it Takes: Summer 2021](#), offers a glimpse of what summer looked like across the state in 2021, including data about when and where programming was offered, analysis of funding streams and school-community partnerships. Check out recommendations in our [Summer 2021 Executive Summary](#) and [Summer 2021 At Glance](#).

Equitable STEM & CTE Committee

Over the last 8 years, OregonASK has broadened our connection and commitment to equitable STEAM opportunities, rooted in our convening of the Oregon Girls Collaborative. Now, our equitable STEM & CTE committee has been able to share insightful guidance in goals, outreach and implementation that keep equity at the forefront. This work is centralized around our goals to align Million Girls Moonshot, Entrepreneurship, and our own commitments to equity through quality.

Career Connections

We were pleased to work alongside workforce investment boards for our 2020 report on Reimagining Youth to Work Systems, followed by the passage of state legislation that supported summer youth employment and an evaluation of work readiness programs. Recently, Bethany Thrasher was selected to join the ESSER Set Aside for Career Connected Learning design team. We are excited to include expanded learning partners in this strategic planning and consider how Possible Futures and other entrepreneurship pilots may strengthen broad STEM, CTE & career-connected learning efforts statewide.

Entrepreneurship Opportunity Grant

We will be offering training and identifying potential sites to help pilot entrepreneurial based programming this summer. An entrepreneurial mindset includes essential skills that help all youth be successful and Expanded learning should be an intentional part of the pathway that leads youth to the possible futures they dream of.

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

View all [Upcoming Training Opportunities](#)

Spring training opportunities 2022

[Spring into Summer Brunch Bites](#)

We look forward to offering a selection of 1 hour trainings throughout April and May to get programs excited and ready for the summer. Webinars will be offered twice each week and include STEM, Entrepreneurship, Service Learning, Engaging Youth, Healing Centered approaches, and more.

Training in Spanish

Join the conversation about how we can work together with families to support the optimal development of children in our programs. This training will be given in Spanish as participants examine their own programmatic systems which support the daily interactions between staff and participants in their programs. Participants will explore strategies on how to engage families in their programs as well as examine their current practices to understand how they can be more inclusive of the families they serve. [Register Here!](#)

Inclusion Base Camp series

From Feb-March we offered an Inclusion Base Camp Cohort, which provided an opportunity for expanded learning program staff to build confidence and capacity to successfully include children and youth with disabilities or additional needs in meaningful ways. This cohort built a cohesive vision of inclusion and behavior support, enhanced their understanding of general behavior challenges, identified supports and resources available, and explored inclusive best practices using a strength-based approach. We hope to provide a similar cohort this August and find additional opportunities for deepening learning on inclusivity in expanded learning.

Discover Science with Dr Bear

We partnered up to provide Discover SCIENCE with Dr. Bear in December and again March 5th. This is part of a national pilot using STEM-focused curriculum with preventative health activities to children and families in K-5, using hands-on, brains-on, art-focused activities in a variety of settings. Participants who utilize the curriculum and complete the survey will be eligible for a \$25 gift card. If you are interested in participating in this FREE training, [click here](#) to register.

Collaborative Service through Process-Based Art, March 15th

CoLab is a course of programming that leads youth through the exploration of process-based art as they share their voices and ideas with their community. Youth start by exploring painting, sculpture, video, animation, or sound and find a path for using these modes of expression to provide meaningful, collaborative service in response to a local need. OregonASK will be there with you every step of the way to provide useful resources and guidance. [Register HERE to join the 6-8pm training](#)

Open Minds, Open Spaces Multi-State Conference

OregonASK hosted the 13th annual Oregon Afterschool Conference on October 21st - 23rd, 2021, in connection with our 2nd annual Open Minds, Open Spaces multistate event. Over the three days, we offered 27 workshop sessions on a wide range of topics from culturally responsive practices, Art, STEAM, Trauma-informed practices and leadership. We look forward to repeating the virtual, 7 state conference this fall. Keep an eye out for more information about conference opportunities for 2022.