

What is the Lake Oswego School District Foundation?

The Foundation is an independent, non-profit corporation that was organized in 1986 to support the Lake Oswego schools. In 1993, the scope of the Foundation was expanded to respond to reduced school funding and we determined that our primary focus would be improving the student-teacher ratio by providing funds to hire teachers.

The Foundation is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors made up of business, community, and educational leaders.

Support from the Foundation is a crucial component of the District's ability to meet community expectations for the education of our students. It has kept us afloat during periods of severe downsizing and funding cuts. Foundation efforts continue to be essential in preparing our children for the highly competitive and evolving world ahead.

Why do we need a Foundation?

When school funding was centralized in Salem in 1990, all districts lost the ability to set their own budgets and began to rely on the State government to allocate per pupil funding. The dollar amount provided is below what is needed to sustain the high quality of schools this community feels is appropriate, and far below what the community used to raise through property taxes. Eighty percent of the School District's budget pays salaries—less money means fewer teachers.

Our mission is to sustain the tradition of outstanding schools in Lake Oswego

Since 1997, the Foundation has provided yearly funding for at least 10 and as many as 33 teachers at all grade levels and in all schools.

Through the work of the Foundation, low student-teacher ratios has paid high dividends resulting in:

- ✓ exceptional student performance;
- ✓ high graduation rates;
- ✓ large percentage of college bound students;
- ✓ every school in the district receiving an "Outstanding" rating by the State of Oregon on the State Report Card.
- ✓ giving our children the very best education possible!

Contributions to the Foundation are exempt from federal income tax under section 170c of the Internal Revenue Code. Tax ID Number 94-3028590



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Lake Oswego School District FOUNDATION



*Investing in the Future—
for Our Children & Our Community*



Your Donation Benefits Every Child in Every School!

How does the Foundation raise money?

The Foundation conducts a school-based campaign beginning in February. Teams of parent volunteers in each school approach other parents, discuss the work of the Foundation and ask for support. This is followed in April by the Phonathon when volunteers contact members of the larger Lake Oswego community by phone and ask for support.

Other revenue sources are business programs, corporate matching funds, an endowment fund, direct mail and special events. An additional opportunity to donate is provided by a year-end appeal, allowing supporters to maximize year-end tax advantages with their donation.

What is the difference between PTO fundraising and the Foundation?

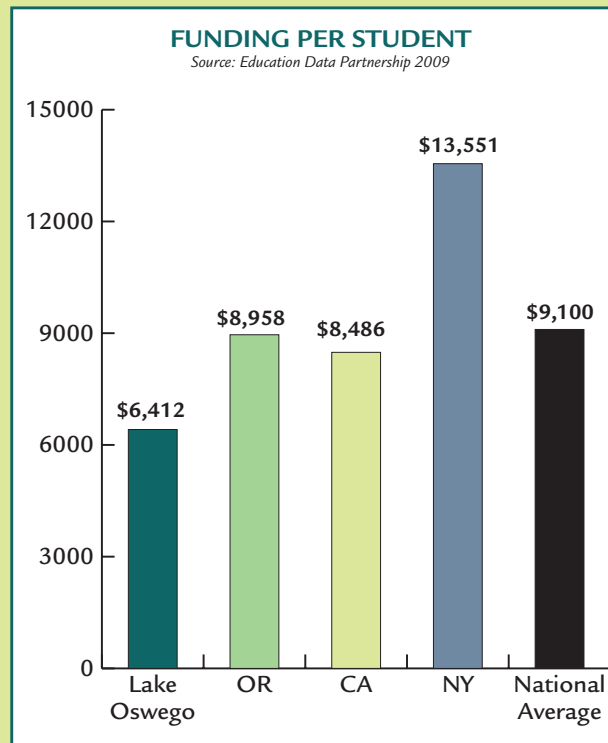
PTO's raise money for individual schools to fund teaching supplies, playground equipment, computers, etc.

The Lake Oswego School District Foundation raises money solely to fund teacher salaries. This money is distributed district wide by the superintendent and the school board.

Ninety-four percent of all money donated to the Foundation goes toward the hiring of teachers. Fundraising costs, such as printing, mailing and advertising make up the other six percent of the annual budget.

How much are you asking for?

Every year, the state determines its per pupil spending. Unfortunately, this barely covers rising expenses and mandated programs. Without Foundation dollars, programs in music, science, PE & art would not be possible and class sizes would be larger. After evaluating how much is needed to bridge the state funding gap and maintaining the programs that our children need to succeed, LOSDF establishes its annual campaign goal. Based on this amount, we have a suggested donation per child. Please call the Foundation office or visit the web site to see the suggested donation for the current school year.



As illustrated by this graph, Lake Oswego's funding falls substantially below the state average. Oregon's funding falls below the national average.

I can not afford the suggested donation per student. What should I do?

We would like for you to contribute what is comfortable for you. Every donation, however small, makes a difference. LOSDF is not endowed by a few wealthy donors, it is the thousands of individual donations that collectively add up to the grand total raised each year. We strive for 100% participation.

You can donate a lump sum or make convenient monthly or quarterly donations.

How do I make a donation?

- **Donate online** at www.losdfoundation.org using Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express, or with a virtual check from your checking account. You can make a one-time donation or choose to donate monthly.
- **Donate by phone** by calling (503) 534-2302 between the hours of 7:30 am-4:30 pm Pacific, Monday through Friday.
- **Donate by mail:** please send checks to: P.O. Box 70, Lake Oswego, OR 97034
- **Donate through your employer's** corporate matching funds program.
- **Donate to our endowment fund:** "Leave a Lasting Legacy" through planned giving to the William & Dorothy Stafford Society Endowment Fund, or consider a charitable remainder unitrust or a gift of securities.