Dear OEIB:

I am a teacher in the Beaverton School District. Next school year, we are scheduled to slash over 330 jobs in our district. Class sizes are projected to be in the vicinity of 41-45 students. As an English teacher, this is totally untenable. There is no suitable way to *effectively* teach writing to that many students. I will have responsibility for over 200 students during the week.

Something must be done to fully fund public education. The solution isn't more high-stakes testing, or curriculum dictated by the federal government (probably devised by someone other than professional educators).

Curriculum seems to be narrowing. Class sizes are expanding. Teacher morale is at an all-time low. And believe me -- students see they are not receiving the education that they should be, thanks to the lack of funding of schools.

Somehow, legislators in Salem have to come to grips with finding money to effectively fund education. Why not start with corporations? I see corporate profits are not hurting in the current recession. Also, kill the kicker. Take any extra tax money and funnel it directly to schools..

As an educator, I will band with like-minded folks and we will dedicate ourselves to making education a priority in this state.

Very truly yours,

Bruce Burkhartsmeier
Portland, OR