

Rainier School District #13

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December 11, 2023

Dear Oregon School Board Association,

During our regular board meeting in November, the Rainier School Board participated in the OSBA election process. Through the review of OSBA bylaws, we found one section particularly concerning and unclear. It is the hope of the Rainier School Board that OSBA will review the bylaws in question and consider modifications.

The Rainier School District is a small, rural school district located in Rainier, OR. During the OSBA conference, the Oregon Small Schools Association hosted a breakfast which the OSBA Executive Director attended. During his remarks, he explained how OSBA values the voices of small school districts. While we found the Executive Director's message encouraging, the bylaws do not portray the same value.

According to Section 2.4.2(a-d), "For the purposes of approving a resolution, each member shall have one vote on all resolutions except as follows...". The section continues to outline the number of votes allocated to districts of varying size. The Rainier School Board would respectfully request that OSBA consider amending this bylaw, allowing all school districts in Oregon to have an equal role in decision making. Providing larger districts with more than one vote is contrary to the Executive Director's message and believe that it creates an inequitable practice because some decisions of OSBA would have a disproportionately bigger impact to small school districts.

The Rainier School Board would like to thank the board and staff of OSBA for their service. We are hopeful that this request be presented to the board and considered. This would have a positive impact on ensuring all districts have a voice and are considered in every decision, regardless of size.

With great respect,

The Rainier School Board #13