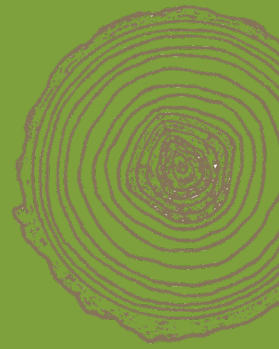




# Friends of Outdoor School

## *Your Investments at Work in 2022*



As a member of the Outdoor School Community Network, your kindness has been vital to supporting Outdoor School as students returned to sites in-person and often overnight, gathering Outdoor School staff to work together to make Outdoor School a career worth investing in, and facilitating a meaningful and equitable experience for high school leaders. Thank you for your generosity! Your gift helped to:



### **Connect**

- Facilitate conversations among Outdoor School programs to develop a professional workforce of educators and support staff and improve recruitment and hiring.
- Gather the Outdoor School Community Network to celebrate and champion Outdoor School to become a place where every child can belong.
- Connect Outdoor School providers to resources they need to be ready to support students returning not only to Outdoor School but to all aspects of life despite the continuing pandemic.
- Collaborate on evaluation and research projects that examine the positive outcomes of Outdoor School while illuminating pathways for continuous program improvements.



### **Support**

- Help Outdoor School providers navigate a safe return to in-person Outdoor School amid the continuing uncertainty of the pandemic.
- Document the benefits of Outdoor School to students, especially by gathering their stories in their own voices.
- Gather and work with current Outdoor School staff and program administration to make Outdoor School a more stable, inclusive, and accessible long-term career.
- Work with the Oregon Department of Education to establish a statewide system to evaluate the outcomes of Outdoor School for students.



### **Advocate**

- Champion funding for Outdoor School programs and sites to engage in training, planning, and implementing projects to promote access, equity, diversity, and inclusion at Outdoor School.
- Collaborate with the Oregon Department of Education to realign science learning standards for 6th grade to ensure that Outdoor School supports teachers' classroom goals.
- Work with the Oregon Department of Education to find mechanisms to identify and remove barriers to full participation for all Oregon students at Outdoor School.
- Engage legislators and other decision-makers with personal tours at Outdoor School to continue full state funding.
- Share personal stories about Outdoor School with legislators and other elected officials.
- Position Outdoor School as an option for high school students to achieve their learning requirements.

**Our Vision: Outdoor School is a place where every child can belong.**



# Friends of Outdoor School

## *On the Horizon for 2023*



Now that students are back to overnight Outdoor School this fall, we can focus on the coming year. As we connect with Outdoor School throughout the state and provide support to programs and sites about how we all can improve, we are working together to make Outdoor School a place where every child can belong. A major priority for the coming year is to once again secure full state funding for Outdoor School. With your gift, Friends of Outdoor School will:



### **Connect**

- Gather the Outdoor School community across the state to help folks feel more connected to Outdoor School and to one another.
- Build collaborative relationships with community partners to provide valuable resources to the Outdoor School Networks and build our larger community.
- Provide avenues for Outdoor School educators to build their skills and expertise.
- Promote ways for the Outdoor School community to connect with one another and enjoy time outdoors.



### **Support**

- Help establish and improve high school leadership programs at Outdoor School across the state.
- Work to strengthen the network of Outdoor School educators across the state and help connect them to resources specific to their needs.
- Guide Outdoor School educators in planning a gathering directly addressing their unique needs.
- Continue to champion and support efforts to build a professional Outdoor School workforce that can become a lifelong career.



### **Advocate**

- Advocate with the Governor and Legislature for full state Outdoor School funding for the 2023-2025 budget cycle.
- Build relationships with newly elected legislators and the new Governor to help them learn about how important Outdoor School is for students.
- Continue to connect with returning legislators to remind them of what Outdoor School means to students and communities.
- Share the voices of the Outdoor School community about the benefits of Outdoor School for Oregon kids
- Work to help the Oregon Department of Education to be able to collect data to ensure access to Outdoor School for every student in Oregon.

