



OPEN SCHOOL EAST

EQUITY + ADVOCACY + EDUCATION

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Open School East is a high school program that helps students in grades 9-12 get on-track to graduate and transition into post-secondary pathways. We partner with six school districts in East Multnomah County (Centennial, David Douglas, Gresham Barlow, Parkrose, Reynolds, and Portland Public) to find students who need something different than a traditional school environment. We surround those students with inclusive classrooms, relationship-based advocacy and academics tailored to them. There is no cost to attend Open School East.

ENROLLMENT

Only 25 spots per grade level
Available for 9th - 12th grade students

CONTACT

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WHY OPEN SCHOOL

Relational + Relevant

At Open School we prepare students to reach their academic and personal goals. We are committed to developing meaningful relationships with students and families that keep everyone engaged, learning, and connected.

Identity Affirming

We are committed to a school culture that allows every student to show up as their authentic selves.

- Teachers, staff, and administration who are as diverse as our students

Academics

Every teacher at Open School believes in your child and sees all students as capable learners. With this belief in mind, we provide:

- Tailored support around designing a path toward graduation and beyond so that all students have the basics for adulthood
- Credit recovery opportunities that support students throughout the journey to graduation
- Culturally conscious curriculum and practices in classrooms
- A focus on equity and self-advocacy so that classrooms make students feel seen and heard
- Opportunity exposure by access to career and learning trips

Advocacy and Social/Emotional Support

- Mentoring groups led by Teacher/Advocates
- Student and family support provided by our in-house Social Worker
- Direct social-emotional learning support and skill building
- Trauma-informed care, including trauma-informed school scheduling that responds to the deep impacts of the pandemic

Family Outreach and Partnership

We believe our families are experts on what's best for their child. Therefore we:

- Provide consistent and caring communication between teachers and parents
- Maintain a strength-based approach to students and families
- Establish school and family partnerships to support student success

Our Mission:

Open School's mission is to serve students who have been underserved and underestimated. We lead an educational community based on advocacy, equity, and academics. Our programs support students on their journey to break limiting beliefs, navigate systemic oppression, and build their life goals.

Our Vision:

We envision a community in which every student thrives regardless of race or zip code. To achieve this vision, we are building a movement for equitable education that will influence the way educational systems across our region serve students who are impacted by systemic oppression.

We Know...

American society and traditional education systems are full of inequities based on differences in race, wealth, ethnicity, gender identity, ability, sexual orientation, religion, and body type. These inequities create systemic barriers that have impacted our students and their families for generations. These barriers limit our students' ability to succeed academically and achieve their personal goals.

We Believe...

All students can learn in an environment that meets them where they are and celebrates their unique skills, background, and gifts. Students who face barriers possess strengths such as perseverance, problem solving, and determination that help them advocate for themselves and others in their community. All students deserve a caring community of support and quality education that adapts to their learning styles and exposes them to career and life opportunities.

We Lead In...

ADVOCACY: Strengths-based relationships between students and Advocates that empower students to use their own voice to advocate for themselves

EQUITY: Diverse and inclusive community for students and families to partner in their education journey

ACADEMICS: Relevant and responsive programming that prepares students for graduation and their desired post-secondary path