



**REASONS TO BE AN ACTIVE PAT MEMBER**

**Be a leader in creating the Schools Portland Students Deserve.**

A diverse group of Portland educators and PAT leaders drafted a vision for Portland’s public schools and an action plan to make it a reality; the work continues. The vision includes:

- A well-rounded education to encourage creativity, with art, PE, and music
- Resources allocated to classroom instruction, not new central office positions
- Educators allowed to exercise professional judgment, plan their lessons, and collaborate with members of the school community

**Be a voice in running your union.**

- Participate in decision-making for the Portland Association of Teachers and its state (OEA) and national (NEA) organizations
- Elect union leaders, run for union office
- Become a member of PAT, OEA and NEA committees
- Make key decisions to improve working conditions in your school

**Enjoy Protection as an Individual.**

- \$1 million educators’ liability policy for civil claims related to employment
- Reimbursement of attorneys’ fees in successful defense of criminal charges related to employment

**Work together for children and education.**

- Improve learning conditions and wrap-around supports for our students
- Insure that each educator has the resources, mentoring and support every professional needs

**Bargain a strong contract.**

- Bargain working conditions that attract and retain quality educators
- Bargain contract provisions that guarantee a respectful working environment with just cause and due process protections

**Advocate for Social Justice.**

- Promote equity of opportunity for all students, regardless of their zip code
- Engage with members of other unions to work on social, economic and civil rights justice issues

**Membership Doesn’t Cost – It Pays!**

- Collective strength means power to gain improvements in salary, benefits and working conditions through collective bargaining
- Greater buying power, providing for members-only benefits such as service and merchandise discounts for auto and insurance, travel, credit cards, etc.

**Engage with other educators – and have fun!**

- Join the Advocacy, Instructional & Professional Development, Legislative or other committees to impact your job and profession
- Bring your family to the annual PAT picnic or other union events
- Engage in professional discussions
- Whatever your interest, membership in PAT has something to offer