Top Reasons to Be a PAT Member

Bargain a Strong Contract
There’s power in numbers. Collectively, we were able to bargain:

- Reasonable class sizes, professional pay, improved health care, and retirement benefits
- Working conditions that attract and retain quality educators to make a career in education a viable profession
- Language guaranteeing a respectful work environment with just cause and due process protections

Enjoy Personal Protection
- $1 million educators’ liability policy for civil claims related to employment
- Legal representation in TSPC investigations
- Reimbursement of attorneys’ fees in successful defense of criminal charges related to employment

Advocate for Racial Equity and Social Justice
- Promote equity of opportunity for all students, regardless of their zip code
- Join forces with other educators and members of other unions to impact social, economic, and civil rights justice issues

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

Membership Doesn’t Cost — It Pays!
- Have access to financial, advocacy, professional practice, licensure and other trainings
- Improve your buying power and save money with NEA members-only benefits and discounts on merchandise and services

Be a voice in running your union
- Vote on your contract changes, vote for union leaders, run for union office
- Have a voice in the decision-making for the Portland Association of Teachers (PAT), the Oregon Education Association (OEA), and the National Education Association (NEA)
- Participate as a member of PAT, OEA and NEA committees

Nation-wide Community of Educators
- As a PAT member, you are also a member of OEA and NEA
- Connect with like-minded colleagues across the district, state and nation who are working to better students’ lives

Engage with other educators — and have fun!
- Join a PAT Committee and focus on issues impacting your job and profession
- Bring your family to the annual PAT “Party in the Park” or other union social events
- Engage in professional learning and discussion to improve your practice
- Whatever your interest, membership in PAT has something to offer

PAT: Power through our Collective Action