

## **Oregon School Activities Association**

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## Milk Celebrated as Official Beverage of Oregon, OSAA

Today, the Oregon School Activities Association recognized Oregon's dairy farm families for their ongoing support of the state's schools, coaches and athletes. An open thank you note to dairy farmers was posted on the OSAA's social media accounts, recognizing the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of milk as Oregon's state beverage.

Milk has been Oregon's Official State Beverage since 1997, and a statewide celebration has been recognizing the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with observances statewide including a special proclamation by Governor Kate Brown. Since milk has also been the official beverage of the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) since 2011, it was only natural to join in the celebration.

"Our organization appreciates local dairy farmers," said Peter Weber, Executive Director for the OSAA. "For the milk and food our coaches and athletes use for fueling and recovery, and for the ongoing support these farmers provide to the OSAA and schools and communities across the state."

Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council is the second longest running sponsor of the OSAA with a partnership that has been in place for approximately 22 years. Events and activities are supported with funding provided by Oregon dairy farmers and dairy food processors while promoting the healthy benefits of milk to 120,000 student participants across the state.

"It is a good fit, because for peak performance in school activities, students need good nutrition throughout the day, every day," said Anne Goetze, Sr. Director of Nutrition Affairs for ODNC. "Milk provides the protein and nutrients that students and athletes need in a perfect package."

## **About the Oregon School Activities Association**

The Oregon School Activities Association (<a href="www.osaa.org">www.osaa.org</a>) is a private nonprofit, board governed association comprised of 290 member high schools. The OSAA, a member of the National Federation of State High School Associations, annually sponsors 116 state championships in 19 sports and activities. Follow the OSAA at <a href="www.facebook.com/osaasports">www.facebook.com/osaasports</a>, on Twitter <a href="@OSAASports">@OSAASports</a> and Instagram <a href="@OSAASports">@OSAASports</a>.

## **About the Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council**

The Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council (ODNC) works on behalf of all dairy farm families and dairy processors throughout the state of Oregon. Building trust and demand for Oregon dairy products and support for those who make them is accomplished through efforts and involvement in schools, health and wellness, communications and industry development.

The ODNC's origins trace back to as early as 1918, when the Oregon Dairy Council was created to advance the benefits of dairy nutrition. The Oregon Dairy Products Commission was later created by the Oregon Legislature as a commodity commission in 1943.