

## **MICHAEL CONNOR**

A long-time Head Start teacher and coach, I currently work coordinating public preschool for the [Oregon Early Learning Division](#). Oregon has long partnered with Head Start to provide expanded early learning opportunities for families challenged by poverty; recently we have expanded and enhanced our early learning system to provide more opportunities for families (included extended day preschool services, more prenatal-three slots, and services for families over the poverty line) as well as initial steps toward pay parity for early educators. My professional interests include promoting ambitious instruction and play-based learning in early education. In addition my position with Oregon state, I also work as adjunct faculty in early childhood education at [Chemeketa Community College](#) working with novice early educators. Other professional activities include serving as Consulting Editor for [Young Children](#) and [NAEYC](#) Books, as well as steward with [local 503](#) of the Service Employees International Union.

