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### Media Release

## **Hillsboro School District Awarded \$6 Million in State Matching Grant Funds for Upcoming Bond Funds to be awarded if voters approve the \$408 million capital construction bond on the November 2017 ballot**

**August 3, 2017, Hillsboro, OR** –Hillsboro School District recently learned it has been awarded at least \$6 million in state matching grant funds should its \$408 million capital construction bond pass in November 2017.

With Senate Bill 477, the 2015 Oregon Legislature passed the Oregon Schools Capital Improvement Matching Grant Program (OSCIM). The intent of this program was to provide matching grant funds to school districts in the hope that matching funds could help increase community support for school facility bond elections.

The funds are distributed in two different ways: 60 percent of the grants are awarded on a “priority” basis to smaller, more rural districts with lower property value; and 40 percent of the grants are awarded on a “first-in-line” basis according to when applications are submitted.

In order to qualify for OSCIM grant funding, a district must submit to the Oregon Department of Education an application describing the types of projects the grant dollars will fund, along with a facilities assessment and a long-range facilities plan. A pro-rated amount of the entire funding pool is allocated for each election cycle within the biennium. Only districts that plan to have a bond ask on the ballot are allowed to apply, and a district must successfully pass its bond to collect the OSCIM grant dollars.

On July 14, 2017, the window opened to apply for funds for the November 2017 election cycle. HSD submitted the required materials and was notified that it has been awarded a \$6 million OSCIM grant from the “first-in-line” program. In addition, the District is currently second in line for a \$2 million “priority” grant if other districts are unsuccessful in their bond asks. The maximum amount any district can be awarded under the OSCIM program is \$8 million.

If the District is successful with its bond ask in November, the OSCIM grant dollars will be used to fund some or all of the following projects:

- Purchase land for additional school capacity;
- Upgrade/replace pavement, sidewalks, hardscapes;
- Complete additional roofing and portable classroom replacements;
- Replace single-pane windows;
- Improve/replace tennis courts; and
- Upgrade new elementary school gymnasiums to “immediate occupancy” seismic standard.

For additional information on the Hillsboro School District bond, please visit [Hillsboro-Bond.org](http://Hillsboro-Bond.org).

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