



HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

## COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

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### **Media Advisory**

### **Hillsboro School District Increases Bus Driver Wages**

*Starting salary for bus drivers has increased more than \$1 per hour*

**October 11, 2019, Hillsboro, OR** - After engaging in a collaborative bargaining process with the Classified union, the District was able to come to an agreement on increasing the wages of all bus drivers. On Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019, union membership voted to ratify and amend the salary schedule to reflect a 3 percent increase in bus driver wages; and on Tuesday, Oct. 8, the School Board unanimously voted to approve the increase as well.

The wage increase was sought as a way to attract and retain bus drivers in a very competitive market. The District has been down approximately 20 drivers for the past two school years. These vacant positions provided the resources to support the increase to the salary schedule.

All drivers currently at Step 1 will be moved to Step 2, and all drivers hired from here forward will be placed at Step 2 to start. Those changes mean that a beginning bus driver will be earning just over \$1 more per hour than they were previously: \$18.75/hour.

"I'm very excited," expressed Carol Hatfield, Executive Director of Transportation. "Not only has it been difficult for us to recruit drivers, but we've also lost some after we've trained them for higher paying jobs."

The District has had to limit bus trips this school year due to the driver shortage, and is hopeful those restrictions can be loosened or lifted once additional positions are filled.

Please visit the [job listings](#) page of the District website to see the posting for [bus drivers](#), and contact the Transportation department at 503-844-1123 with any questions.

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