

Historical Data

Medford, Oregon – School District #49 – 549C

1883	First school in Medford (one room wooden building on S. Central, just south of the Montgomery Wards store, now Rogue Community College, 117 S. Central. Subscription school charging \$8 per student for each year, Mr. Williamson was the teacher.
1884	Formation of Medford School District #49 on February 20, 1884, created from a division of District 2. Mr. Wm M. Colvig was County Superintendent. During the summer of 1884 the first school house, a white, framed structure of two stories was constructed. Will Gore, a well-known Jackson County pioneer, was the first principal and served from 1884-1886. A school house, West School, was built on W. Main, between Oakdale Ave. & Laurel St. School building was moved in 1891 to West Tenth Street, behind the Catholic Church and became a private residence. A replacement building was built in 1891, providing a bit more room, and housed at least three years of high school. In 1895-1896 school year, the structure burned and the final term was completed by rentals of churches and a downtown hall, two of which had successive fires causing brick to become a popular material in the building of new public facilities, as had already been learned in Jacksonville. Property sold to county for courthouse, 10 S. Oakdale Ave. A brick school building called the Washington School was built on the Main and Laurel location and was dedicated, March 3, 1896. (One Hundred Twenty-Three Year's Search for Community, by Margaret Nesheim, 1976)
1885	Medford (City of) incorporated
1891	Oak Grove Elementary, 2838 Jacksonville Hwy., built. Consolidated with Medford, 1956-57.
1893	First high school graduation exercises – May 19, 1893.
1902	Griffin Creek Elementary, 2430 Griffin Creek Rd, built.
1906	North School constructed (now known as Lincoln Elementary).
1907-08	Medford Public Schools became first class district during the school year.
1909	A high school building was erected on Bartlett between 5th & 6th Streets, West Side School, 3070 Ross Lane, built. Currently leased to Naval Reserve.
1910	School district population – 1682 students. Per Mail Tribune Dec.1, 2010, Mail Tribune 100 year Column: Dec. 1, 1910 - The population of Medford, Oregon, was announced today by the census bureau as 8,840, an increase from 1,791 in 1900, or 392 percent. This percentage of growth is the greatest made by any town in the United States, with the exception of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, which shows a percent increase of 396. The twelfth census gave Medford a population of 1,791 and the eleventh 967.
1911	Fall opening of Roosevelt and Jackson Elementary Schools.
1912	Old Howard Elementary, 285 Mace Rd and 2801 Merriman address built. School converted to Grounds/Facilities, IMC, and NTS departments. First in-service training program initiated
1913	Ruch Elementary, 156 Upper Applegate Rd, built. Consolidated with Medford in 1959.
1925	E.H. Hedrick assumed superintendency – retired 1955.

1926	New Medford Senior High School, 320 W. 2nd St., constructed (presently McLoughlin Middle School). Lone Pine Elementary, 3158 Lone Pine Road, opened.
1931	Washington Elementary School, 610 S. Peach St. opened. Medford High School, 815 S. Oakdale Ave, opened (South Medford High School – 2005).
1952	Administration moved from City Hill, 201 N. Central Ave. to Central Office Administration Building, 500 Monroe St.
1954	Jacksonville Elementary, 655 Hueners Lane, opened.
1955	Dr. Leonard B. Mayfield assumed superintendence on retirement of E.H. Hedrick. Dr. Mayfield served as assistant superintendent for one year prior to assuming the superintendence – Dr. Mayfield died April 23, 1965. Hedrick Jr. High School, 1501 E. Jackson St., opened. Jefferson Elementary, 333 Holmes Ave., opened.
1956	West Side School District #95, Oak Grove S.D. #69, consolidation April 9, 1956 ; Dewey District #29 and Kenwood District #102 , consolidation with Medford Schools June 30, 1956. July 1, 1956 Medford School District #49 changed to Medford School District 549C.
1958	Hoover Elementary, 2323 Siskiyou Blvd, dedicated January 20, 1959, Roy Gilbertson, principal. Wilson Elementary, 1400 Johnson St., opened.
1959	Construction of District Warehouse, 750 N. Columbus Ave. Jacksonville, Griffin Creek, Ruch, Lone Pine, and Howard Schools consolidation, April 16, 1959. The change of district 49 to 549C stands for 5 schools and the C for consolidation, changing it from #49 to 549C.
1965	Dr. Elliott D. Becken assumed superintendency on death of Dr. Mayfield, serving as superintendent until July, 1968. Dr. E.D. Becken moved to Tucson, Arizona and became superintendent of Amphitheater District.
1967	New Medford Senior High School, presently North Medford High School (1900 North Keene Way Dr). Dedicated April 28, 1968. Bill Ruck principal. 6-2-2-2 plan put into operation during 1967-68 school year.
1968	Dr. Richard Langton replaced Dr. Becken as superintendent
1969	Lincoln Elementary on Bartlett St. closed.
1972-83	Howard Elementary started building in 1972 with 9 classrooms and a gymnasium. 1983 main building officially opened.
1975	Central Office Annex, 600 Whitman Place acquired. This was an apartment building that retired teachers lived in. Address was 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612 and 614 Whitman Place. Changed to 600 Whitman Place only. Plan drawn up by Donald P. Rounds for converting apartments to original use on 8-16-75. Remodel was done in 1976.
1977-82	Kennedy Elementary, 2860 N. Keene Way Drive, opened. Kennedy was built in phases.
1979	Property on corner of Columbus Ave. and Cunningham acquired from Frank G. and Anita Dancer.
1986	September 1986 – 2 four year high schools formed. North Medford High School, 1900 N. Keene Way Dr., and South Medford High School, 815 S. Oakdale Ave.

1997	New Abraham Lincoln Elementary, 3101 McLoughlin Dr., Medford 97504, opened.
2006	School bond passes in November. The Medford School District with about 12,500 pupils asked voters for a \$189 million bond issue. The measure includes replacing South Medford High and Lone Pine Elementary, remodeling North Medford High and Jackson, Oak Grove, Roosevelt and Washington elementary schools and making repairs and improvements such as air-conditioning and asbestos removal to 11 other campuses.
2007	Jackson and Roosevelt temporarily closed due to safety issues of brick buildings. Starting September 2007 children will be housed at different schools.
2009	December 2009 Jackson and Roosevelt schools completed and the move back to the new schools. Same sites, but different addresses due to the fact that the front doors face a different street.
2010	New South Medford High School, 1551 Cunningham Ave., Medford, opened. September 2010
2010	Central Medford High School (former MOHS) moves to 815 S. Oakdale Ave., Medford 97501, September 2010
2011	Central office moved to the old SMHS, 815 S. Oakdale Ave in August. The building will house Central Medford High School, Central office, 500 Monroe St.
2020	Medford Online Academy (MOA) was established. The district purchased a building at 35 S. Bartlett Street to house the virtual school.
2020	Central Medford High School moved to 650 Royal Ave in August to make room for the third middle school.
2020	Renovations began at 815 S. Oakdale Ave. in preparation for a third middle school set to open in August 2023.
2021	Central office moved to two locations in May to make room for a third middle school at 815 S. Oakdale Ave. The Superintendent's Office, Teaching and Learning, Business and Human Resources moved to 680 Biddle Rd. Federal Programs, Special Education and Student Wellness moved to 3525 Excel Dr. Facilities, Information Technology, Distribution Center and Instructional Media stayed at the Annex building at 815 S. Oakdale Ave.
2023	Building at 1321 Center Drive purchased for the new high school of choice, Innovations Academy, built on the work of Central Medford High School, which dissolved at the same time. Federal Programs, Special Education, and Student Wellness moved back to 815 S Oakdale Ave. and into the administrative wing of the Oakdale Middle School building.
2023	August 2023 – Oakdale Middle School opens, alongside Hedrick and Mac, where 6th graders officially joined 7th and 8th graders in middle school.
2025	Medford Online Academy on Bartlett Street closed.

Medford School District 549C

Superintendent History

1884-1886	Walter Gore (2 years)
1886-1887	Scott Morris (1 year)
1887-1889	W.H. (Bill) Gore (2 years)
1889-1905	N. L. Narragon (6 years) - March 6, 1889, First man to be called a superintendent in the minutes of the board.
1905	J.N. Berry - 2 months only
1905	O.A. Schoots - Elected in August 19, 1905 but did not serve
1905-1908	M.B. Signs (3 years) – Started September 1905
1908-1910	U.G. Smith (2 years) - Resigned May 13, 1910
1910-1915	U.S. Collins (5 years) - May 13, 1910 - Resigned April 6, 1915 for the following term. Superintendent's office was housed in the High School Building
1916-1918	V. Meldo Hillis (2 years)
1918-1920	William Davenport (2 years)
1920-1925	Aubrey G. Smith (5 years)
1925-1955	E.H. (Ercel) Hedrick (29 years) – Leave of Absence 1934-1935
1934-1935	C.G. (Charles) Smith (1 year) – Acting Superintendent
1955-1965	Leonard B, Mayfield (10 years)
1965-1968	Elliott D. Becken (3 years)
1968-1979	Dr. Richard C. Langton (11 years)
1979-1982	Dr. Russell E. Klein (3 years) – Leave of Absence 1982-1983
1982-1982	Bruce Metzger (6 months) – Interim Superintendent 6/15/82-12/31/82; Retired 12/31/1982
1983-1984	Wilbur Hawkins (1 ½ years) – Started 1/1983 - 7/1/1984; Suspended w/ pay 7/12/1984; Resigned/Terminated 9/30/1984
1984-1984	James Branvold (4 months) – Acting Superintendent 7/17/1984 - 10/31/1984
1984-1985	Lloyd Millhollen (8 months) – Interim Superintendent 11/1/1984 - 6/30/1985
1985-2003	Dr. Steven R. Wisely (18 years) – Retired 6/30/2002; Retired - Interim Superintendent 2002/03
2003-2004	Richard Gregory (1 year) – Resigned 6/30/2004

2004-2005	Kathleen Z. McCollum (1 year) – Interim Superintendent 6/30/2004
2005-2014	Dr. Phillip G. Long (9 years) – Retired 6/30/2014
2014-2019	Dr. Brian T. Shumate (5 years) – Resigned 6/30/2019
2019-2025	Dr. Bret A. Champion (6 years) – Resigned 6/30/2025
2025-Present	Jeanne M. Grazioli – Interim Superintendent

Medford School District 549c – Current Building History

School	Year Built	Year of Remodels/Additions
North Medford High School 1900 North Keene Way Dr., 97504	1967	1973, 1974, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1992, 2007-2011 (Major Remodel)
South Medford High School 1551 Cunningham Ave, 97501	2010	Moved from 815 S. Oakdale Ave. 9/2010, Property purchased 1979 from Frank G. & Annita Dancer
Hedrick Middle School 1501 E. Jackson St., 97504	1955	1960, 1965, 1978 1979, 1996-98 (Major Remodel), 2009, 2014
McLoughlin Middle School 320 W. 2nd St., 97501	1926	1939, 1948, 1957, 1961, 1964 (Fire Damage), 1996-98 (Major Remodel), 2009, 2011
Abraham Lincoln Elementary 3101 McLoughlin Dr., 97504	1996	2007, 2009
Griffin Creek Elementary 2430 Griffin Creek Rd., 97501	1902	1933, 1948, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1961, 1966, 1969 (Fire Damage). 1970 (Reopened with additions), 1971, 1982 (Remodel), 1996, 2007 (Major Remodel), 2009, 2010, 2013
Hoover Elementary 2323 Siskiyou Blvd, 97504	1958	1961, 1975 (Modular Classrooms), 1992 (Remodel), 1995, 2007 (Major Remodel), 2008, 2009, 2013
Howard Elementary 286 Mace Rd., 97501	1972-1983	1972 - 9 Classrooms and a Gymnasium built, 1983 Main building opened, 2008, 2009, 2011
Jackson Elementary 630 W. Jackson St., 97501	1911	1937, 1949 (Additions), 1965, 1995, 1996-98 (Major Remodel), 2009 (New Main Building/Gym & remodel)
Jacksonville Elementary 655 Hueners Ln., 97530	1954	1982 (Remodel), 1990, 1995, 2008, 2009
Jefferson Elementary 333 Holmes Ave., 97501	1955	1965, 1971, 1991, 1995, 1996 (Library/Media Center), 2007 (Major Remodel), 2009
Kennedy Elementary 2860 N. Keene Way Dr., 97504	1977-1982	1977-1982 (Built in phases), 1992, 1994, 1995, 2007 (Major Remodel), 2009, 2013
Lone Pine Elementary 3158 Lone Pine Rd., 97504	1926	1933, 1948, 1952, 1957, 1963, 1965, 1966, 1983 (Library/Media), 1991, 1996, 2009 (Two new Buildings & remodel)
Oak Grove Elementary 2838 Jacksonville Hwy., 97501	1891	1925, 1937, 1939, 1949, 1953, 1961, 1967, 1995, 1996 (New Construction & Major Remodel)
Roosevelt Elementary 112 Lindley St., 97504	1911	1949, Remodel 1983 or 1985, 1996-97, 2009 (New Main Building/Gym & Major Remodel)

Ruch Community 156 Upper Applegate Rd., 97530	1913	1914, 1951, 1955, 1957, 1961, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1996, 2006, 2008 (New Modular Building & Remodel)
Washington Elementary 610 S. Peach St., 97501	1931	1949, 1987, 1995, 1996-97, 2007 (Major Remodel & New Cafeteria), 2008, 2011
Wilson Elementary 1400 Johnson St., 97504	1958	1961, 1964, 1967, 1981, 1992, 1995, 2008 (Major Remodel)
MSD Education Center/ Central High School/Oakdale Middle School	1931	Medford High School (1931-67) 1938, 1949, 1956, 1958-59, 1960; Medford Mid High School (1967-86) 1980, 1985 (Conversion); South Medford High School (1986-2010), 1992, 1994, 1995, 2011 (Conversion), 2012, (Conversion) started 2020, Oakdale Middle School 2023
Medford Online Academy 812 N. Riverside Ave.	2021	Purchased & renovated pre-existing building. Closed 2025
Innovations Academy 1321 Center Drive	2023	Purchased & renovated pre-existing building.