

A Look Inside

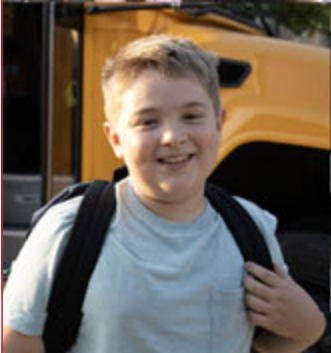
Fall 2025

Hillsboro

School District



Fall plays, fundraisers, sports, and more! Find out what schools have been up to in the feeder updates on **pages 6-13**.



SAFE AND WELCOMING SCHOOLS

In HSD, we strive to make everyone feel safe, welcome, and that they belong here!



Career and College Pathways
Hillsboro's Investment in Youth Talent Pipelines Pays Off
page 14

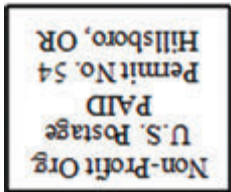


Bond Development Planning
Revisiting the past and looking ahead towards our future
page 4



Superintendent's Message
Going Beyond the Test Score Headlines
page 2

Superintendent's Message 2 ■ Community Partners 3 ■ Feeder Updates: Century 6 | Glencoe 8 | Hilhi 10 | Liberty 12 ■ CCP 14 ■ Hillsboro Online Academy 7 ■ Oak Street Campus 11



**HILLSBORO** SCHOOL DISTRICT

3083 NE 49th Place • Hillsboro, OR 97124
503.844.1500 • www.hsd.k12.or.us

proud to be **HSD**

Hillsboro School District Promise:

Know, Value, and Empower Every Student to Achieve Their Dreams



Superintendent's Message

Going Beyond the Test Score Headlines

If you only looked at the headlines from major news outlets - *schools are getting more money than ever, but test scores are worse than they've ever been* - you would think that public education is failing students and maybe start to wonder if its time had come and gone.

I'm here to say that there's far more to the story than these articles convey.

First, I think it's beneficial to stop and think about how much and how rapidly the world has changed since we were young. The amount and pace of these changes, the demands on our time and attention, and the sheer volume of information that comes at us each day has increased exponentially from what it was a few decades ago and can seem overwhelming.

Despite knowing and feeling the impact of societal change in our own lives, there can be a tendency to wonder why school doesn't operate in the same way it did when we attended.

One of the big differences is that "back in the day," students who needed more support or who weren't doing so well in school were either kept separate from other students or ushered out of the system altogether.

But when you think about our communities and local economies, most agree that it's in our best interest to ensure that *all* young people have equitable access to high quality education and training that will prepare them for success in their adult lives.

A key metric that we, the State of Oregon, and many others track as a readiness indicator for graduation and future success is reading proficiency in third grade. The problem is that Oregon's third grade standardized reading assessment is only available in English. We have a large population of students whose primary language is not English, and research has shown that acquiring academic proficiency in a second language takes five to seven years. This

is why our internal accountability metric is based on Running Records, which allows for assessment in Spanish as well as English. Looking at Running Records, our third grade proficiency level in 2024-25 was 63.2%, as opposed to what the state-level proficiency assessment showed - 37.2%.

In 2003, as a way to better serve our multilingual learners and to provide an enrichment opportunity for English speaking students, we launched our first Dual Language English-Spanish program at W.L. Henry Elementary School. Since then, our program has expanded greatly, and now serves more than 3,700 students. Eight of our elementary schools offer a full Dual Language program, and another ten offer Spanish Literacy. All four of our middle schools and all four comprehensive high schools offer a Dual Language option, with varying numbers of core classes and electives available in Spanish.

Why is that important?

Students who participate in our Dual Language program graduate at a much higher rate than students who do not. Looking at the most recent class for which we have official data* - 2024 - our overall district graduation rate was 87.55%. The graduation rate for students who participated in the Dual Language program was: Latina/o/x - 92%, non-Latina/o/x - 100%, for a combined rate of 93.3%. This outpaces our district-level graduation rate by 5.75 percentage points and the State's overall graduation rate by 11.55 percentage points. (*Graduation data for a given year is released in January of the following year; therefore, we will receive data for the Class of 2025 in January 2026.)

It is also worth noting that our four-year cohort graduation rate has been increasing since experiencing a pandemic dip, and that we have been steadily closing the achievement gap between our students who identify as Latina/o/x + Hispanic, and all HSD students. For the class of 2024, that gap was down to just 1.31 percentage points. (See the table below for details.)

Beyond just graduating at higher rates, many of our multilingual students are earning the State Seal of Biliteracy on their diploma. This indicates they have shown a high level of proficiency reading, writing, and speaking in two or more languages. Since 2019, 727 students have earned this prestigious designation - 214 in 2025 alone.

Another big point of pride for HSD is our Career and College Pathways (CCP) program. Started more than a decade ago, the CCP program is now infused throughout our K-12 system to ensure students are aware, eligible, and prepared for their next steps after high school. Of course, the program is most robust at

the high school level where we have approximately 4,300 students accessing 69 different career-aligned programs. Several of our signature programs, like Aerospace, Fire Science, Automotive Technology, Metal Processing, and Veterinary Sciences, are accessible via our CCP Shuttle system, which takes students from their home high school to the school or location where their program is housed.

Connection to extracurricular programs and activities is also an area where HSD shines. Thanks to a generous donation from the VP Legacy Foundation, we have been able to offer a variety of after-school programs to students in grades K-8 who may not have otherwise had the opportunity to participate. Extracurricular and enrichment programs play a significant role in students' engagement in and connection to school, which is why this is one of the key performance metrics we track in our Strategic Plan.

Of course, everything we do ultimately comes down to the amount of money we have to run our schools and school system. Yes, it's true that if you just look at the dollars alone, K-12 education received more in the 2025-27 biennium than we ever have. However, it is also true that the State of Oregon has a larger General Fund than it ever has, and that K-12 education has been receiving a steadily *decreasing* percentage of that budget over the past 20+ years. And, it is true that our expenses are far outpacing our revenues. We have had to make many very difficult and painful budgetary decisions over that timeframe - most recently heading into this school year, when we had to reduce \$20 million from our budget.

Unfortunately, I don't believe we have seen the end of the reductions. The 2026 short Legislative Session may bring some mid-biennium bad news for school funding. We will keep you informed of any changes and encourage you to reach out to our local elected officials to share your thoughts, concerns, and feedback. For additional information about our budget situation, please visit the Budget Matters page of our website at hsd.k12.or.us/budget, and pay particular attention to the 2025 Legislative Advocacy Packet, which has some great historical information about our budget situation.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support and partnership!

Respectfully,

Travis Reiman
Superintendent

Grad Rates	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Latina/o/x + Hispanic	74.8%	68.95%	79.6%	80.11%	83.13%	82.28%	76.56%	82.97%	84.16%	86.24%
HSD average	80.46%	81.68%	84.1%	84.47%	86.24%	87.07%	82.66%	86.27%	86.18%	87.55%
Gap	-5.66	-12.73	-4.5	-4.36	-3.11	-4.79	-6.1	-3.3	-2.02	-1.31

Community Partners

City of Hillsboro

Register for Winter/Spring Activities: Starting December 1

Find something for everyone with Hillsboro Parks & Recreation. Registration for Winter/Spring activities including swim lessons, art classes, youth sports, and more opens at 8 a.m. on December 10. The fastest and easiest way to register is online: [Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/Register](https://hillsboro-oregon.gov/Register).

Friday Nights are Ohana Teen Nights

Students in grades 7 to 12 can come play games, hang out with friends, and try something new. Join the gathering at Hidden Creek Community Center each Friday night from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. during the school year. It costs only \$15 per year for residents, \$20 per year for non-residents. You can register in advance or on site. Call 503-693-5900 for more information.

Annual Turkey Trot: A Free Family Tradition

Kids of all ages (and adults too!) can join the FREE fun run at Hare Field on Saturday, November 22. Advance registration is encouraged but not required. Sign up online: [Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/Register](https://hillsboro-oregon.gov/Register) or call 503-681-6120.

Outdoor Ice Skating Returns at Winter Village

Everyone is invited to take to the ice and enjoy covered outdoor skating at Winter Village. Jerry Willey Plaza is the place to enjoy 60-minute skate sessions from November 30 through January 11. General admission is \$19, while those 10 and younger are \$16. Children 3 and younger are free. See the schedule and more details at [Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/WinterEvents](https://hillsboro-oregon.gov/WinterEvents).

Lightopia Brightens the Night in December

Lightopia is back at Gordon Faber Recreation Complex December 9-28. New this year: no tickets or reservations are required. All visits are first-come, first-served 7 days a week. Monday through Thursday, 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. and Friday through Sunday, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Get details at [Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/WinterEvents](https://hillsboro-oregon.gov/WinterEvents).

Hillsboro Holly Days & Tree Lighting Ceremony

Bring the entire family to Downtown Hillsboro on Saturday, November 22, for the Hillsboro Holly Days Celebration from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., featuring the holiday tree lighting at 6 p.m. Enjoy children’s activities, live music, and a bustling artisan market.

Winter Wonderland: An Annual Celebration

Create ornaments, see live animals, enjoy storytime, and holiday cheer – it’s all at Winter Wonderland at Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve on Saturday, December 13, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Learn more at [Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/JacksonBottom](https://hillsboro-oregon.gov/JacksonBottom). \$5 per person at the door. Children 3 and under are free.

Hillsboro’s Favorite Holiday Movies: Vote Now

Do you have a favorite holiday movie tradition to share with the rest of Hillsboro? We’ve gathered a list of the most beloved holiday films from the WCCLS Library Collection and Kanopy. Now, it’s your turn to rank the holiday movies – and add any favorites we missed – at [Engage.Hillsboro-Oregon.gov](https://engage.hillsboro-oregon.gov).

Utility Assistance Available for Customers

Having trouble paying your City of Hillsboro utility bill? Help is available for qualifying customers, including flexible payment plans and emergency bill relief. Call 503-681-6163 to get more info, or visit [Hillsboro-Oregon.gov/UtilityAssistance](https://hillsboro-oregon.gov/UtilityAssistance).

Hillsboro Schools Foundation



8th Annual Tamale Fest

The 8th Annual Fiesta de Tamales, benefitting the Hillsboro Schools Foundation (HSF), takes place on Saturday, November 22, from noon to 3 p.m. at M&M Marketplace in Hillsboro. This vibrant, community-centered event supports local small businesses and helps fund HSF’s mission to enhance educational opportunities districtwide. Learn more at hsfonline.org.

Tanasbourne Barnes & Noble Fundraiser

Join HSF for a special two-day bookfair event at Barnes & Noble in Tanasbourne on December 5 and 6. Enjoy showcases of school programs supported by HSF and family-friendly activities, including a coffee chat with Superintendent Reiman, guest readers, and more. Present the HSF flyer at checkout, or use Bookfair ID#12909180 if purchasing online, and 15% of your purchase will go directly toward buying new library books for HSD students.

HSF is in Give!Guide

For the first time ever, HSF is in Give!Guide (*Willamette Week’s* annual effort to raise funds for and draw attention to the meaningful work of local nonprofits). Running from November 1 to December 31, this campaign offers you the chance to win incentives when donating to HSF. Visit giveguide.org and look for Hillsboro Schools Foundation in the Education section!

HSF’s 26th Gala & Auction

Save the date for HSF’s 26th Annual Gala & Auction: Saturday, February 21, 2026. Join us for an exciting evening of great company, fantastic auction items, and community spirit. All proceeds support HSF’s mission to inspire innovation and expand opportunities for students in the Hillsboro School District. More details at hsfonline.org.



Washington County Chamber of Commerce 2025 Awards Gala

Established in 1988, our tradition has been to acknowledge individuals for their notable contributions to the community. Each year, we recognize new individuals and organizations that demonstrate dedication, success, and a strong sense of community engagement. Join us for the 2025 Awards Gala from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 3, at NW Events & Environments. Visit washingtoncountychamberor.com/awards.

2026 Crystal Apple Awards

Stay tuned for information about how to nominate a staff member who exemplifies excellence in education for a 2026 Crystal Apple Award. Details will be posted soon at washingtoncountychamberor.com/crystalapple.

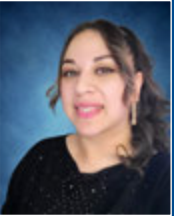
2025-26 HSD Board of Directors



Ivette Pantoja
Chair



See Eun Kim
Vice Chair



Yessica Hardin
Mercado



Nancy Thomas



Mark Watson



Katie Rhyne



Patrick Maguire



Hazel Cleveland
Student
Representative



Nicole Ayala
Congachi
Student
Representative



Jocelyn Trejo-
Reyes
Student
Representative

2026 BOND

It has only been three short years since we largely stopped talking about HSD’s 2017 bond. That’s when the last big project - construction of Tamarack Elementary School - wrapped up and we celebrated a bond program that allowed us to invest more than half a billion dollars in our district.

Big projects included the construction of two new elementary schools - Atfalati Ridge and Tamarack - and the replacement of Brookwood Elementary School; the construction of eight stand-alone gyms at elementary schools that previously had “cafegymitoriums”; seismic and roofing upgrades at all schools built before 1997; installation of a “security trio” at all schools and district buildings, consisting of entry access control, intrusion alarms, and cameras; expansion of career-technical education spaces at all high schools; student and teacher technology; and much more.

Capital construction bonds like this one are the only mechanism school districts have for making significant investments in systems, structures, and technology. The State School Fund dollars allocated to districts each year are really only meant to fund daily operations (primarily staff-related costs) and incidental maintenance and repairs.

It has now been eight years since our last bond passed and our list of needs has been growing. These include things we were not able to focus on in the 2017 bond, as well as things that have risen on the priority list due to a variety of factors (e.g. anticipated end-of-life, system failures, updated regulations/specifications, etc.).

By the fall of 2026, taxpayers will have paid off some of HSD’s previous bonds. This creates an opportunity to fill in the gap with a new bond to generate capital investment money for district projects, while keeping the current tax rate consistent.

Our situation in 2025 is quite different than it was in 2016, when we were building our last bond package. For example, we do not have a need for new schools at this time, and we are far more reliant on technology and safety and security systems.

While our Bond Development Committee (BDC) is still working on developing potential bond packages for the community to weigh in on, we can share the main categories of projects under consideration (not an exhaustive list):

- **Buildings and systems** - HVAC, roofing, seismic, electrical, lighting, windows, doors and locks, ADA accessibility, playgrounds
- **Technology** - Student and teacher devices, classroom support, network and infrastructure, software and applications, information systems and data privacy, cybersecurity
- **Safety and security** - Security systems, fencing, doors and locks, exterior lighting, partitions, safety initiatives
- **Career and College Pathways** - Modernizing learning spaces for safety, access, and workforce relevance
- **Extracurricular activities and athletics** - Turf fields with lights, bleachers, venue bathrooms, Title IX compliance, track and tennis surfaces, auditoriums, scoreboards and equipment
- **Nutrition Services** - Equip and upgrade school kitchens, increase storage capacity, service line reconfiguration and upgrades for ADA and plumbing and electrical
- **Transportation** - Transition to a web-based routing system with driver tablets and real-time student tracking to enhance safety and operational efficiency, bus replacements to maintain a reliable and efficient fleet
- **Fleet maintenance** - District vehicles for Facilities, grounds, security monitors
- **Print shop expansion** - Equipment to scale current production and services to deliver cost savings in government and nonprofit sectors, and enhance CTE opportunities

Wherever possible, we will seek opportunities to leverage partnerships, incentives, and grants to maximize our bond dollars and make them go further. This highlights our commitment to be good stewards of our community’s investment in HSD. For a great example of how this played out in the 2017 bond, check out the Dark Fiber Ring article below.

A summary of 2017 bond accomplishments is listed on the next page. For additional details about any of these projects, please visit our bond website at Hillsboro-Bond.org. The final report on our 2017 bond can be found at tinyurl.com/mt3wke6e. Stay tuned to our district and bond websites, as well as Hot News and future editions of *A Look Inside Hillsboro Schools*, for updates on our 2026 bond development process.

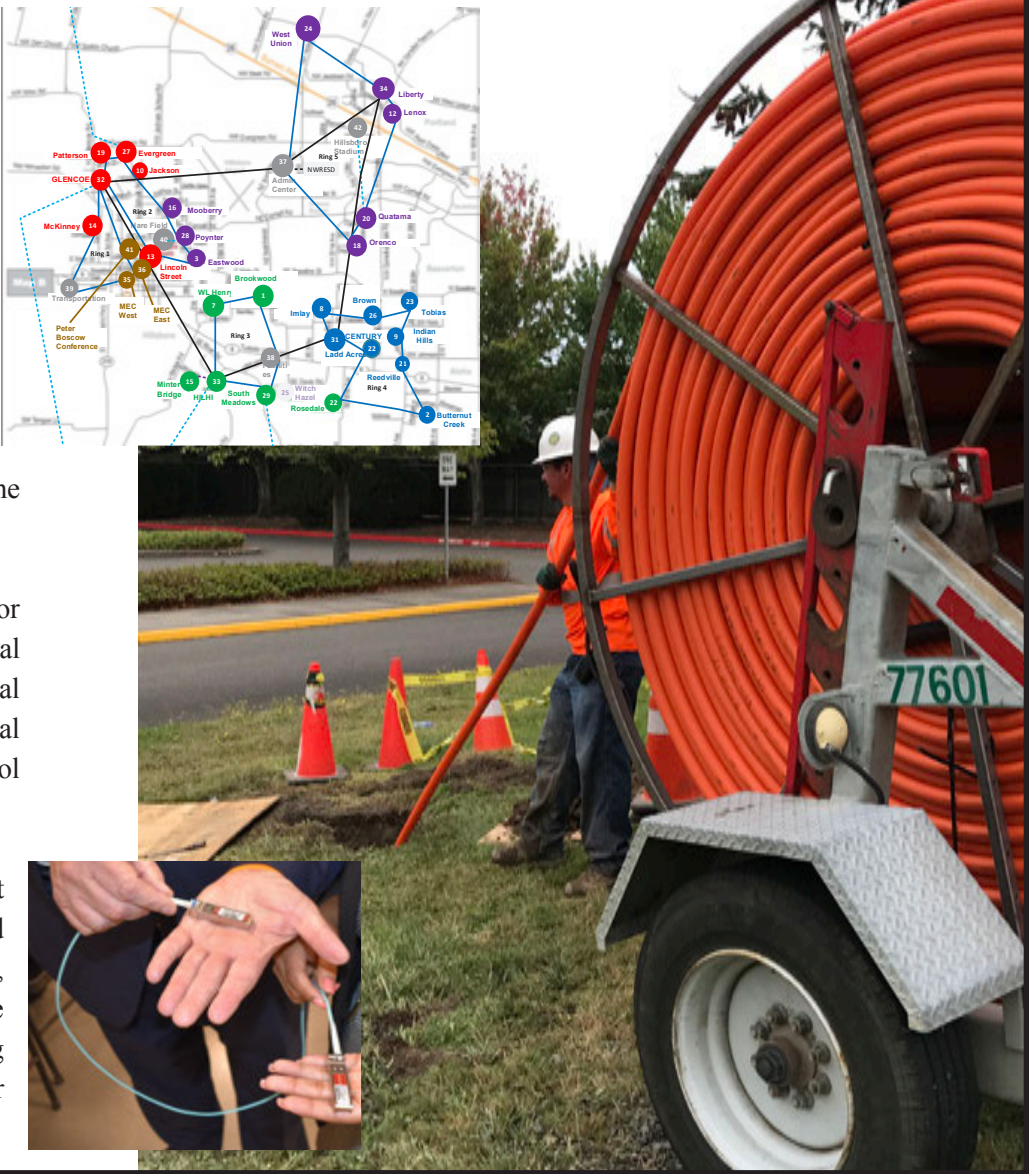
2017 Bond Project Highlight: Dark Fiber Ring

One of our key commitments in the 2017 Bond was to make wise use of taxpayer dollars. A great example of how we did just that was by partnering with the City of Hillsboro’s HiLight fiber optic network utility to design and construct a redundant-path dark fiber ring to not only encircle Hillsboro, but also to connect all district buildings. This network allows for exchange of digital information, delivery of digital curriculum, digital telephone service, and internet connectivity.

Our joint venture with the City extended the efforts of both agencies beyond what each of us could do alone, saving time and money in the implementation of this very large build-out.

With our own dedicated infrastructure, HSD is now virtually self-sufficient for internet services and was able to drastically reduce payments to commercial service providers. Planning and design started in 2017, an inter-governmental agreement with the City initiated the construction in 2019, and the final connection was made with the completion of Tamarack Elementary School in 2023.

Recently, the City of Hillsboro celebrated HiLight’s high speed internet service availability to more than 10,000 homes. They also announced current work in the neighborhoods around Patterson Elementary School, and upcoming work in neighborhoods around Camp Ireland and south of the Jackson Wood Trail area. HiLight’s existing and future capacity for providing low-cost, reliable high-speed internet services fulfills a key City goal to offer essential services to meet the needs of residents and businesses.



Looking back to move forward...

Listed below is a summary of the projects we were able to accomplish in our 2017 bond. This provides a sense of the scope and scale of typical bond work and highlights our financial stewardship.

The 2017 Bond Promise Fulfilled

(wish list items in italics)



Prioritize Safety and Security

➤ **Safety and security upgrades at all schools**

Projects included:

- Distributed antenna systems
- Security cameras and hardware, monitoring systems
- Entry vestibule upgrades

- **Cameras on all school buses**
- **Seismic and roofing upgrades**

All schools built before 1997 were upgraded to meet or exceed current “safe exit” seismic standards. Thirteen buildings built after 1997 already meet the “life safety” seismic standard. New construction projects meet “immediate occupancy” seismic standards. Re-roofing, where needed, extended the life of aging roofs.

- **Playground upgrades**

Upgrades included equipment with ADA accessibility, rubberized tile surfaces, and all-weather synthetic turf areas.





➤ **Parent/bus drop-off improvements**

Renovations were made at many schools to separate school buses and motorists, which increased safety for pedestrians and vehicles, and improved traffic flow.

- **Upgrading new gymnasiums to “immediate occupancy” seismic standard**

Design and construction of all eight new gymnasiums were upgraded to meet this standard.



Renovate and Repair Aging Schools

- **HVAC, plumbing and electrical upgrades**

Renovations across the district were done not only to prevent potential failures and avoid costly maintenance, but also to increase safety and comfort in the buildings.

➤ **Significant remodeling at Hillsboro High School and Reedville Elementary School**

Our oldest high school and oldest elementary school received extensive renovations that included seismic, HVAC, plumbing, and electrical upgrades, which resulted in rejuvenated campuses that will serve students and the surrounding community for decades to come.

- **Replacement of 15 temporary portable classrooms in the poorest condition**

Old portables that served as “temporary” classrooms have been replaced by new, permanent, modular buildings housing not only classrooms, but also restrooms so students no longer have to travel outside into the main building.

➤ **Installation of lighted turf fields at Century, Glencoe and Hillsboro High Schools**

- **Replacement of pavement, sidewalks, and hardscapes**







- **Replacement of single-pane windows**
- **Replacement/resurfacing of tennis courts**



Relieve Crowded Classrooms, Plan for Growth

- **Construction of separate gymnasiums at elementary schools that share gym and cafeteria space**

Eight gyms were built in all, furnishing space for PE and school activities, as well as providing facilities for youth recreational basketball and volleyball for our community.

- **Expansion of Evergreen Middle School and Glencoe High School**

Building improvements plus new wings expanded capacities of Evergreen and Glencoe to accommodate additional students, particularly as the Cornelius and North Plains areas grow.

- **Construction of two new elementary schools and replacement of Brookwood Elementary School**

Each of these schools will provide capacity for up to 600 students: the new Brookwood building (opened in 2020) on the existing campus; Atfalati Ridge in North Plains (opened 2021); and Tamarack in south Hillsboro (opening fall 2023).

➤ **Satellite transportation and support services campus**

Serving the north side of the district, this new building houses transportation dispatch, school buses, and a modern bus maintenance facility. Classroom and lab space have been allocated for the new diesel mechanic and construction trades program.







Provide a Modern Education for Every Student

- **Student and teacher technology**

These bond projects focused on uniformly applying technology in all classrooms, removing barriers to accessing digital resources. These include classroom technology, student Chromebooks, and networking hardware.

- **Expansion of CTE spaces at all high schools**

Career-technical education spaces were expanded and modernized, including: Century’s new building for its early education/preschool program; and a new building and solar array for Liberty’s sustainable agriculture/design program. Oak Street Campus’ new Pathways Center building provides classroom and office space to support districtwide career and college readiness programs.

- **Flexible classroom furniture**
- **Internet self-sufficiency**

Infrastructure for a dedicated fiber optic network was installed in buildings throughout the district, in partnership with the City of Hillsboro, and connected to Hillsboro’s HiLight fiber network backbone.





hillsboro-bond.org



Revenues		Project Investments	
\$408.00	approved by voters in 2017	\$485.24	bond expenditures to date
79.30	bond sale premiums	25.60	remaining commitments
14.93	bond interest	3.77	maintenance contingency
(0.76)	investment gain (loss)	\$514.61	total committed
0.55	misc. revenue		
3.63	land sale/compensation		
8.00	state grants		
0.94	balance from 2006 bond		
\$514.61	total revenues		



bit.ly/3xiL3hm

2017 Bond Budget
(in millions)

as of March 31, 2023

Century Feeder

Century High School
R.A. Brown Middle School
Elementaries:
Butternut Creek | Imlay | Indian Hills
Ladd Acres | Reedville | Tobias

Century High School



Century Civics Students prepped boxes for the Century Food Collective food pantry.

Century’s Civics and Community Services class helped feed 20 local families by constructing boxes and maintaining the Century Food Collective food pantry twice a month. Students have expressed enjoyment for doing something outside of the classroom, as well as the opportunity to give back to the community. Century’s Food Collective runs short on the funds to purchase perishables (milk, cheese, eggs, etc.) each year. If you or your business would like to donate or help provide a stable source of funding for our pantry, please follow the QR Code to donate with a memo: Pantry. Thank you for your consideration!



The Food Collective welcomes donations.

Biology students visited The Working Theory Farm, near CHS, and were able to learn about regenerative agriculture and the impacts suburbs have on the water used for irrigation of crops. The field trip was a perfect tie-in to the Oregon agriculture lesson, which was inspired by the OSU Summer Agricultural Institute students participated in over the summer. Biology classes also had the Oregon Dairy Princess, Cydney, come visit as a guest speaker to present about the dairy industry.



Century students were able to visit a local farm to learn about Oregon agriculture.

R.A. Brown Middle School

The new school year at R.A. Brown is off to a phenomenal start, buzzing with energy and fresh opportunities! The enthusiasm is palpable, thanks in part to the incredibly popular new guitar elective, which has students strumming their way into a new skill and fostering creative expression across the campus.



The new guitar elective has been very successful.

Enhancing our vibrant school culture, advisory classes have embraced a creative challenge—decorating their doors with inspiring themes to promote a strong sense of belonging and welcoming spirit for everyone.



Students work together to come up with inspirational messages and designs for classroom doors.

A particularly unique highlight was the entire eighth grade class’s trip to attend an opera centered on York, a significant figure from the Lewis and Clark expedition. This memorable, interdisciplinary experience brought history and the arts to life. It’s clear that this year is already shaping up to be one full of engagement, community, and rich educational experiences!

All are invited to donate to our Canned Food Drive, December 8 - 19.

Butternut Creek Elementary School

We have had such a fun Fall at Butternut Creek! We started with our AMAZING Parent Teacher Club Block Party, which featured lots of fun stations outside with several food trucks and an open house for families to meet teachers. We even had a parent who was our DJ!

In October, Butternut Creek students joined others from around the state participating in “Oregon Crunch-at-Once” to celebrate National Farm-to-School Month. Principal Bethune worked with Nutrition Services to secure local

apples for the event from Bell Orchards off of Farmington - the owners of which lived three doors down from Butternut Creek for 35 years and sent all six of their children to elementary school there!



Students and local farmers enjoy fresh crunchy apples.

Imlay Elementary School

We are thrilled to share that Imlay Elementary School has gotten off to a wonderful and safe start to the school year! Our dedicated teachers are delivering rigorous and engaging lessons with a strong focus on our core priority areas: Math, Reading, Writing, and STEAM education. This fall, our amazing PTA hosted our annual Eagle Walk and Roll fundraiser, which directly benefits our school community. With an ambitious goal of \$25,000, we’re eagerly awaiting the final results of this major fundraising effort! We want to thank our amazing parents, volunteers, and community sponsors for making this such a wonderful experience and providing an Eagle Walk and Roll shirt for every student and staff member!



Imlay is now an official STEAM school.

We are incredibly proud to announce that Imlay Elementary has achieved official STEAM school certification through the Portland Metro STEM Partnership (PMSP)! Not only did we receive the certification, but we exceeded our own expectations with outstanding results. We earned eight badges, including School Learning Garden, School Makers, National STEM Week, Community/Family STEAM Night, STEAM Special, School Coders, Professional Development Expert, and a special STEAM Excellence badge created just for us! In our certification rankings, we qualified in every area and achieved Distinguished status in Leadership, Planning, and Partnership, while earning Accomplished status in Teaching and Learning. A celebratory banner is on its way, and we look forward to continuing our STEAM excellence journey with potential grade-level specific certifications in the future. Thank you to our entire school community for supporting these incredible achievements!

Indian Hills Elementary School

We are excited to share that Indian Hills Elementary School has commenced the school year with a strong focus on delivering rigorous and engaging lessons in Math, Reading, Writing, and Social Emotional Learning. Our dedicated educators are committed to providing a safe and enriching environment for all students.

This fall, we’ve successfully hosted several community events, including our first Back-to-School Night in years, a movie night organized by our PTO, and our annual Harvest Dance. Additionally, we have launched our bilingual Parent Advisory Committee, which meets monthly to add diverse voices to our community discussions around culture and representation. We are also thrilled to introduce our student leadership program, empowering our students to create positive environments and amplify their voices.



Parents, families, students, and staff come together for a bilingual Parent Advisory Committee meeting.

Ladd Acres Elementary School

It has been a fall full of fun and exploration!

Our October Fun Run, Laps for Ladd, was a great success! We are eagerly awaiting the final tally to see if we reached our fundraising goal to support students.

We also had Astro Launch Night in October, where families enjoyed classroom activities, pizza, and an art project. The following day, students participated in the Day of Exploration, diving into projects focused on art, engineering, and outdoor learning.



The Laps for Ladd Fun Run helps keep students healthy and also raises money for the school.

Reedville Elementary School

We have had an incredible start to the school year at Reedville! We were able to welcome families for Back-to-School Night to visit classrooms and tour the school. This fall, students have had the chance to participate in a variety of after-school activities including Tutoring, Soccer, Leadership, Rainbow GSA, Crossfit, and Oregon Battle of the Books.

Our annual Superhero Fun Run took place on October 31, and our sixth grade students attended Outdoor School. Save the date for Reedville Multicultural Night with families on the evening of February 26.



Reedville students work in groups to learn new vocabulary and practice language.

Tobias Elementary School

Our school year is off to a great start! We rolled out the red carpet and Tobi the Tiger greeted students on their first day. We already have 20 TailBlazers, who are school leaders, and are ready to add 6th Grade Self Managers. These students consistently work to make good choices and support their peers.

We had our annual jog-a-thon, the Tiger Trek, which included a spirit week and a day filled with fun and physical activity. Our Back-to-School Night had a different format, which allowed teachers to welcome families to the classroom and showcase what students have been doing. Finally, we just had our Trunk or Treat, and there were so many creative decorations.

Mark your calendars for the February 20 Winter Dance; where students will enjoy music and dancing with friends and family.

All are invited to STEAM Night, February 26, where families can participate in stations that highlight science, technology, engineering, art, and math.



Tobias TailBlazers are always ready to welcome students and model inclusivity.



HILLSBORO ONLINE ACADEMY



Elementary School Students Have Library Time at Groner

Since our move to Groner Elementary School, our HOA K-6 students have added to their “Hybrid” on-site activities: Library, Recess, STEAM, and even riding a school bus! Existing activities include PE, Music, Lunch, Classtime, Art and Clubs.

Middle School Students Enjoy STEAM Time

The move out to Groner Elementary has provided an extra “Maker’s Space” room for all things science and art, where our middle school students can come on campus twice a week to be social and creative with their peers.

High School Students Prep for Their Future

HOA high school students visited the College Fair at the Oregon Convention Center, and the Future Natural Resource Leaders (FNRL) Club learned to press apples and make apple cider.

Second Semester Enrollment Now Open at HOA K-12!

Join a school that adapts to you! Discover the perfect balance of online learning and in-person engagement at Hillsboro Online Academy. Enroll today and be part of a dynamic, supportive learning community!

Homeschool Partnership Enrollment - Now Open for Second Semester!

HP is the Hillsboro School District’s program to offer homeschooling families support through a curriculum and extracurricular allowance, on-site and virtual social opportunities, and the ability to be a part of HSD and all that entails. For the 2025-26 school year, we are accepting students in grades K-8.



HOA elementary students enjoying their new library at Groner.



Middle school students made flubber.

Glencoe Feeder



Glencoe High School
Evergreen Middle School

Elementaries:
Atfalati Ridge | Free Orchards | Jackson |
Lincoln Street | McKinney | North Plains |
Patterson

Glencoe High School



Glencoe Dental Assisting students getting hands-on training in the field.

Congratulations to Glencoe’s competitors at the International Thespian Festival held in June. Every GHS performer/presenter earned the highest possible honors- a superior rating. This is a stunning success that GHS has never achieved before. Superior-rated performances/presentations include:

- McKayla Baird and Chase VanWormer - two person scene
- Megan Stirling - Contrasting Monologues
- Judah Forrester, Ainsley Rhodes, Mel Lloyd, and Jillian St Clair - Group Scene
- Avery Krasnof - Solo Singing
- McKayla Baird - Contrasting Monologues
- Ethan Hehn - Lighting Design

Attending students also auditioned for colleges and conservatories, watched 8 excellent shows, and attended multiple professional workshops - all as a part of the week-long festival.

This year’s fall production is a unique opportunity for Glencoe students to be the first performers of *Laila, Maria, and Bruce Get a Life*. In this Theater + Film + Music production, three young adults begin a new life in a new place. The challenges, fears, successes, and doubts of that journey come to life through scenes, songs, and images, as Laila, Maria, and Bruce navigate the unknown.

Full of heart, humor, and truth, this special production promises to be impactful, entertaining, and truly different from anything GHS, or anyone, has done before.



Members of the Glencoe Unified Robotics team.

Performances are December 5, 6, 11, 12, and 13. You won’t want to miss this special production!

Our awesome dental assisting students had their first skills lab last week at Virginia Garcia. They’ve all started training chairside at the clinics.

Unified Sports, a Special Olympics initiative, brings students with and without intellectual disabilities together on the same team to build friendships, promote understanding, and celebrate shared achievement. Unified Robotics brings that same inclusive spirit to STEM education, as students collaborate to design, build, and program robots that compete in a supportive, exciting environment.

Glencoe’s Unified Robotics team exemplifies the school’s ongoing commitment to inclusive excellence and is currently recruiting both athletes and partners - students eager to problem-solve, create, and grow together. No prior robotics experience is necessary; all participants receive hands-on training and mentorship as the season progresses.

Together, Glencoe is proving that inclusion and innovation go hand-in-hand—one robot at a time.

Evergreen Middle School



Evergreen served Aguas Frescas with lunch during Hispanic Heritage Month.

Evergreen has celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month in many ways. Aguas Frescas were served at lunches each Wednesday throughout the month. The final day of the month was celebrated with a student being selected to break a pinata during lunch. Advisory classes selected a Latin or South American country to celebrate as part of a door decorating competition.

Atfalati Ridge Elementary School

On September 30, we held our Annual Fund Run hosted by our Blue Jay Boosters (PTO). Every class did an amazing job and as a school, we ran over 3,400 laps around our field. Our students were outstanding showing up in their class colors, supporting other grades, and having fun running! With the support of our community, we raised \$19,000, which is the most we have ever raised at our small school. Some of the prizes our students earned are an all-school recess, Caesar the No Drama Llama at arrival, Stinky Feet Day, staff Wig Out Day, bubbles and chalk at recess, Pie a Teacher in the



Atfalati Ridge students celebrated success during this year’s Fund Run.

Face, lunch outside, Staff Inflatables Race, and Tape the Principal to the Wall! The class with the most spirit will get to choose the theme for our spring dance, and the class that raised the most will get a pizza party. Our top runner and top earner will get to be Principal for a Day, and we can’t see what those students do with that responsibility!

Free Orchards Elementary School

Free Orchards hosted a successful Family Resource & Curriculum Night on October 22, bringing families together to connect, learn, and explore ways to support student success. Our after-school clubs are in full swing — Chess, Soccer, Reading, and CHICAS (with Adelante Mujeres) — with STEAM, Baile Folklórico, Track and Field and Theater clubs coming soon! Students have been busy learning, completing district assessments, exploring in our Fox Farm, and showing great growth this fall.

Jackson Elementary School



Jackson students celebrated after completing the Jaguar Jog fundraiser.

Lincoln Street Elementary School

Lincoln Street gave away over 100 backpacks filled with school supplies to our students. Families enjoyed grilled hot dogs, browsed our pop-up shop of donated clothing, and had a chance to meet all our amazing teachers as well as our new principal.

We had our Jog-A-Thon on October 2. Our school goal was \$3000 to purchase T-Shirts for all students and staff. We raised over \$12,000!

Thank you to all the parents who came out and supported our school. A big shout-out to the Hilhi Marketing team, for coming out and volunteering during our run.

We had a great turnout for our movie night featuring *Coco*! Families enjoyed free popcorn, pizza and drinks while relaxing together. Before the movie, we held a short parent meeting to invite families to join our Lincoln Street parent groups, which is a great way to get more involved and help shape our school community.



The Lincoln Street Get on the Bus soccer teams have had an exciting and fun season.

McKinney Elementary School

Our after-school enrichment programs are underway and engaging many, many students Kinder-6th grade: Band, Get on the Bus Soccer Club, Chicas, Cougar Art Club, and High Dosage Tutoring, plus more to come!

Field trips have begun, with Pre-K frolicking through the pumpkin patch, 3rd and 4th grades enjoying the Portland Youth Opera, and our 2nd graders exploring the great outdoors at Hoyt Arboretum.

In the classroom, all teachers are focusing on providing language supports, scaffolds and visuals to ensure that all students have access to learning across content areas. As a whole school, we have wrapped up our fall writing prompt about how we get ready each morning for a great day of school, which students were able to write in their language of choice. This fall, staff and students are modeling exceptional self-awareness and self-management skills as we move throughout the school day with staff, friends, and classmates.



McKinney sixth graders have been practicing their written communication skills by exchanging letters with pen pals in New York.

North Plains Elementary School

North Plains has started the year strong by knowing, valuing, and empowering every child! We are hyper-focusing on learning progressions and growth within mathematics, writing, and social-emotional learning.



The Buddy Bench at North Plains Elementary is a place to meet friends or try something new.

Our amazing PTO coordinated our annual Fund Run, which is our biggest fundraising event of the year. Thank you to our community, as we raised over \$11,000 for our school!

Our 5th & 6th grade Student Council created a whole school Buddy Bench so any student can indicate a desire to make new friends, try a new activity, and/or seek support toward healthy friendships.

In September, we focused on self-awareness. Check out our self-awareness warriors for the month! Warriors are nominated and recognized by staff members in the school.

Congrats to our 5th grader who was selected by the Hillsboro Hops for his resilience, positive leadership skills, and hard work in school!

Teaching all our students how to clearly communicate, speak collaboratively, and take turns with authentic accountability are skills evident in all classes, even our kinders!

In December, we'll hold our traditional Holiday Gift Shop the week before winter break. This



AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

November 17-21, 2025



allows each student to choose two provided gifts to wrap and surprise two important people in their life.

Patterson Elementary School



The students at Patterson got to wear the tie die shirts they made for the Panther Dash.

This year, Patterson is focused on math fluency - we're in our Math Era!

On September 26, we had our annual Panther Dash, our biggest fundraising event of the year.

Every student had an opportunity to tie dye a Patterson t-shirt, thanks to the generous support of our Booster Club and community fundraising efforts!

Also in September, we focused on self-awareness. Check out our self-awareness winners for the month. They enjoyed a popcorn treat to celebrate their hard work and growth!

Thanks to all who came to enjoy our community movie night in October!

Keep an eye out for our annual Bingo Night event and local restaurant fundraisers at Noodles & Co. and Mod Pizza.

Hilhi Feeder



Hillsboro High School
South Meadows Middle School
Elementaries:
Brookwood | Farmington View | W.L. Henry
Groner | Minter Bridge | Rosedale | Tamarack |
Witch Hazel

Hillsboro High School

Hilhi started the 2025-26 school year learning how to do school without cell phones, and it is going great! At lunches, we have observed students talking to each other and playing cards and in the classroom, we are seeing students more engaged in learning. We are looking forward to an amazing school year.



The Hilhi Marching Band performing in competition.

Hilhi Marching Band and Colorguard recently placed 2nd in their Division at the “Pride of the Northwest” Marching Band Competition held in Grants Pass. Congratulations to Hilhi Choir, who had their first concert of the year on October 28.

Hilhi’s Homecoming theme this year was “Greased Lightning” and it was the best! We had our parade, game, and dance—where we even showed a movie in the pit.

This Year’s Fall play, “Frankenstein” has its run this month from November 14-22. The theater students worked hard building sets and practicing their lines.

Fall Sports is wrapping up and Winter Sports are beginning. We wish our athletes the best of luck as they compete in their last few events.

We are thankful to our Hilhi community for supporting the Spartans! GO Hilhi!

South Meadows Middle School

South Meadows hosted a community gathering in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month in October. More than 275 people attended. The event featured ballet folklórico performances, a presentation by the Hillsboro Hops, items for sale by local Hispanic-identifying vendors, food, activities, and more. The evening ended with attendees learning to dance the Cumbia.



South Meadows was the proud host of this year’s Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration.

Brookwood Elementary School

The new year is off to a great start for the Brookwood Bobcats!

Our sixth-grade students enjoyed four days at Outdoor School at Camp Magruder the last week of October. They participated in field studies, hikes, and nightly campfires, and came home tired, wet, and ready for Halloween!

We have also been busy after school with so many exciting learning opportunities. Mrs. Grossen is doing a reading club with students who are enthusiastically becoming stronger readers each week. Mrs. Blum & Mrs. Sandage have a group of students in Running Club, who are getting outside and into our neighborhood with weekly runs (and some walking). They are also offering an Art Club with Mrs. Butterer, and Mrs. Sandage is even running a LEGO Club.



Brookwood students get to enjoy outdoor exercise with the Running Club.

Chess Club started back up this month and our Fitness Club continues to meet after school twice a week with amazing support from our community partners. All of this and our sixth-grade band has a record number of students participating in learning their instruments & making music!

We’re excited to see what’s next at Brookwood. Go Bobcats!

Farmington View Elementary School

At Farmington View Elementary, community and connection are at the heart of everything we do—and our recent Fall Carnival was a perfect example of that spirit in action! Families gathered for an evening of fun, laughter, and togetherness, enjoying a wide variety of free carnival games for all ages.



Farmington View’s Fall Carnival Night was a fun time for all that attended.

From classic ring toss to skee ball, every station was designed to bring joy and create lasting memories. It was a fantastic turnout, and we loved seeing so many students, families, and staff celebrating the season together.

Looking ahead, we’re excited to keep the momentum going with our next big family event: Multicultural Night on Thursday, December 18! During this special evening, each classroom will represent a different country or culture, and families will have the opportunity to host their own tables, sharing traditions, foods, artifacts, and stories from around the world.

Groner Elementary School

After celebrating Groner Elementary School’s 75th anniversary last year, this fall brings a fresh wave of energy and new opportunities.

Hillsboro Online Academy has joined us on campus as a new school partner, making Groner a home to two distinct schools operating together under one roof—and bringing the campus to full capacity for the first time in years.



A new Gaga ball pit is among the many playground updates at Groner.

All students are enjoying a newly resurfaced playground, updated recess equipment, a Gaga ball pit, volleyball net, and picnic table area—thanks to the incredible support of the Groner PTO and the Hillsboro Schools Foundation. It’s a great year to build on Groner’s strong traditions while welcoming what’s new!

Minter Bridge Elementary School

Minter Bridge is buzzing with energy after the final bell! Thanks to our Choice Funds, we’re able to offer a wide variety of after-school programs that give students opportunities to learn, create, and connect beyond the classroom. This fall, we’re proud to offer Chicas, Sports Clubs, Chess Club, Chorus Club, Creative Comic Club, and Leadership. Each club provides students with a fun and supportive space to explore new skills and interests. And we’re excited to announce



Chess Club is one of many options available to students at Minter Bridge.

that beginning in January, we'll be adding a Theatre Club, Stop Motion Animation Club, and Native American Beading & Culture Club to the lineup! There's something for everyone at Minter Bridge—where learning and creativity continue long after the school day ends!

Rosedale Elementary School



Sharing culture through dance at Rosedale.

At Rosedale, we believe in being welcoming and we stand for being inclusive. We want our community to feel seen. This includes learning about each other and what is important to different cultures.

Mrs. Aviles, our music teacher, is one example of sharing different greetings, music, and dances from our community. Recently, students learned about dandiya, an Indian folk dance.

Tamarack Elementary School

So many wonderful things are happening at Tamarack this school year made possible by our community partners and families! We have nearly doubled in size since our first year, welcoming many new families and staff members! Our Tamarack Community Group (PTO) has hosted family socials and fundraisers, such as our first ever Fall Family Festival on October 24. We are hoping to make it an annual event alongside our Handmade Market in December.

We also want to give special thanks to the Hillsboro School Foundation for the donation that allowed us to buy band instruments. Now every child who would like to participate in band can have an instrument ready for extra practice! They also stocked our PE closet with adaptive recreation equipment and gave cardboard engineering tools to our Design Lab. -Thank you HSF!



The Tamarack band is coming together!

PE is also working alongside Safe Routes for School, teaching all of our Kinder-2nd graders how to ride a bike! Along with this, 3rd graders are beginning their Salmon unit, raising them for release, while our 4th graders study Indigenous Cultures and prepare for their potlatch. Our 6th graders went to outdoor school in the last week of October. Also scheduled, each class will be fieldtripping to OMSI for the Monsters of the Abyss Exhibit. Huge thank you to all our community members for their involvement and support!

Witch Hazel Elementary School

Witch Hazel is off to such a great start of the school year. Strong academic instruction is happening in every classroom with purposeful use of Interactive Notebooks (INBs). We have started after-school clubs such as soccer, CHICAS, tutoring, and band. In September, we hosted a Dual Language Night, and Our Wolf Families (PTO/PAC) even organized our

very first school dance! Pizza and drinks were provided at no cost, and families bonded with music and activities recognizing Diwali, Día de los Muertos, and Halloween. In November, we started a Food Drive to help those in need during long breaks in the Fall and Winter months. Thank you to the Witch Hazel community for always being willing to support one another.



Witch Hazel students made crafts for Día de los Muertos.

W.L. Henry Elementary School

Our school was once again the proud recipient of a generous donation from Royal Moore Subaru through their annual Share the Love Event. This year's donation totaled \$15,000! It included both supply kits and a \$500 adopt a classroom.org shopping allowance for every classroom teacher, which allowed staff to purchase materials tailored to their specific needs. We are so very grateful for Royal Moore Subaru's continued support. Their donation allowed us to support more art literacy aligned to content, hands-on experiences with manipulatives, items for reading and math centers, and social-emotional learning tools and incentives.



Teachers at W.L. Henry received a generous classroom donation from Royal Moore Subaru.

OAK STREET CAMPUS



It has been a busy and productive fall for all programs at Oak Street Campus.

Students gave back to the community by completing several winterization projects in the OSC Community Garden. Students further developed their employability skills as they learned new tasks and problem-solved with their peers-- all while improving the learning garden and preparing it for winter.

HSD's GED students are working hard! Collectively, they've completed 44 tests, earned 1 college ready credit, and 3 GEDs so far. OSC Seniors participated in the HSD Public Service Career Spotlight Day, sponsored by the Washington County Chamber.

In October, the Sweet Oak Café opened in the Pathways Center. Student baristas are learning all about coffee and how to run a small business while providing delicious beverages to Oak Street staff and students.

Students participated in a special community event/assignment in downtown Hillsboro! This experience introduced Hillsboro Big Picture students to local community partners and resources, while giving them the chance to work together and represent OSC.

The Oak Street Campus Bridge Program connects students experiencing a life transition to opportunities for credit attainment, positive relationships, and resources that support a positive return to their neighborhood high school. The Oak Street Campus Bridge Program is a 5-week (December 16 - January 29) credit attainment and leadership experience designed to encourage academic confidence, persistence, resilience, and support a connection to each high school's grade-level team.



Early College Interns helped onboard our newest cohort of 62 students.



Students from Parenting, PE, and Biology classes visited the zoo and participated in activities that blended their classroom learning with hands-on zoo experiences.

LibertyFeeder



Liberty High School



Liberty High School has an in-house marketing team.

The Perigrene Falcon is one of the fastest animals on earth. When in a dive to catch prey, it can reach speeds of up to 240 mph. Before going into a dive, falcons sit on their perch and use their incredible vision to guide their next move. The Falcons over at Liberty High School are doing just that. An amazing group of Falcon students and staff have a vision to make Liberty High School even better than it currently is. This group calls themselves *The Perch Creative*. Their vision is to combine the expertise and skill sets of Liberty’s Digital Photography program, Graphic Design program, and Marketing program, with the goal of promoting all the good things happening at Liberty. The Teachers guiding this vision are Mr. Eric Mahlum (Digital Photography), Ms. Megan McCaffrey (Graphic Design), and Mr. Jeremy Nesbitt (Marketing).



The Perch Creative collaborating on a calendar of upcoming promotional events.

The Perch Creative took flight last school year when a group of students and staff started asking, “How do we get everyone at Liberty involved and enjoying the experience of being a Falcon? How do we get more students to attend events and get connected?” Falcon students are the heart of this concept. Here is what Ben James, a student on the Marketing Team, said about The Perch Creative, “This has lots of potential to improve our school. Putting students together from Digital Photography, Graphic Design, and Marketing is powerful.” Bella Murphy of the Marketing Team said, “Lots of ideas coming together will make the school better.” The ultimate goal is to make every student, parent, and staff member feel welcomed and excited to be part of the Liberty community. The students and staff involved in The Perch Creative realized that we have all the fancy marketing tools and expertise right

here at Liberty. And this group has already made a difference. They helped promote our Homecoming Spirit Week, the Homecoming Football Game, the Homecoming Parade, and the Homecoming Dance, all of which were a huge success based on the number of students who participated. The sky is the limit for this group. They are currently working on a promotional campaign to increase participation in Winter Sports and a top secret mission called “The Flock.” Stay tuned for more innovation from The Perch Creative!

J.W. Poynter Middle School



Poynter Middle School WEB leaders participate in a group welcoming activity.

This fall, Poynter Middle School has focused on creating a strong sense of belonging and community for all students. Eighth-grade WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) leaders welcomed incoming seventh graders with engaging activities during the first days of school, helping them build connections and confidence. Our fall spirit assembly brought students and staff together, reflecting our new vision statement: “Celebrating our community. Supporting academic and social/emotional growth.” Teachers are also emphasizing language scaffolds in classrooms to support student engagement and meaningful academic conversations. Across the school, the focus remains clear—ensuring every student feels cared for and supported to succeed.

Eastwood Elementary School

It is another year of wonderful and caring staff members dedicated to helping guide our future community leaders at Eastwood Elementary School. This fall, sixth graders had the opportunity to attend Outdoor School at Meriwhether, located at the Oregon Coast.



Third through Sixth-grade students were able to see an opera at the Walters Cultural Arts Center.

Liberty High School
Poynter Middle School
Elementaries:
Eastwood | Lenox | Mooberry
Orenco | Quatama | West Union



Eastwood students and families put together a community Ofrenda.

Our wonderful PAC members are putting up the yearly Ofrenda to celebrate el Día de los Muertos/Day of the Dead. Parents create a community Ofrenda by adding music, food and pictures of those family members who have passed on. We honor those even in death, because life is beautiful and we must remember those who have made such a great impact on us!

On October 22, 3rd through 6th graders got to see a live opera performance called *The Elixir of Love* through a partnership with the Walters Cultural Arts Center and Portland Opera To-Go. Students were enthralled with the acting, singing and the way performers captured the mood and lines in both speaking and using their baritone or tenor voices.

Lenox Elementary School

On October 3rd, the halls of Lenox came alive with vibrant colors and joyful energy as students and their families gathered for the much-anticipated Back-to-School Glow Dance.



A family dance party at the Lenox Back-to-School Glow Dance.

Students danced the night away under the glow of neon lights, creating a dazzling atmosphere filled with laughter and excitement. The glow-in-the-dark decorations and upbeat music set the perfect scene for families to connect, unwind, and celebrate the spirit of being back at school.

More than just a dance, the event fostered a sense of unity and belonging among students and their loved ones. It was a fantastic opportunity to build friendships, strengthen community connections, and kick off the school year with positive energy and enthusiasm.

Mooberry Elementary School

Mooberry hosted its annual Fall Carnival on Thursday, October 23, and it was such a nice way to bring people together for some carefree fun. Put on by the Mooberry Community Corral (essentially our equivalent of a PTO), the Fall Carnival featured various carnival-style games for kids to play and earn prizes. The super popular dunk tank gave kids the opportunity to soak their favorite PE Teacher, Student Success Coach, or Principal. Families were also able to peruse the Book Fair and enjoy some delicious eats from food trucks. Really the most special part was seeing the smiles on the faces of those who were in attendance, as we all can use some community right now.



The dunk tank was very popular at the Mooberry Fall Carnival.

Orenco Elementary School

Orenco Elementary’s Physical Education teacher, Steve Johnson, has been named the Oregon Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year by the Oregon Society of Health and Physical Educators, part of SHAPE America. The honor, announced in October, recognizes Johnson’s excellence in teaching, mentorship, and commitment to student wellness.

Johnson has taught at Orenco for 17 years, creating active and engaging classes that inspire a love of physical activity. In addition to his classroom work, he mentors and supports other PE teachers across the Hillsboro School District.

A big thank-you goes out to Shelley Heller, one of our district’s dedicated Physical Therapists,



Congratulations to Steven Johnson, for being named Oregon Elementary PE Teacher of the Year!

for her outstanding work in helping make the Orenco playground more accessible for all students. Shelley spearheaded a successful grant application through the Hillsboro Schools Foundation (HSF) to fund a new Mobi-Mat, which allows students and staff to safely enter the bark chip area of the playground and access adaptive swings.

This project, years in the making, has faced many challenges and costs, but Shelley’s creativity and collaboration with multiple HSD departments made it possible to find an affordable, effective solution. Installation of the Mobi-Mat was completed this fall, with support from the district’s facilities team.



Playground improvements now give even more students safe access to the swings.

Thanks to the joint Orenco and HSD team and the generosity of the Hillsboro Schools Foundation, our playground is becoming safer, more inclusive, and more fun for everyone. The school looks forward to continuing improvements to ensure all students can play and participate together.

Quatama Elementary School

This fall, we partnered once again with families and the community to host our annual Culture Night at Quatama. We had several amazing



Students participate in Quatama’s annual Culture Night

performances and presentations representing cultures from around the world, including India, Pakistan, Korea, France, and Mexico.

This spring, we invite you to STEAM Night on April 16.

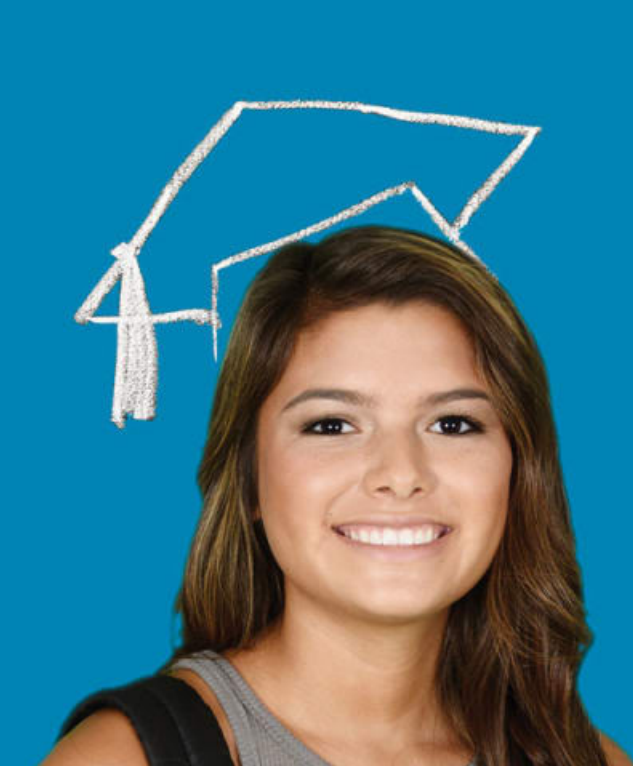
West Union Elementary School

Two exciting events from this fall were our annual wolverine fun run and a visit from Bailey the Therapy Dog.

In November, we are running a clothing and food drive to support families in need, and will host our annual Community Dinner on Saturday, November 15.



West Union got a visit from Bailey, the Therapy Dog.



Every day matters

Daily attendance leads to success



HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT CAREER & COLLEGE PATHWAYS

Classroom to Career - Local Industry Partners and the Return on Investment

Built for the Future: Hillsboro’s Investment in Youth Talent Pipelines Pays Off

Each year, Hillsboro School District graduates launch their careers with employers they first connected with through their Career and College Pathways (CCP) programs. These partnerships bridge classroom learning with real industry training, and for many students, that connection leads directly to employment. From clinics to fire stations, cleanrooms to manufacturing floors, these stories reflect the real return on investment of CTE education.

The stories highlighted here represent just a sampling of responses from recent Hillsboro graduates whose career journeys began in our CTE classrooms. When education and industry come together to build opportunity, both students and employers benefit.

Smiles in the Making: Glencoe Dental Assisting Graduates Launch Their Careers

Glencoe Dental Assisting → Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center

Graduates of Glencoe High School’s Dental Assisting program are now working at Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center, the same community partner that hosted their clinical experiences. Through this collaboration, students gain real industry training, earn certifications, and develop the confidence and technical skills needed to begin their careers in healthcare.

Several graduates now serve as Dental Assistants (DA1s) with clear pathways to advance as Expanded Functions Dental Assistants (EFDAs).

Angelina Martinez, Class of 2025, is currently employed as an EFDA at Virginia Garcia, where the foundation for that career began.

“Connecting with Virginia Garcia through the Glencoe Dental Assisting Program gave me so much more than just clinical experience. It opened the door to my future. The training and the encouragement I received helped me grow not only in skill but in confidence, and I’m so proud to now be working as an EFDA in the same place where my journey first began. This experience has truly changed my life and shown me how far dedication and hard work can take you. I hope my story inspires other passionate high school students to follow their hearts and chase their dreams in dentistry.”



Angelina on the job after graduation, keeping the skills and education learned in Glencoe’s Dental Assisting Program right here in the community.

Jasmine Vazquez, Class of 2024, also began her career through the program and now works as an EFDA at Virginia Garcia. In addition to her role in the clinic, she continues to give back by supporting current Glencoe Dental Assisting students in their skills labs.

“Becoming a dental assistant through the Glencoe High School program kick-started my healthcare career. It helped me build confidence, develop practical skills, and prepare for further education. It took some hard work balancing my part-time job and seven other classes for graduation, but with amazing support from people around me, I was able to persevere.”

The success of Glencoe’s graduates reflects the impact of early exposure, rigorous coursework, and strong industry partnerships. The Dental Assisting CTE program provides students with real-world experience, professional credentials, and a pathway to high-demand healthcare careers right here in the local community.

Where Sparks Become Service

Hillsboro School District Fire Science → Hillsboro Fire & Rescue, Wildland FireFighting

Liberty High School’s Fire Science program provides students with hands-on, industry-level training at the Hillsboro Fire & Rescue Training Facility. Under the guidance of professional fire instructors, including HSD Fire Science teacher and seasoned wildland firefighter Rhea Duncan, students gain experience that mirrors real emergency response environments.

Through the program, students earn dual credit through Portland Community College, industry-recognized certifications, and their Wildland Firefighter 2 certification, preparing them for immediate employment and continued advancement in the field. Many graduates go on to serve as Firefighter Cadets with Hillsboro Fire & Rescue or join wildland fire teams led by their former instructor, carrying forward the skills and values developed in the classroom.

Several program completers have continued their education to earn EMT certifications and are now working as, or training to become, paramedics. Others have gone on to serve with Banks Fire District and neighboring agencies, further expanding their professional experience.

Notably, **Angelo Robles**, Class of 2022, and **Seth Dwyer**, Class of 2023, now serve alongside Rhea on active wildland fire crews, putting their training into action on the front lines.

Cameron Alex, Class of 2007, a Fire Science graduate now serving as a Firefighter for the City of Hillsboro, shared how the program shaped his path:

“I graduated from Century High School in 2007, but I was part of what is now called the Liberty High School Fire Science program. That program was a huge influence on where I am today. It gave me an early look into what the fire service was all about: the teamwork, the training, and the service to the community. Having the chance to explore a potential career while still in high school was an incredible opportunity. It gave me real hands-on experience, helped me understand what firefighters do, and showed me that this was the kind of work I wanted to dedicate myself to.”

After graduation, I started as a volunteer with Hillsboro Fire & Rescue in 2009, which really confirmed my passion for the job. Along the way, I worked as a firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service, gaining valuable experience in wildland firefighting before returning to Hillsboro Fire as a career firefighter in 2018.

It is something special to serve in the same community where I grew up. Every call, every shift, and every day on the job feels connected to the people and places that shaped who I am. Looking back, the fire science program

was where that spark first caught. It gave me direction, confidence, and a sense of purpose that has carried me through my entire career so far.”

Angelo Robles, Class of 2022, now a wildland firefighter, reflected on his own path:

“My experience in Fire Science gave me a couple steps ahead and taught me that every flame tells a story. My journey led me to work alongside experienced wildland firefighters, where I learned to enjoy the balance between fire and forest. It’s not just about controlling fire, it’s about understanding its rhythm and planning—just how life is rhythm and planning ahead.”

Beni Lacatus, Class of 2023, shared a similar experience:

“Being able to participate in the college and career pathway Fire Science while in high school truly aided me in being able to obtain my dream job. Not only did this course provide me with the unique experience of having a hands-on class at a fire station, where we performed a variety of different fire skills; it also allowed me to explore a career field I was interested in, and truly decide if it was something I wanted to pursue. It was a great opportunity to take a class that directly related to what I wanted to do in the future.”

Fire Science Instructor **Rhea Duncan** highlighted the collaborative foundation of the program:

“The Liberty Fire Science program has built a model of collaboration and support with local agencies that has expanded students’ exposure and their ability to gain industry-level experience, which helps prepare them for the next step in their post-secondary journey. Partnering with Hillsboro Fire & Rescue is a one-of-a-kind collaborative effort which has enabled our program to be a model of success that is unique not only to our geographical area, but statewide. Bringing industry-level professionals to work directly with our program has been invaluable to the growth and success of our students.”



Angelo Robles (right) pictured here with another former LHS Fire Science student, Seth Dwyer (left), both serve as wildland firefighters.

From Classroom to Cleanroom

Hillsboro High School Bioscience Technologies → Genentech

Hilhi’s Bioscience Technologies program provides students with hands-on industry training, giving them early exposure to the tools, protocols, and professional practices of the life science industry. For Hillsboro High School graduate **Justin Escobar**, Class of 2021, that experience sparked a clear career path that began long before graduation.

Justin first connected with Genentech in 11th grade through classroom mentorship and industry tours that introduced students to real biotech environments. Those connections deepened through multiple experiences with Genentech in the classroom, including guest speakers and one-on-one mentoring, as well as facility tours. By the time Justin entered Portland Community College’s Bioscience Technologies program, he already understood the expectations of a high-performance lab, making his transition into Genentech’s biomanufacturing operations a natural next step.

Today, Justin not only continues to grow in his biotech career, he also shares his journey with community members, students, and legislators, demonstrating how

early access to career-connected learning can shape a student’s future. During a recent visit from the Governor and Genentech’s CEO, leaders discussed the company’s commitment to professional development and local school partnerships. As part of Genentech’s HIT Workforce Strategy, which focuses on fostering local talent in the Greater Portland Metropolitan area and beyond, partnerships with Hillsboro High School and Portland Community College are creating clear,



Former Hilhi student, Justin Escobar (right) shared his CCP experience with Governor Kotek.

connected pathways from classroom to career.

During that visit, the Governor spoke directly with Justin, who shared how his early connection to Genentech through mentorship and classroom engagement helped launch his career. Now an Immunotherapy Specialist at Genentech, Justin continues to mentor students following the same pathway he once did, bringing the Hilhi-to-Genentech pipeline full circle.

“Being part of the small percentage of Latinos in STEM has helped drive me to excel in all aspects. If it weren’t for the investment into offerings such as the HHS Biotech program, I would not have been able to get the head start on my career path. The foundations taught at the high-school level have followed me through my pursuit of higher education, as well as allowed for me to join Genentech in being at the forefront of medicine.”
- Justin Escobar

How Students Are Shaping Hillsboro’s Manufacturing Workforce

Century Engineering Technology → Jireh Semiconductor & Tosoh Quartz

Century High School’s Advanced Manufacturing Youth Apprenticeship Program, part of the school’s Manufacturing CTE program, is Oregon’s first BOLI registered competency-based apprenticeship. The program combines related technical instruction in the classroom with advanced on-the-job training with the employer. Students gain mentorship, industry certifications, and career readiness skills that open doors to long term employment in the region’s semiconductor and precision manufacturing sectors.

The program’s success is clear. Three of the five apprentices from the first cohort are still employed today, continuing to advance their careers at Jireh Semiconductor and Tosoh Quartz. These graduates represent the strength of Hillsboro’s growing talent pipeline and the power of early, hands-on industry partnerships.

Luke Sears, Class of 2024, shared his experience:

“Since graduation, I’ve been working at Jireh Semiconductor full-time. I’ve trained on more tools than I had in the Apprenticeship Program and as of recently, I trained 2 people on 2 of the tools I work with. The apprenticeship gave me a chance to learn how to work, learn valuable skills like working with others, and gave me experience for my résumé.

The best thing the program did for me was exposing me to the work environment. I’ve met a lot of great people while working at Jireh. [Everyone has been] kind, patient, and friendly.

Eventually, my plan is to be an Electrical Engineer of some sort and the Program had set up my résumé to be able to pursue my goals, after I go through college, of course. I feel like joining the Hillsboro Youth Apprenticeship Program was the best choice I could have made when I was 16 years old.”

Luke would like students to know:

“Life is all about risks, make sure you take the right one for your future.”

Matt Loun, Century High School Engineering and Manufacturing teacher, reflected on what makes the program so valuable:

“We couldn’t pass up this opportunity to offer the youth apprenticeship. Students have to work within their system, the employers’ system. Anytime our students get that opportunity, I think it helps them grow as a person. They are doing it at a younger age than their peers in the workforce. They will carry the skills with them the rest of their lives.”

Cleared for Takeoff: HSD Aerospace Graduates Continue Their Flight Paths

Hillsboro School District Aerospace → Aviation Careers

Graduates from Hillsboro School District’s Aerospace program are taking their classroom experiences to new heights. What begins as hands-on learning about flight, aerodynamics, and aircraft systems has led students into professional aviation roles, college programs, and military service across the country.

From flight simulators to hangars, from university classrooms to the skies, these graduates represent what is possible when passion meets opportunity. Students gain early exposure to aviation technology, college pathways, and hands-on industry experiences that prepare them for what comes next.

Alpha Cohort (Class of 2024)

For members of the Alpha Cohort, graduation was only the beginning of their journey in aviation and aerospace.

Trevor Kirkwood is working as a mechanic apprentice at Hillsboro Aero Academy, where his progress toward an Airframe and Powerplant certification is already halfway complete. **Houston Malmedal** also earned an A&P certification and recently completed an Instrument Flight Rules rating, while **Carson Bell** is a Flight Coordinator at Aero Air at the Hillsboro Airport, building flight hours and pursuing an Aviation Science degree.

At Arizona State University, **Tristan Eells** is studying Aviation Science and working toward Instrument, Commercial, and Multi-Engine ratings, with plans to join SkyWest Airlines after graduation. **Wynter Boehm** is flying professionally as a commercial pilot through Horizon Air’s Pilot Development Program while earning a Certified Flight Instructor rating. **Miguel Cazares** is applying technical skills in the U.S. Marines as an airframer and hydraulic mechanic, gaining hands-on experience maintaining aircraft while preparing to earn a Powerplant certification through college coursework. **Shane Carlisle**, a sophomore at The Ohio State University, continues pilot training through Air Force ROTC with a goal of commissioning as an Air Force pilot and flying C-17s.

Rishi Anand, a Mechanical Engineering major at Cornell University, is also participating in Air Force ROTC with plans to commission after graduation.

“I’ve been grinding college and Air Force ROTC. It’s definitely not been the easiest but I am loving the challenge. I’ve joined Cornell University EMS, where I can directly impact my community. I’d love the opportunity to talk with HSD students about my journey and motivate them to pursue the college track while serving their nation through ROTC.”

Other Alpha graduates are advancing in related fields. **Conner Brookins** is studying Mechanical Engineering

at Portland Community College with plans to transfer to Oregon State University and minor in Aerospace Engineering, while **Eli Sayre** serves in the U.S. Air Force as a Scientific Application Specialist, focusing on geoseismic data analysis.

Bravo Cohort (Class of 2025)

The Bravo Cohort is following closely behind, already building hours, credentials, and connections across the aviation industry.

Ethan Hehn, a student at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona, reflected on how HSD’s O-ACE program shaped his foundation as a pilot:

“My experiences in the O-ACE program have been very beneficial to my development as a pilot. The knowledge I gained from the program helped me get a high score on my Private Pilot Knowledge test and pass my checkride. The program opened my eyes to other opportunities in aviation and gave me a deeper understanding of how the industry operates.”

These experiences, including sitting in on pilot briefings at the airshow, touring PDX, and interning with Horizon Air, are unmatched by other similar programs and compete with what’s offered here at Embry-Riddle, which is highly regarded for its aviation programs.”

Other students in the Bravo Cohort are also working hard towards their goals. **Franko Araiza Santaella** is gaining hands-on experience at Aero Air and preparing to apply to Portland Community College’s Aviation Science program. **Ethan Le** also attending Embry-Riddle, is training toward a Private Pilot License while completing advanced coursework. **Nathan Greywall** is studying at Western Michigan University, preparing to begin flight training, and **Eliza DeGraff** is set to begin Private Pilot License training at Twin Oaks Airpark after a summer filled with flight experiences and glider training in North Plains.

Whether earning pilot credentials, maintaining aircraft, or serving their country, each of these students demonstrates the power of Career & College



Ethan Hehn’s first flight with a passenger over Henry Hagg Lake the day after getting his Private Pilot Certificate. His passenger is Franko Araiza Santaella (left), also from the O-ACE program Bravo Cohort.

Pathways to transform curiosity into skill and ambition into action.

A Message from Melissa Pendergrass

These students’ success is a direct reflection of what’s possible when education and industry work together to invest in youth talent pipelines. Our programs provide real training for industry preparedness, connecting students with the skills, certifications, and confidence they need to succeed in today’s workforce.

Hillsboro students are rooted here. They are eager to serve and build their futures in the same communities where they grew up. The opportunity is here. The talent is here. Now we invite local industry partners to step up and be part of this work. Help shape the next generation of professionals who will power our local economy and strengthen our community for years to come.

To learn how your organization or business can get involved in this life-changing work that benefits both students and employers, please contact **Melissa Pendergrass, Coordinator of Career and College Pathways** at pendergm@hsd.k12.or.us or 503-844-1433.

WE ARE

HIRING

Are you looking for a rewarding career?

Learn more about positions in the district such as educational assistants, custodial services, groundskeepers, nutrition services, and more!

HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT