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**Hillsboro School District Receives \$245,800 from the Nike School Innovation Fund to Support Teacher Training Program**

**Hillsboro, Oregon (3 February 2012)** – Hillsboro School District announced today that it has been awarded \$245,800 by the [Nike School Innovation Fund](#) (NSIF) for teacher training and ongoing support, with a focus on English language learners and mathematics. Teams from 12 elementary schools will implement best practices and strategies for accelerated language development and access to high levels of mathematics content. The Hillsboro School District is contributing \$170,500 to the program.

“In 2011, Hillsboro School District had to reduce nearly \$20 million from our operating budget. As a result, we have had to think differently about how we support schools. The grant is critically important to us because it will allow us to support our elementary schools with the highest percentage of students who do not speak English as their first language and have the highest percentage of students of poverty,” said Hillsboro’s Assistant Superintendent Steve Larson.

“The NSIF Leadership Innovation grant and our district resources will provide the principals and staff with the tools, resources, time, practice and experience needed to improve teaching and learning for all students that we could not afford otherwise,” he continued.

“During this trying economic period when public school funding is shrinking, it is vital to keep innovative school programs alive,” said Heidi O’Neill, VP/General Manager of Nike Global Women’s Training. “Hillsboro School District’s teacher training program exemplifies Nike School Innovation Fund’s goal to support educational leadership and innovation that accelerates student achievement. Not only does the District have our financial support, but we are committed to working directly with the program as well.”

This is the fifth consecutive year that the Fund has given Leadership Innovation Grants, which support innovation in education and leadership to improve student achievement in the Beaverton, Hillsboro and Portland Public School Districts. In July 2011, NSIF was [lauded](#) by President Barack Obama as part of an event roundtable discussion on how corporation partnerships can help transform the American education system.

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**About the Hillsboro School District:** Hillsboro School District is the fourth-largest public school district in the state of Oregon. The District serves over 20,500 students in grades K-12 who reside in the cities of Hillsboro, North Plains, and parts of Cornelius, Aloha, and Sherwood. They strive for educational excellence by engaging their students in a challenging, personalized instructional program that prepares them for success in post-high school studies or the world of work.

**About NSIF:** The Nike School Innovation Fund is a \$9-million, five-year commitment begun in 2007 to support public education in Beaverton, Hillsboro and Portland, Oregon school districts. NSIF's goal is to support innovation in education and leadership to improve student achievement. NSIF does that by lending support, expertise, and dollars in two primary areas: Early Learner Grants and School Leadership Grants. The NSIF is an affiliate of the [Portland Business Alliance](#) Charitable Institute, a 501c (3) corporation. An Advisory Board that includes representatives of the Beaverton, Hillsboro and Portland Public School districts, NIKE and national education and business leaders advise the NSIF.

View the NSIF video [here](#).