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Media Release

Hillsboro School District to Receive \$1.2 Million in Gain Share Funds

City of Hillsboro and Washington County Formalize Their Commitment of \$10 Million to Schools for the 2013-15 Biennium

August 16, 2013, Hillsboro, OR – Superintendent Mike Scott has received a formal letter of commitment from Andy Duyck, Chair, Washington County Board of Commissioners, and Jerry Willey, Mayor, City of Hillsboro for the distribution of \$10 million in Washington County Gain Share* funds to County schools over the course of the current biennium, 2013-2015.

Commissioner Duyck and Mayor Willey first announced their intention to share a portion of Gain Share funds with schools at a joint press conference on June 6, 2013. Details have now been released on how the money will be divided among the seven Washington County school districts (Banks, Beaverton, Forest Grove, Gaston, Hillsboro, Sherwood, Tigard-Tualatin). The \$5 million annual allocation (2013-14 and 2014-15) will be distributed via the ADMw calculation, which stands for Annual Daily Membership – weighted and is the standard formula by which the state allocates money to school districts. Hillsboro’s portion of the money will be \$1,218,271.93.

Based on the verbal commitment of Gain Share funds to the District, the Board of Directors and Superintendent Scott authorized those dollars be used to add school days back to the calendar. When the 2013-14 Budget was adopted in June, a five day reduction to the school year to help bridge the gap between revenues and expenditures was included. Due to the infusion of Gain Share funds and collaborative negotiations with the licensed bargaining unit (Hillsboro Education Association, HEA), the District was able to add three of the previously reduced days back to the calendar in late July.

“Hillsboro School District is extremely grateful to the City of Hillsboro and Washington County for their willingness to share Gain Share funds with local school districts,” notes Superintendent Scott. “We have long enjoyed a strong partnership with both the City and the County, and this recent collaboration proves that our community is committed to working together in support of students and the prudent use of taxpayer dollars. I offer my special thanks to Mayor Willey and Commissioner Duyck for their hard work and championing of this issue.”

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*Gain Share is money that local taxing authorities receive back from the state as a result of tax abatement agreements with large employers. Through Strategic Investment Program (SIP) agreements, large employers can pay less money in taxes in exchange for their significant investments in their physical plants. The income tax collected from employees who are new to those companies as a result of the investment is held separately by the state—half is kept at the state level and half is returned to local taxing authorities.