



Contact: Beth Graser, Communications Director
503-844-1772, graserbe@hsd.k12.or.us

Media Release

Hillsboro School District to use Additional Gain Share Money for Full School Year, Staffing

The District will use its additional gift of \$728,716 to restore one school day and address staffing hot spots

August 14, 2014, Hillsboro, OR – At their regular session meeting today, Hillsboro School District Board members indicated their intention to use additional Gain Share* money to both restore the one remaining budget reduction day to the 2014-15 school calendar, and address staffing issues that may arise this fall.

The District was expecting \$1,218,272 in Gain Share funds from the City of Hillsboro and Washington County in 2014-15 and that money, along with a portion of additional State School Fund dollars, was already used to restore four instructional days to the 2014-15 school year.

On July 18, 2014, however, the District learned that it would be receiving an additional \$728,716 in Gain Share funds due to a higher-than-expected distribution to the City and County, and their subsequent decision to share half of the additional dollars with Washington County school districts.

The Board began discussing potential uses of the additional funds at its regular session meeting on July 29, 2014, and agreed to finish the discussion at its August 14, 2014, meeting once staff had a chance to consider the initial feedback and develop a proposal.

That proposal involved using approximately \$466,000 to restore the final budget reduction day to the calendar, and using the remaining \$262,000 to both create a licensed staffing pool to address class size issues and target funds toward classified (support staff) needs as they develop.

The next step will be for the Board to appropriate the funds and adopt a new calendar for the 2014-15 school year; this will take place at their next regular session meeting on Tuesday, September 23, 2014. It is likely that the restored instructional day will be added to the end of the school year—on Friday, June 12, 2015—to both better balance first and second semesters and avoid a situation where many students would only be attending school one day during Thanksgiving week due to parent conferences and the holiday.

“I am proud of our district’s commitment to holding a full school year and doing what’s best for students and staff,” noted Board Chair Kim Strelchun. “And I am so appreciative of the City and County for giving us this opportunity.”

###

*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.

Engage and challenge all learners to ensure academic excellence

3083 NE 49th Place, AC 201, Hillsboro, OR 97124-6008
TEL: 503-844-1500 ■ FAX: 503-844-1557 ■ WEB: www.hsd.k12.or.us