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### Media Release

## **Hillsboro School District Receives \$15,000 Intel Grant to Enhance TAG Offerings**

*Funds will allow the expansion of the popular TAG You're It! enrichment program to students in grades 7-10*

**October 22, 2015, Hillsboro, OR** – Hillsboro School District recently learned it will receive \$15,000 from Intel Corporation for the expansion of its TAG You're It! enrichment program to students in grades 7-10.

Currently, the District offers TAG You're It! programming three to four times per school year to students in grades K-6 who have been identified as intellectually gifted, as a way for exceptional students to socialize and engage in specialized activities that are interesting, stimulating, and challenging.

Until now, funds have not been available for expanding the program to serve students in grades 7-10. The grant will allow the District to offer two TAG You're It! sessions to these students in the spring of 2016.

STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) teachers at the secondary level will lead the project team, and will work with Intel volunteers and other STEAM leaders in the community to identify, plan, and facilitate the enrichment activities, which will include an additional focus on college and career readiness.

Some of the enrichment activities may include:

- Rube Goldberg devices – students work in teams to create a Rube Goldberg device using simple machines and strategically using potential and kinetic energy to maneuver an object through their device.
- Coding – students are introduced to the basics of computer science and coding.
- Musical instruments – students explore the sounds made by everyday objects and use them to create their own musical instruments.
- Japanese language and culture – students will learn about Japanese culture and language (basic phrases – speaking and writing) through fun and engaging activities.

Sessions for parents will also be offered, covering topics such as TAG underachievers, transitioning from middle school to high school, college readiness, and the social/emotional needs of TAG students.

Goals of the program are for at least 25% of all students in grades 7-10 who are TAG identified to participate, and for at least 25% of their parents to attend at least one of the parent information sessions.

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***Engage and challenge all learners to ensure academic excellence***

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