

Oregon City School District

PRESS RELEASES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oregon City Schools receives \$7.7 million from state

Because voters approved a \$158 million bond measure for Oregon City Schools, the district will receive an additional \$7.7 million in state matching funds.

The matching funds come from a state program that provides incentives to local school districts seeking approval of capital projects. The \$165.7 million will be invested to boost school security, expand middle school capacity, and upgrade aging schools serving 7,000 students.

“This expands our ability to provide needed upgrades to aging schools,” said Director of Operations Wes Rogers. “We know students will learn better in schools with improved lighting, heating, and ventilation, and we are very grateful for this added state support.”

Word Count = 106

Ogden students plant native species

Forty students in the Outdoor Education and Survival Skills course at Ogden Middle School tackled an environmental restoration project behind their school in partnership with the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council [GOCWC].

After invasive Himalayan Blackberry was removed, the students planted ten varieties of native plants to encourage biodiversity and soil retention on the hillside. The effort was organized by the GOCWC to help restore a healthy ecosystem in the Abernathy and Newell Creek watersheds.

The students, mostly sixth graders, planted included western red cedar, grand fir, ocean spray, Oregon grape, vine maple, red flowering currant, snowberry, and sword fern. The GOCWC provided 125 plants, mulch, shovels, gloves, and buckets for the effort.

“This course fosters a sense of stewardship and conservation for the natural world,” said teacher Kevin Grove. “Students have been working throughout the term on stewardship projects in the forests behind school, including removal of invasive species and trail maintenance. They are learning to identify common native and invasive species in our forests, and to understand the impact of invasive species on native ecosystems.”

PHOTO: Coming soon.

Word Count = 177

The Oregon City School District is a recognized leader in school improvement. ###