

## **Spring 2019**

As we close out the 2018-19 school year, I want to acknowledge the community, our students, and our staff, for a remarkable year. This year, more than 400 students earned their high school diplomas from the Klamath County School District.

Many people throughout the community, most notably our families, educators, and partners have supported our students along their journey from kindergarten to graduation. The Klamath Promise is an organization of community partners whose mission is to support the two local school districts in reaching our shared goal of a 100% graduation rate. These partnerships and community support continue to make a significant impact on our students. The Klamath County School District graduation rate exceeds the state graduation rate and has steadily increased over the past four years. This year, Henley High School had the highest graduation rate in Oregon.



Klamath County School District enrollment has grown by 500 students and 50 employees in the past five years. This growth has contributed to the community in jobs and district improvement. In 2013, voters passed a \$31 million bond to build new classrooms and repair aging facilities. District employees and local contractors did the projects, which came in under budget, and allowed the district to leverage funds to add a four-classroom facility for special programs to the current classroom building project at Stearns Elementary School.

It is important for taxpayers and stakeholders to know that we work hard to secure outside money in the form of grants and special allocations to enhance our district. Seismic grants submitted by the district have brought in more than \$7.5 million from the state to improve the safety of our buildings. Writing a bill and working with our state representatives to lobby the Legislature for rural small schools funding resulted in preserving about \$2.5 million per year.

Looking ahead, I am excited about our new district committees. Working with administration, committee members will play important leadership roles in areas where they have a professional passion. These committees are intended to build leadership capacity, understanding, and personal investment in the district.

The Klamath County School District Board of Directors and previous Superintendent Greg Thede have been great stewards of public funds, and it is with great pride that I commit to carrying on that tradition. Additionally, it is critical for me to focus on the most vital aspect of our roles as school leaders: making sure we have quality interactions daily with our students.

As you read through this Annual Report, I will let the photos and articles tell the story. You will see pictures of smiling faces that were the result of hard work and accomplishment. You will see staff and community members passionately investing themselves in students. Most importantly, you will see students determined to forge a positive future for themselves, taking care of each other, and giving back to the community.

I hope you enjoy the few minutes it takes to read through this [Annual Report of the Klamath County School District](#).

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