

*Inspiring today's students to meet tomorrow's challenges*

# KLAMATH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



**2022-23 Annual Report**

7,039 students. 472 high school graduates. 943 employees.  
23 schools. \$171 million annual budget. **#ProudtobeKCSd.**

# Klamath County School District

## ANNUAL REPORT



JILL O'DONNELL, Board Chair

### MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are extremely proud of the 2023 graduates from all of our high schools in the Klamath County School District! College, career, and life readiness is one of the district's priorities for all students. It stands as one of the district's goals in our strategic plan. Attending graduations is one of the most rewarding things I do as a member of the Board of Directors. I have been fortunate to attend at least one graduation at each of our high schools. Each graduation is an enormous celebration of each student's success. Each graduation is different and reflects the culture of that community.

As I reflect upon the importance of graduation, I want to note that preparing students for the future begins before our students enter our doors in kindergarten. Parents are the first teachers. The Klamath County School District offers at least one Play 2 Learn event at each of its elementary schools. The objective of this important event is to support parents in teaching their young children in a playful way. It is through play that young children learn best. This summer KCS D for the first time will offer "Jump Start Kindergarten" for entering kindergarten students at six of our elementary schools. Incoming kindergartners at each of the schools will learn in a hands-on environment.

Teachers were hired this year to provide project-based learning for students at each of our elementary schools. Students are actively engaged in learning in subjects such as science, social studies, music, and art. While these students are learning important subjects in a hands-on way, the classroom teacher is able to provide small group instruction to meet the needs of the students.

The district is working toward more career and technical education (CTE) opportunities in our junior high/middle schools. We are working to expand our CTE offerings at the high school level as well. These courses provide programs and pathways that support students in preparing for their future college, career and life readiness in a hands-on way.

The board is committed to providing the best possible education for each and every student. We work together with our staff, administration, and community in creating opportunities for our students. I was honored to attend graduations this year and look forward to attending in the coming years! Let's celebrate!

Sincerely,

*Jill O'Donnell*  
Board member since 2007

### PROJECT-BASED LEARNING:

The district hired an additional 17.5 full-time specialists to provide hands-on instruction in science, art, and other disciplines to elementary students. This also allowed for small-group instruction, freeing up scheduling and staff to focus on reading and math skills for all our elementary students.



### KCS D BOARD OF DIRECTORS



John Rademacher  
Board member since 2007



Steve Lowell  
Board member since 2006



Marc Staunton  
Board member since 2021



Laura Blair  
Board member 2021-2023

Go to [www.kcsd.k12.or.us](http://www.kcsd.k12.or.us) for the 2023-24 board meeting schedule.



# OUR DISTRICT   BY THE NUMBERS

# 7,039

## STUDENT ENROLLMENT AS OF JUNE 1, 2023

Our schools include 12 elementaries, four junior/senior high schools, two junior highs, two high schools, an alternative school and homeschool center, and the Klamath County Transition Program, which offers independent living and job skills training for special needs students.

### 1,206,436

Student meals served; an increase of 142,209 meals from 2021-22

### \$171.8 million

2022-23 fiscal year budget

### 90+

College dual credit courses offered

### 80.4%

4-year graduation rate in 2022

### 450

Full-time certified teachers



### Class of 2023

## 472

GRADUATES in June 2023

### 243

Plan to attend college or university

### 63

Plan to join the workforce

### 20

Plan to join the military

### 16

Plan to pursue vocational training

**7 high schools:** Bonanza, Chiloquin, Falcon Heights, Gilchrist, Henley, Lost River, and Mazama

*Note: Numbers reflect only those seniors who responded to a survey.*

## OUR STUDENTS

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE STUDENTS **337**

**360** TAG (TALENTED/GIFTED) STUDENTS

MIGRANT STUDENTS **400**

**1,125** SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS



### DEMOGRAPHICS

0.54 % Pacific Islander

1.8 % Black/African American

1.6 % Asian

9.4 % Native American

7.5 % More than one ethnicity

13.9 % Hispanic

65.26 % Caucasian

HOMELESS / WITHOUT SECURE HOUSING **453**

**263** MILITARY FAMILIES

# MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

## OUR MISSION

*Inspiring today's students to meet tomorrow's challenges*

### DEAR KLAMATH COUNTY COMMUNITY,

The purpose of this annual report is to reflect on the 2022-23 school year and provide evidence of strategic plan accomplishments and responsible investments, as well as highlight student achievements and progress. As you look through this document, you should notice impressive efforts to meet the social emotional needs of students, to create new learning opportunities for elementary students, and to expand career technical pathways for secondary students.



In my 43 years of education, I have never seen the level of positive change that I have seen in this past year for Klamath County School District.

The fortuitous circumstances that allowed such growth were born from the tragedy of a pandemic but leveraged to maximize positive impact to students. Just prior to the pandemic, the district conducted a comprehensive strategic planning process that included a broad cross-section of community stakeholders. The resulting set of core values and strategic goals are in the center of this report.

During and after the pandemic, KCSD and other districts received federal and state funds to mitigate student learning loss and improve instructional facilities and environments.

While many other districts went dormant or remained in survival mode, KCSD used the funding opportunities to ramp up our instructional offerings and facility planning, serving as an economic driver in the county and a model for districts across the state. As the nation transitioned out of the pandemic, many Oregon public school districts saw a dramatic drop in enrollment, resulting in a loss of 30,000 students statewide. However, we were one of the few districts that saw our enrollment increase after the pandemic. Overall, KCSD added 400 students to its classrooms since 2019.

The additional growth in student population combined with Student Investment Account (SIA) money fueled by the state corporate activity tax has translated into jobs in the community, not only for teachers but for bus drivers, cooks, custodians, and paraprofessionals.

Strategically planned facility investments made possible by federal school emergency relief funds also drove community job creation. In the last three years, KCSD has invested \$25 million into construction projects, with local contractors receiving almost all of the bids. Another \$13 million in seismic grants awarded to the district also has gone to local contractors.

Instructional highlights that will impact student learning the most are the expansion of career and technical education (CTE) pathway opportunities for secondary students and the creation of small-group and project-based learning for elementary students.

In the district's first year implementing small-group instruction in our elementary schools, student growth at grade level in math increased from 7% to 42%. Some of the math highlights for the year are:

- 10% of district kindergarteners entered school demonstrating math readiness; by the end of the year 69% were on grade level
- Ferguson kindergarteners started the year with 8% math readiness and increased to 86%
- Chiloquin third-graders started the year with 4% at grade level and increased to 46%
- Keno fifth-graders started the year with 15% on grade level and ended the year with 65%

Additionally, all district elementary grade levels made annual growth. As our teachers, principals, and paraprofessionals get more training in the new curriculum materials, small-group instructional strategies, and parent engagement, we expect student achievement to soar to new levels.

I want to thank our families, district staff, and our community partners for their ongoing support of public education and the opportunities offered to our students.

Respectfully,

Glen Szymoniak  
Klamath County School District

KCSD teamed up with Klamath Promise and Klamath Falls City Schools for a community billboard campaign to increase attendance, which dropped during the pandemic.



KCSD Superintendent Glen Szymoniak and KCSD school board member Steve Lowell testify in Salem before state lawmakers in support of State School Fund stability.



# WORKING TOGETHER FOR STUDENTS

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The district relies on community partners to support students and programs. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, made a donation, or provided resources.

In 2022-23, we continued to work closely with our higher education partners, Klamath Community College and Oregon Tech. We continued a strong partnership with OSU Klamath Basin Extension, which provides food nutrition educators and curriculum as well as help with our Farm to School program. We also want to acknowledge The Klamath Tribes. The Tribes work closely with the district, providing cultural and financial support. Here are some more highlights:

- **BOOKS FOR EVERY FIRST-GRADER:** Klamath Rotary's Klamath Cares, Klamath Reads event gifts a book to every first-grader in the Basin.
- **PICKLEBALL:** Klamath Basin Pickleball Association volunteers trained teachers and taught Shasta students the game as an after-school activity.

## Celebrating Tribal Culture

Chiloquin Junior/Senior High School students and staff in November participated in the first-ever traditional salmon bake and powwow as a



way to celebrate the Native culture within the student body and honor National Native American Heritage Month. Will Hess, a Klamath Tribal member, organized the event with help from Klamath Tribal Health & Family Services Prevention Program, the Klamath Tribal Youth Council, Klamath Tribes Education & Employment Department, Chiloquin High School administrators, On Track OHSU!, FoodCorps staff, and staff

from the Klamath County School District Title VI and Food Services. "We wanted tribal students and staff to feel recognized and celebrated in a way that highlights and respects their culture, and also for all students and staff, native and non-native alike, to come together and learn about the first foods of the Klamath Tribes and celebrate the rich history of the Klamath Tribes in the Klamath Basin," Hess said.

**Farm to School:** The district has continued to expand its partnerships with local producers. In the past two school years, eggs, beef, carrots, potatoes, cucumbers, melons, spinach, and lettuce from the Klamath Basin were served up as featured foods at 21 district schools. In 2022-23, students not only ate local produce and meat, they learned to grow, harvest, and prepare food for their school cafeterias thanks to a \$99,847 Oregon Department of Education Farm to School grant and our partnership with OSU Klamath Basin Extension. **COOL FACT:** As a result of the grant, 12 schools now have at least one hydroponic tower garden, providing students with on-site food education and production opportunities.



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### District highlighted for ensuring access to technology, IT support

KCSD's upgraded technology and progressive planning attracted the attention of EdTech: Focus on K-12 magazine, which highlighted the district in a January 2023 article for ensuring ongoing student access to modern technology and devices. During the pandemic, KCSD purchased roughly 5,000 Chromebooks. This year, the district rolled out more than 300 86-inch digital interactive displays. The district's secret for refreshing technology over time: standardization and a bit of budget wizardry that ensures IT reserve funds won't be used for other purposes. This allows technicians to reuse parts from broken or defective machines to repair other devices. "We repair everything in-house," says Kiran Malakar, KCSD IT director and network systems manager (pictured left). "It usually costs more than it's worth to replace a screen, but we're often able to salvage a screen from another defective machine and make the repair."

Bonanza Elementary, Bonanza Junior/Senior High, Brixner Junior High, Chiloquin Elementary, Chiloquin Junior/Senior High, Falcon Heights Alternative School, Ferguson Elementary, Gearhart School, Gilchrist Elementary, Gilchrist Junior/Senior High, Henley Elementary, Henley Middle, Henley High, Keno Elementary, Lost River Junior/Senior High, Malin Elementary, Merrill Elementary, Mazama High, Peterson Elementary, Shasta Elementary, Stearns Elementary, Klamath County Transition Program, Great Basin Homeschool



# STRATEGIC PLAN

**The district's Strategic Plan is the result of input from staff, students, community members, and business leaders.** The document outlines values, goals, and strategies that guide spending and planning.

## CORE VALUES

**These six values** inform and help develop the strategies we use to achieve our goals.

### SAFETY

All students and employees are provided safe and secure buildings and areas to learn and work.

### QUALITY EDUCATION that is MEANINGFUL and VALUABLE

All students shall have access to quality teachers and dynamic and innovative programs that prepare them for higher education, technical programs, or the workplace.

### EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

All students and employees will work and learn in a supportive, engaging, encouraging, and inspiring environment with access to mental health resources.

### EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES

All students shall have equal access to quality staff, courses, activities, services, and resources based on their individual needs.

### ORGANIZATIONAL and INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY

The district and its employees will maintain accountability to students and the public, promoting financial and academic integrity and sustainability.

### BUILDING STRONG RELATIONSHIPS and INVOLVED COMMUNITIES

The district believes collaboration with community partners and teamwork between our schools and their communities benefits students and their overall success.

# STRATEGIC PLAN

To read our full Strategic Plan, including the strategies we are using to implement our goals, go to the district website at [www.kcsd.k12.or.us](http://www.kcsd.k12.or.us).

## GOALS

These seven goals inform the strategies we use to achieve our plan.

### ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

- ◆ Inspire curiosity to develop lifelong learners
- ◆ Align curriculum to Oregon standards
- ◆ Provide curriculum differentiation
- ◆ Incorporate technology to improve learning
- ◆ Explore opportunities to create preschools
- ◆ Expand the Play 2 Learn program

### SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS

- ◆ Improve the social emotional health of all KCS D students
- ◆ Develop and implement trauma-informed practices and professional development for staff, including parent/community modules
- ◆ Research, adapt, and implement annual K-12 social emotional learning curriculum
- ◆ Partner with community agencies to expand on-site therapy, skills building, and mentoring services during the school day

### COLLEGE, CAREER, and LIFE READINESS

- ◆ Integrate a CTE exploration and life skills curriculum into district junior high programs
- ◆ Train high school CTE teachers and guidance office staff about post-high school opportunities in the trades and make this information part of our College and Careers for All Program
- ◆ Develop a “district report card” to track multiple measures of success for KCS D student outcomes and post-graduation metrics
- ◆ Develop a pre-apprenticeship program for KCS D high school students
- ◆ Maintain the district’s focus and support for College and Careers for All Program

### COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- ◆ Create a standard and user-friendly format that community partners can use to increase student opportunities

### RECRUIT, RETAIN QUALITY TEACHERS

- ◆ Identify staff recruitment needs and fill those positions with the most highly qualified individuals available
- ◆ Address retention of school staff through equitable pay, a supportive work environment, and career pathway opportunities

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ◆ Increase teachers’ knowledge, teaching skills, and effectiveness
- ◆ Align a continuous cycle of professional development with district improvement priorities
- ◆ Leverage highly effective teachers as trainers, mentors, and professional coaches

### FACILITIES

- ◆ Prepare a capital construction/major maintenance master list and annual priorities
- ◆ Create a preventative maintenance plan for essential items that cause damage if they fail
- ◆ Establish a maintenance communication and tracking system for emergency and immediate response items
- ◆ Monitor district growth and program development for future growth and immediate classroom needs
- ◆ Inspect facilities and grounds for safety repairs and enhancements
- ◆ Prepare a replacement cycle to budget for items that need to be upgraded or replaced regularly

# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

The **2022-23 budget adopted in June 2022** continued to focus federal funds on unfinished learning recovery and facility upgrades. The district added about 90 new staff, including 17.5 FTE for small-group and project-based learning at our elementary schools, additional social emotional learning facilitators, and mentors for new teachers. Academic programs were enhanced through professional development for educators and technology upgrades in classrooms.

The budget also funded significant salary and benefit increases following collective bargaining with the certified and classified unions.

The Shasta Elementary classroom building was completed using federal ESSER II funding, and the process for construction of new gymnasiums at Chiloquin and Bonanza junior/senior high schools was started using ESSER II and ESSER III allocations.

## 2022-23 budget year highlights

- Earned a GFOA Certificate for Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting (8th consecutive year)
- Increased reserve funds for textbooks and technology by 10%.
- The district, as negotiated, agreed to pay employees 1.5% of their 2022-23 gross salary as a one-time incentive.
- Expanded staff professional development programs using 10% of ESSER III budget.

## FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS & DISTRICT PROJECTS

The district, with the help of its maintenance team, started and completed needed projects in buildings throughout the district. Projects funded by federal ESSER funds include a six-classroom Shasta addition, a 200-meter, ADA accessible track at Stearns Elementary, a CTE building at the Henley Complex, and planning and the beginning of construction of new gymnasiums at Chiloquin and Bonanza.

### 2022-23 projects:

- **Stearns Elementary:** 200-meter, ADA-accessible track.
- **Merrill:** New hallway flooring.
- **Shasta:** Six-classroom, 9,500-square-foot addition, bathroom upgrades. Completed March 2023.
- **Henley:** New greenhouse.
- **Malin:** HVAC control updates.
- **Peterson:** Parking lot addition.
- **Ferguson, Keno:** HVAC upgrades.
- **Districtwide:** Various school and classroom flooring upgrades.



### SHASTA ELEMENTARY ADDITION

Students and staff moved into their new digs in late March.

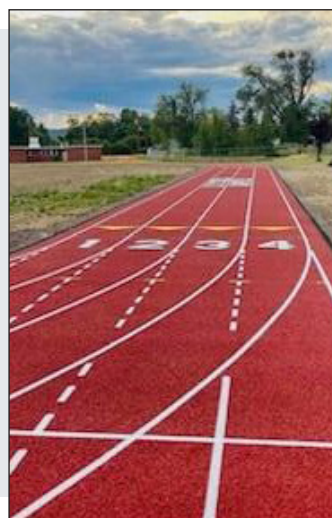
### 2023-24 proposed projects:

- **Chiloquin and Bonanza:** New gymnasiums.
- **Henley CTE building:** CTE renovations including building, classroom areas (started).
- **Lost River Community Center:** Groundbreaking in July on a new district-owned building at Lost River Junior/Senior High School that will provide recreation facilities, classroom space, and other resources for community members and students.
- **Henley High:** New concession stand; air conditioning.
- **Gilchrist, Malin:** Roof replacements.
- **Chiloquin and Keno elementaries and Brixner Junior High:** Seismic renovations.
- **Crater Lake Learning Center:** Phase 1 renovation at Washburn Way building.
- **Stearns:** New parking lot on Crest Street.

## KCSD SPOTLIGHT

### CTE BUILDING

The new building near Henley Middle School will expand CTE programs and allow space for a pre-apprenticeship program in construction and carpentry. The construction is being paid for with federal ESSER funds and is expected to be complete in September 2023.



### 200-METER TRACK

A four-lane, 200-meter track with a 50-meter straight-away extension was constructed at Stearns Elementary School using community donations and federal ESSER funds.

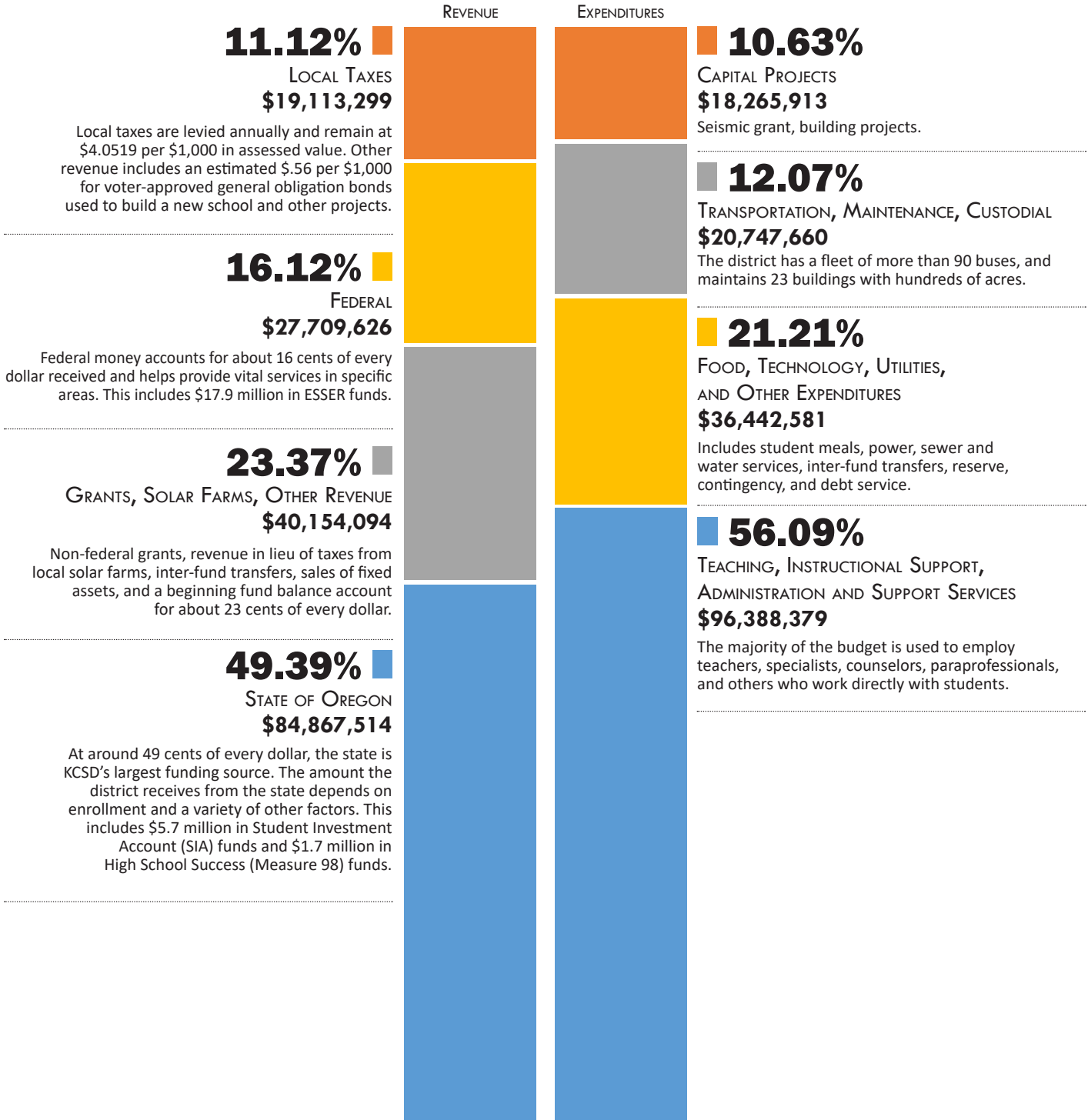


# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

## 2022-23 KCSD FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

# \$171,844,533

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?  WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?



# ACHIEVEMENTS AND GOALS

## ACADEMIC SUPPORTS

- Implementation of new K-5 math curriculum materials along with continued DMTI training resulted in an increase of student proficiency and growth.
- Extra specialists were added to all elementary schools, which provided an opportunity for students to participate in project-based learning.
- Interventionists were added to elementary schools to assist students with reading and math instruction.
- Small-group instruction was implemented in elementary schools to lower class size and focus on individualized instruction for all students.
- KCS D's Title VI and Tribal Attendance Program provided academic and attendance supports to Native American students in Chiloquin and throughout the district.
- A new K-6 English Language Arts curriculum -- myView ELA materials for K-5 and Study Sync for 6th grade -- was adopted for the 2023-24 school year. MyView uses Science of Reading strategies and Study Sync takes a blended approach using teacher interaction and online materials.
- The district adopted new secondary math curriculum for grades 6-12. Teachers are being trained to use new technology supports that will increase student understanding and engagement of relevant math.
- KCS D completed an extensive community engagement and application process with the state of Oregon and will receive \$8 million for social emotional learning, small-group instruction, career and technical education (CTE), science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM), among other supports.

## COLLEGE and CAREER READINESS

- Seven students participated in a new pre-apprenticeship career and technical education (CTE) construction and carpentry program at Henley High School in partnership with Klamath Community College. The state-of-the-art program will expand in 2023-24 into a new CTE building under construction behind Henley Middle School and serve students at Henley Middle School, Henley High School, and Falcon Heights.
- Gilchrist Junior/Senior High School shop class students partnered with local Forest Service offices to construct and install bat boxes in the area.



- KCS D high schools received a record-breaking \$95,458 in career pathway funding from the state of Oregon. Career pathway funding is provided to schools that help students gain concentrated skills in a career and technical education (CTE) program.

- Sixty students enrolled in a new career and technical education (CTE) Education Pathway program at Mazama and Henley high schools. If students complete five classes and take Klamath Community College's Health and Fitness of Life course, they are eligible to graduate from KCC with an Education Paraeducator Career Pathway Certificate the same year they graduate high school. It also puts students on track to pursue an education degree through Southern Oregon University's satellite program. In 2023-24 this program will expand into Lost River and Bonanza junior/senior high schools.

## #PROUDTOBEKCS D

### STUDENT EXCELLENCE

KCS D celebrated 42 valedictorians and salutatorians from the Class of 2023. These students are at the top of their class academically, taking honors courses, dual credit college classes, and participating in clubs, sports, and leadership.



### STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

OSAA 1A 8-Player Football State Champions -- the Lost River Raider football team! Lost River won the state championship game against St. Paul, 43-0. It had been 18 years since the school last claimed a state football championship. "These guys get it done in the classroom, not just on the field," said Lost River Principal Angie Wallin. "I am very proud of them."

# ACHIEVEMENTS AND GOALS

## SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS

- Each school in the district in 2022-23 had a dedicated social emotional learning (SEL) specialist. During the school year, the district SEL team had more than 16,500 positive contacts with elementary students and interacted with more than 2,600 families.
- The district increased access to mental health services through its contract with Klamath Basin Behavioral Health, providing school-based mental health therapists at Henley High, Mazama High, Chiloquin Jr/Sr High, Bonanza Jr/Sr High, Lost River Jr/Sr High, Brixner Junior High, Henley Middle and Gilchrist schools. (Gilchrist had a contract with Deschutes County Mental Health).
- The SEL team provided training for bus drivers and food services team members on building relationships and de-escalation strategies using crisis prevention tools.
- The district developed a multi-tiered system of support to provide targeted support to struggling students. The goal is to intervene early so students can catch up with their peers. It screens all students to address academic and behavior challenges.

## RECRUITING and RETAINING QUALITY TEACHERS

- The district hired 97 teachers for the 2022-2023 school year and is in the process of hiring 67 teachers for the 2023-24 school year. To help retain and recruit new teachers, the district has again allocated \$100,000 for tuition reimbursement and loan forgiveness for new hires. This program will continue for the 2023-24 school year with an option for current teachers to receive tuition reimbursement if they add an endorsement in a high-need area.
- Utilizing the House Bill 4030 grant, the district hired an additional six part-time mentors to support new teachers, provided professional development for staff, tuition reimbursement for teachers adding endorsements to their current licenses in high-need areas, and weekly staff recognition awards for 56 employees.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Fifty first- and second-year elementary teachers were trained in the Science of Reading, and school principals observed modeled lessons. Science of Reading is an instructional strategy using converging evidence of what works in literacy instruction.
- The district's SEL team offered trauma-informed training to district certified and classified staff. Included was an introduction to Sound Discipline strategies and the impact of ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences) on learning, behavior, and social emotional development.
- KCSD continues to be a regional hub for a professional development series called Skillful Teacher. Local and regional trainers offer classes throughout the year for KCSD teachers to develop and improve their practice.
- Secondary math training brought new, updated math curricula into all junior high and high school classrooms. Students now have an option of the traditional Algebra 2 course or a statistics and data analysis class. New math curriculum will be used in 6th-12th grade classes starting in September 2023.
- Elementary teachers continued math instruction training with Developing Mathematics Thinking Institute (DMTI). Coaching provided by DMTI experts was provided throughout the school year at all our elementary schools. DMTI also provided in-depth training for teacher leads and trainers at each school.

## #PROUDTOBEKCS

### STATE CHAMPION 4A TRACK AND FIELD

- Sydney Baker, Mazama High School
  - \* 100-meter hurdles
  - \* 300-meter hurdles

### FBLA STUDENTS EARN NATIONAL BID

More than 60 FBLA students from **Bonanza, Gilchrist, Lost River, and Mazama** represented KCSD and Oregon this summer at the FBLA National Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Ga.



Henley High wrestling coaches Bobby Clark, left, and Larry Morene flank state placers Estefan Muneton, Dylan Clark, Kyle Nichols, and Matthew McCoy after the OSAA 4A State Championships.

### OSAA 4A STATE CHAMPION WRESTLERS

- Dylan Clark, 120-pound title, Henley High
- Matthew McCoy, 220-pound title, Henley High.



## 2023 CRYSTAL APPLE AWARDS

Each year, the Klamath County School District awards Crystal Apples to five certified and three classified employees who best exemplify our mission:

*Inspiring today's students to meet tomorrow's challenges*

Full profiles about the winners can be found on the KCSO website:  
<https://www.kcsd.k12.or.us/district/crystal-apple-awards-2023.cfm>

### **Adriana Atwood**

**Paraprofessional,  
Peterson Elementary School:**

"Anything that will improve Peterson Elementary and help our kids, she will do. She will always look for and find ways to help students out academically and personally."



### **Christopher Benjamin**

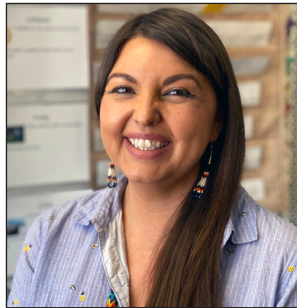
**Chorale director,  
Henley High School:**

"Chris is a teacher who wants to help every single student, not only academically, but personally. He goes above and beyond to ensure all students feel safe and heard."



### **Rachel Belenfant**

**Kindergarten teacher,  
Chiloquin Elementary School:**  
"Rachel is an incredible teacher who has poured her heart and soul into the children at Chiloquin Elementary. Every year her kids grow leaps and bounds. Every kid at our school loves her."



### **Bob Chambrose**

**English, French, production  
teacher, Henley High School:**

"By entering his classroom, our students are whisked away to experience different lands, cultures, languages, and customs. He also wins the award for most dedicated 'after hours' employee."



### **Shannon McDonald**

**Child development specialist,  
Keno Elementary School:**

"My daughter now enjoys going to school because of Mrs. McDonald's compassion and understanding. She helped her adapt to the school and her classmates and has been a blessing to our family."



### **Crystal Renslow**

**Paraprofessional, Klamath  
County Transition Program:**

"Crystal's presence creates an environment that is comforting and trusting, enabling her to build strong, lifelong relationships with our students and community members."



### **Laci Teaters**

**Second-grade teacher,  
Merrill Elementary School:**

"She really loves her students and always takes extra care when they are having a rough day. She has really left a big impact on both of my kids by showing them they can achieve anything if they work hard."



### **Olga Wenick**

**Paraprofessional,  
Bonanza Jr/Sr High School:**

"Her love and dedication to students is unmatched. Without Olga, our school would not function nearly as well. I am a better person for having worked with her. She is truly one of a kind."

