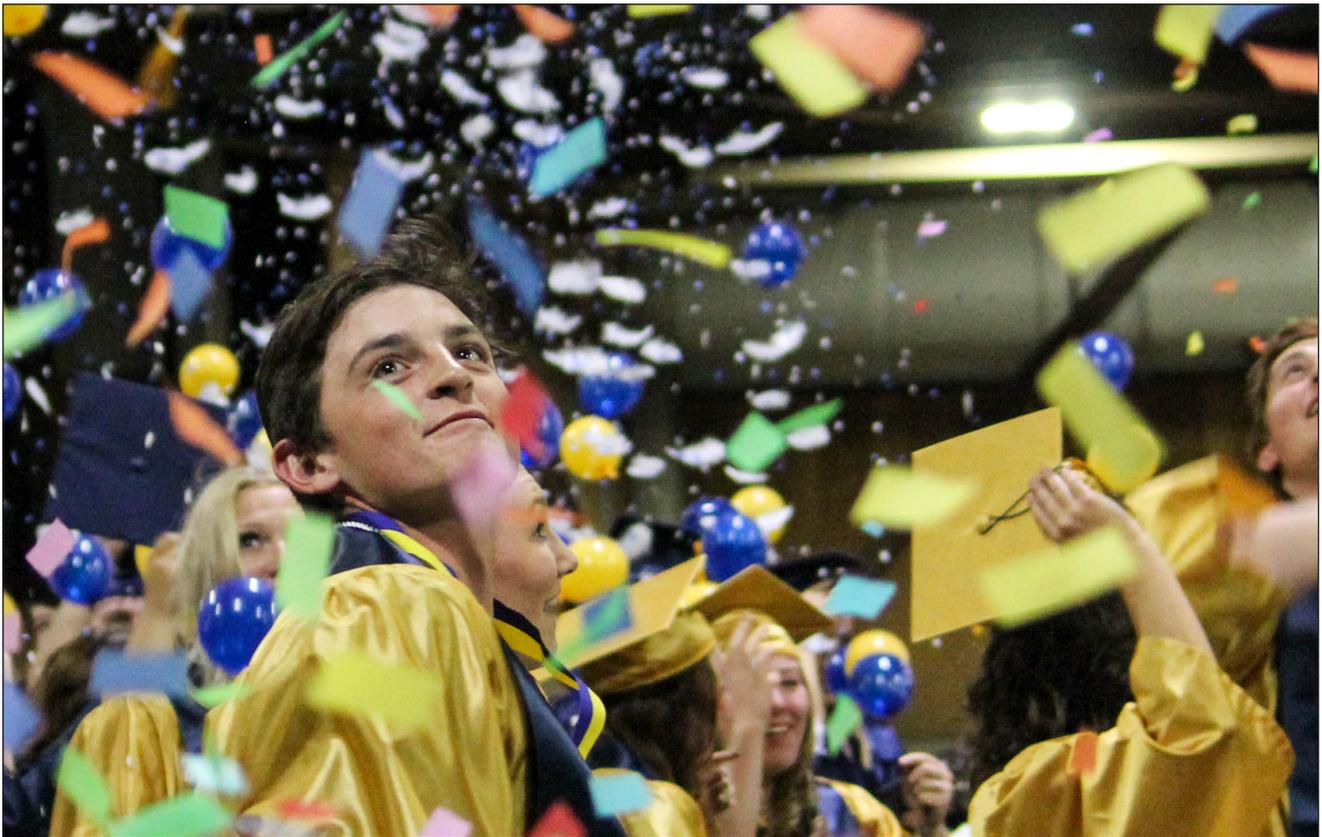


Inspiring today's students to meet tomorrow's challenges

KLAMATH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



2020-21

Annual Report

6,843 students. 375 high school graduates. 868 employees.
23 schools. \$122 million annual budget. **#ProudtobeKCSD.**

Klamath County School District

ANNUAL REPORT



STEVE LOWELL, Board Chair

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Klamath County School District was faced with a global pandemic in the 2020-21 school year, and many students spent more than 300 days without direct classroom contact. Our year was like no other in our 99 years of being a school district as education was transformed to distance learning.

Our employees were nothing less than HEROES as we started the planning, purchasing, and hiring for the school year. Our summer was filled with countless meetings to formulate the logistics of distance learning.

Our tech department purchased thousands of Chromebooks that had to be programmed and delivered to every student. We set up a tech support line so parents and students could call and get help with hardware and software issues.

WiFi was setup at every school building for our students to connect from the parking lots to their teachers. Hot spots were purchased and installed to bring WiFi accessibility to our rural students. The print shop and curriculum department built paper packets to supplement the online component.

Food service and school cooks made breakfast and lunch for every student throughout the year, serving more than a million meals. Transportation delivered the packets

and meals to students throughout the county.

All the while, we were sanitizing, cleaning, and updating our buildings. We were building the Stearns Elementary School eight-classroom addition, changing the HVAC system in Chiloquin Elementary, and painting and flooring different areas.

Teachers were nothing short of amazing, as they negotiated an ever-changing year. Everyone had to be taught how to deliver distance learning. The teachers kept in touch with the students every week.

Our superintendent and school board worked at the state level to start implementing the return of students to our classrooms. We passed a resolution that started the hybrid model, allowing half of our students to attend in-person at our larger schools and all students to attend in-person at our smaller rural schools. The Board also passed a motion that started in-person learning before liability insurance was implemented.

We look forward to next year with hopeful normalcy. And together we will celebrate our 100-year anniversary as a district.

Thank you again to all the Klamath County School District heroes!

Sincerely,
Steve Lowell

2020-21 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Denise Kandra
Board member 2010-2021



John Rademacher
Board member since 2007



Jill O'Donnell
Board member since 2009



Robert Moore
Board member 2017-2021

2021-22 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings begin at 5 p.m. (unless noted) at the KCS D Central Office, 2845 Greensprings Drive

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| ■ July 15, 2021, 3 p.m. | ■ January 20, 2022 |
| ■ August 19, 2021, 3 p.m. | ■ February 17, 2022 |
| ■ September 16, 2021 | ■ March 10, 2022 |
| ■ October 21, 2021 | ■ April 21, 2022 |
| ■ November 18, 2021 | ■ May 19, 2022 |
| ■ December: No meeting | ■ June 16, 2022 |

OUR DISTRICT ████████ BY THE NUMBERS

6,843

STUDENT ENROLLMENT AS OF MAY 1, 2021

Our schools include 12 elementaries, four 7th-12th grade junior/senior high schools, two junior highs, two high schools, an alternative high school, a K-12 homeschool center, an online school, and the Klamath County Transition Program, which offers independent living and job skills training for special needs students.

1,191,331
Student meals served

90+

College dual credit courses offered

\$122.8 million
2020-21 fiscal year budget

1,000,000

Miles driven by school buses

84%

On-time graduation rate in 2020

399

Full-time certified teachers



Class of 2021

375

ON-TIME GRADUATES

108

Plan to attend four-year university

92

Plan to attend community college

26

Plan to join the military

41

Plan to pursue vocational training

67

Plan to enter the workforce

OUR STUDENTS

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE STUDENTS **269**

338 TAG (TALENTED/GIFTED) STUDENTS

MIGRANT STUDENTS **489**

1,019 SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS



DEMOGRAPHICS

<1 % Pacific Islander

1.7 % Black/African American

1.8 % Asian

9 % Native American

20.2 % More than one ethnicity

66.8 % Caucasian

HOMELESS / WITHOUT SECURE HOUSING **345**

380 MILITARY FAMILIES

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

OUR MISSION

Inspiring today's students to meet tomorrow's challenges

DEAR KLAMATH COUNTY COMMUNITY,

This has been a challenging year for our staff, our families, and our students.

Everyone had to adjust (sometimes overnight) to changing instructional models, going from distance learning, to hybrid, to in-person, and back again. As promised, we kept students in classrooms as much as possible and were among districts with the highest number of in-person learning days in our state.

To succeed, our students mastered life lessons that cannot be learned in books – perseverance, flexibility, and overcoming adversity. And despite the pandemic, our schools, families, and communities are stronger than ever. We faced challenges together and found ways to thrive.



There is hope that the 2021-22 school year will not revolve around COVID-19. Vaccination rates are increasing and case numbers are dropping. The plan for next fall is to operate school as normal. I expect to have all students back full-time, five days a week with no masks or other restrictions, unless the governor mandates otherwise.

The purpose of this Annual Report is to provide a summary to the public with accurate data about the Klamath County School District's challenges and accomplishments. In these pages you will find information about our financial stewardship and how we invested our funds towards the seven goals in our Strategic Plan. These goals (see page 7) address what the district needs to focus on to help our students succeed in the classroom and after graduation.

Because of the pandemic and resulting learning loss for some of our students, the district will be using one-time CARES Act funding to enhance student learning now and into the future. We expect to receive about \$25 million of these federal funds over the next three years.

We are prioritizing programs that will remediate student learning loss and mental health. In addition, we will invest

these funds to accomplish goals that ensure positive outcomes for students. We have already invested about \$2 million in student devices, software, and sanitation supplies.

Immediate plans include:

- Learning recovery programs for students who are experiencing learning loss.
- Social and emotional learning and mental health programs for students, including creation of a Social and Emotional Learning Program.
- Expanding summer and after-school programs in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years. Starting in the 2021-22 school year, the district is planning to offer after-school opportunities such as music, art, and drama for K-12 students.

The rest of our CARES funding – about \$16 million – will be used to accomplish the district's strategic planning goals. Our core values and long-term goals were determined through a community-wide planning process that included representatives from Oregon Tech, Klamath Community College, The Klamath Tribes, city and county government, the business community, social service organizations, and district students and employees. The district also requested community input through two surveys – in spring 2020 and 2021.

Looking back on the past year, I am proud of the accomplishments of our Klamath County School District team. I look forward to continuing this work to ensure all our students have access to a quality education that prepares them for the future.

Respectfully,

Glen Szymoniak
Klamath County School District

WORKING TOGETHER FOR STUDENTS

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Learning happens best in a community, and our community always steps up for our schools and students.

Over this past year, we have had a great deal of support from community members, organizations, and businesses. Thank you to everyone who filled a need or made a donation. We have so many partners who invest their time and energy for our students, and we appreciate all of you!

In 2020-21, we continued to work with our higher education partners, Oregon Tech and Klamath Community College, providing more than 90 dual credit classes and 12 programs and pathways for our high school students.

Because of COVID-19, many of our partners did not have access to our students and schools this past year. We look forward to next year when we can open our doors again to volunteers and others who bring valuable skills and resources into our classrooms.

KCSD / KCC Apprenticeship Program This spring, the district and Klamath Community College created a new program that will allow KCC students to gain valuable hands-on experience. Our Maintenance and Projects Department and the KCC Trades Program formed a mutually beneficial partnership that will allow college students to complete apprenticeships by working with our crew members, who represent some of the best licensed trades professionals in the state.

- Klamath Rotary provided a new book to every KCSD first-grader -- that's 539 books! -- as part of its annual Klamath Cares Klamath Reads program.
- Klamath Promise came through for our graduating seniors, collecting more than \$30,000 in scholarships and donations from businesses, organizations, and individuals. In all, 76 Klamath Basin seniors received awards during the annual Graduation Sensation Celebration in early June.
- The Klamath Tribes purchased 41 laptops for Chiloquin students and teachers so they could do online and distance learning during COVID-19. The Tribes also bought 197 hotspots for Bonanza and Chiloquin families who did not have access to the Internet. This effort helped students succeed during a difficult time in education.
- Integral Youth Services is a vital partner that provided non-academic social supports to KCSD students and families experiencing homelessness and insecure housing. Their work and support helps the district remove educational barriers for these students.

BECAUSE OF YOU

Thanks to more than \$22,000 in community donations to All Kids Bike fundraising campaigns, Bonanza, Henley, Shasta, and Chiloquin elementaries now have fleets of strider bikes with pedal conversion kits. The bikes will be used by our youngest students in school P.E. programs. Using curriculum from All Kids Bike, students will learn how to ride bicycles, transitioning from balancing to pedals.



\$22,000

was donated by community members and area businesses to purchase All Kids Bike strider bike fleets and learn-to-ride curriculum.

120

strider bikes, 30 for each of the four schools, were purchased with community donations.

Bonanza Elementary, Bonzana Junior/Senior High, Brixner Junior High, Chiloquin Elementary, Chiloquin Junior/Senior High, Falcon Heights, 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, KCSD Online



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 the district's spending and planning.

CORE VALUES

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

Listed in reverse alphabetical order

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 a higher education, technical program, 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.

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 **2020-21 budget adopted in June 2020** reflected an anticipated 10% decrease in state school funding and an estimated \$500,000 decrease in local tax revenues. The district avoided layoffs through attrition and maintained all student academic programs and co-curricular activities. It also funded contracted salary and PERS increases and needed maintenance projects.

However, the **funding picture changed for the better** as state and federal stimulus funding was made available to school districts. KCSD also received \$4.5 million from the state after lawmakers agreed to fully fund schools. Despite initial concerns, with the addition of state and federal funds, we finished the year strong.

2020-21 budget year highlights

- Refinanced 2013 General Obligation Bond; saved taxpayers \$3.1 million
- Awarded a \$2.5 million state Seismic Rehabilitation Grant
- Influx of stimulus funds used for student devices, hot spots, maintenance projects, and classroom expansion

State and federal stimulus grants

- Comprehensive Distance Learning: **\$386,026**
- CARES I: **\$1,384,617**; CARES II: **\$7,188,718**
- Summer Learning Grants: **\$2,751,370**

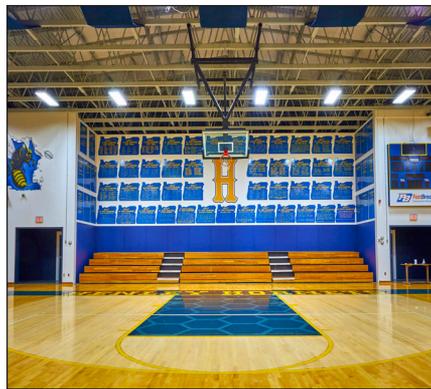
FACILITIES: IMPROVING OUR SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Our maintenance and project team members took advantage of COVID-19-related school closures to complete needed projects in buildings throughout the district. A highlight of 2020-21 is our team's completion of an eight-classroom building addition at Stearns Elementary School, which will be ready for students when school starts in September.

2020-21 completed projects:

- **Stearns Elementary:** New eight-classroom building addition
- **Chiloquin Elementary:** New paint; HVAC system installed; two bathrooms remodeled; hot water tank replaced
- **Henley High:** Seismic retrofit of both gymnasiums paid for with grants
- **Lost River:** LED lighting upgrades in cafeteria and library
- **District Office:** Parking lot security upgrade
- **Malin Elementary:** New paint
- **Klamath County Transition House:** New paint; windows replaced.
- **Bonanza Elementary:** Toilet partition replacements
- **Districtwide:** Concrete replacement, repairs

NEW SCHOOL BUSES The district put 26 propane-fueled buses and two diesel trip buses into service thanks to grants and state reimbursements.



SEISMIC RETROFIT ZCS Engineering did the retrofit of Henley High School's gymnasiums

2021-22 proposed projects:

- **Shasta Elementary:** New six-classroom building addition
- **Keno Elementary:** Upgrade HVAC system
- **Brixner Junior High:** Seismic retrofit for gymnasium and library
- **Chiloquin Elementary:** New hallway flooring
- **Ferguson Elementary:** New front awning
- **Henley High:** New air conditioning, restrooms, concession stand, lift station
- **Peterson Elementary:** Drainage and paving, possible bus lane on Bristol Ave.
- **Stearns Elementary:** Clear and pave annex parking lot
- **Summers Lane:** Demolish building
- **Merrill:** New hallway flooring
- **Mazama:** Install turf football field, finish roof replacement
- **Henley Middle:** Finish roof replacement
- **Chiloquin:** Install new track, turf field, engineering study of Big Gym

DID YOU KNOW?

KCSD provided more than 1 million free meals in the 2020-21 school year. **Through our Farm-to-School program, students are able to eat fresh, locally grown produce and meat in their school cafeterias.** In 2020-21, students were served:

6,560
pounds of locally grown beef from Flying T Ranch and Box R Beef

100
pounds of mixed greens from Sweet Union Farm



9,500
pounds of potatoes from Cal-Ore Produce, Inc.

236
dozen eggs from Poe tential Farms

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

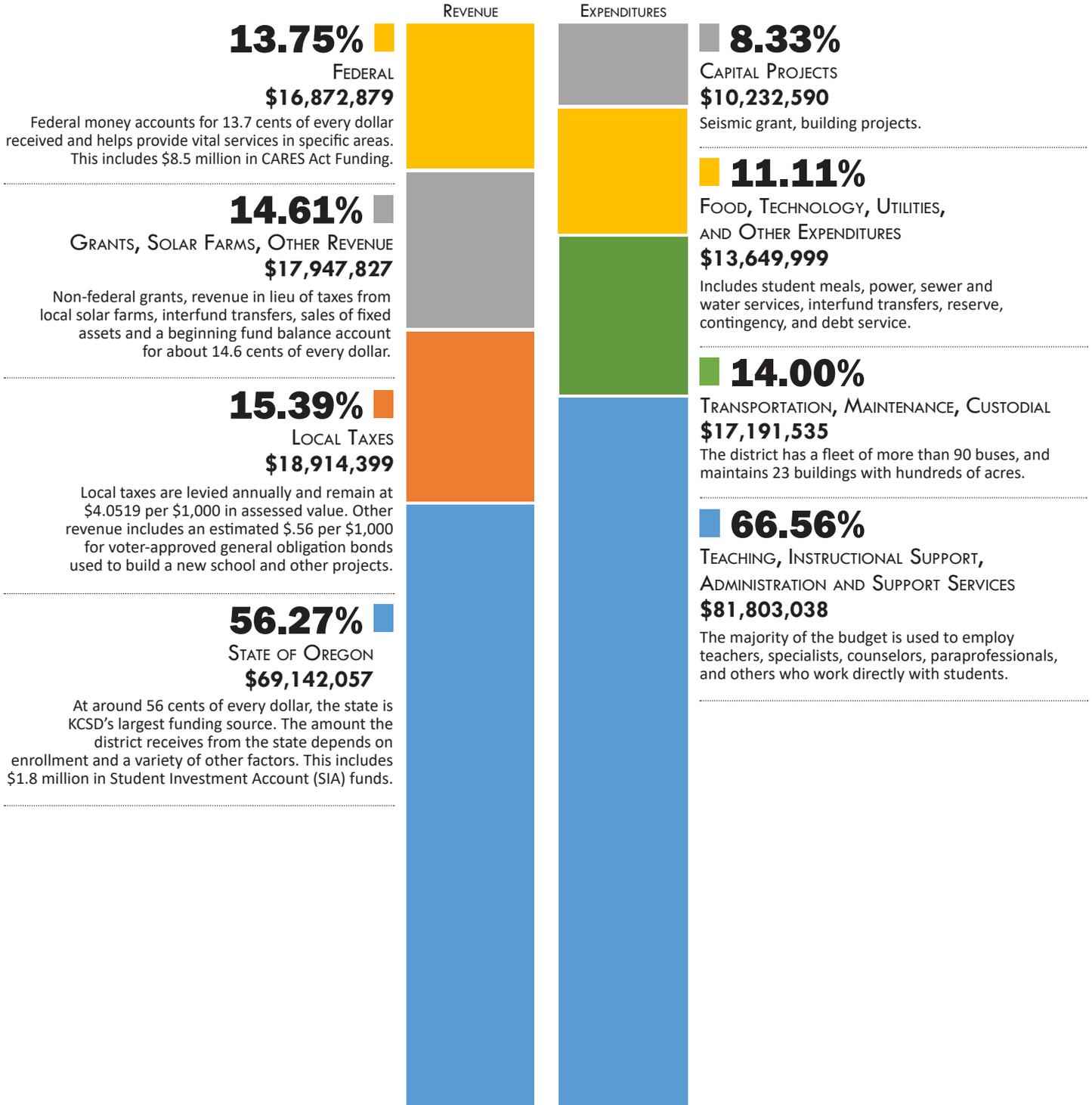
2020-21 KCSD FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

\$122,877,162

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?



WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?



ACHIEVEMENTS AND GOALS

ACADEMIC SUPPORTS

With the help of federal stimulus dollars, **KCSD improved academic supports during the challenging 2020-21 school year.** The rapid launch of these new programs allowed our students to continue learning during the pandemic school closure. In 2020-21, the district:



- **Implemented Schoology**, a new online learning management system.
- **Created KCSD Online**, a 100% virtual program for students in grades K-12. KCSD Online provides an at-home learning option for students and families. About 300 students enrolled in the new online program during the 2020-21 school year. This learning option will continue during the 2021-22 school year.

- **1:1 Chromebooks** for all students.
- **Expanded our Klamath Basics-Play 2 Learn program** for preschool children from seven to 12 schools. The Klamath Basics teaches families specific ways to engage young children to maximize development. With COVID-19, the district used online videos to provide the parent support component of the program and a drive-through model for families to pick up Play 2 Learn bags filled with educational toys to practice the Klamath Basics.

COLLEGE and CAREER READINESS

- **In the 2020-21 school year, the district invested more than \$250,000 in new equipment and supplies for its CTE programs.** Purchases included a tire alignment machine for our auto lab, computer controllers for plasma cutters, powder coating sprayers and ovens, robotics equipment, an animal science lab, and new medical equipment, including working phlebotomy models, casting equipment, and gurneys.

- **More than \$75,000 was invested in new technology and equipment** in classes that offer dual credit with our local colleges. Purchases included anatomy models, new college textbooks, and new flat screen projection units to replace aging projectors.

- **A new Education Pathway program is coming in fall of 2021** that will align with the KCC/SOU teacher licensure program. Students at Mazama and Henley high schools will be able to earn up to 17 college credits toward their teaching degree while in high school.

- **Henley High, Henley Middle, Lost River Jr/Sr High, and Chiloquin Jr/Sr High schools implemented a student aptitude and interest program to help middle school students understand how their interests and aptitudes complement each other.** The goal is to help students more accurately select career-based programs when entering high school.

#PROUDTOBEKCSD

There wasn't much normal about the 2020-21 school year, including our club and sports seasons. However, coaches and students competed in truncated seasons, giving their all in FFA, FBLA, DECA, robotics, and athletics. There is a lot to be proud of. Here we highlight just a few of the teams and students who took it to the next level.



STATE CHAMPIONS ROBOTICS

The Mazama High School team of Matt Elfbrandt, Dylan Gerhardt, and James Ferguson won the Oregon VEX Robotics Competition State Championship.

STATE CHAMPIONS TRACK AND FIELD

- **4A: Mazama Viking 4X100 meter relay team:** Brandon Gailey, Eryk Mayes, Aidan Kindt, Cole Brosterhous
- **4A: Eli Hayes**, Henley, triple jump
- **4A: Kayden Kappas**, Mazama, javelin
- **2A: Lost River 4X400 meter relay team:** Hector Pena, Hayden Duren, Isaac Hernandez, Victor Alonzo
- **2A: Kieryn Ruda**, Lost River, 300 meter hurdles
- **2A: Victor Alonzo**, Lost River, 400 meters

ACHIEVEMENTS AND GOALS

SOCIAL and EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS

- The district hired an administrator and four additional elementary child development specialists for its K-12 Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Program. With these staffing additions, there is now SEL support in every school in the district.

The program specialists will design and implement district- and school-level systems to reduce disrupted learning, vicarious trauma, and educator burnout, and improve teacher effectiveness, collaboration, school culture, and student achievement.

- In 2020-21, the district contracted with local mental health providers to offer a range of mental health and behavioral services to our students. We plan to continue these partnerships into future years.

RECRUITING and RETAINING QUALITY TEACHERS

- Despite significant challenges created by COVID-19 restrictions, the district attended more than 20 virtual career fairs and hired 45 new teachers for the 2021-22 school year. **To help retain and recruit new teachers, the district allocated \$100,000 for loan forgiveness and tuition reimbursement for new hires.** Pending availability of future funds, we hope to continue this program past the 2021-22 school year.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- In spring of 2020, all KCS D teachers attended an online/distance learning training provided by one of the nation's largest distance learning providers. This training helped teachers prepare for the pandemic school closure and distance learning required during the 2020-21 school year.

- The district worked with a skilled KCS D teacher team to provide school-based training and support for the Schoology Learning Management System and Zoom classroom technologies. This past year posed many challenges, but our teacher-led professional development team proved to be an invaluable support for their colleagues across the district.



- Throughout the year, multiple book studies and PD opportunities were provided to district teachers to elevate their skills and craft in distance learning. We all learned together, with our students, when COVID and state guidelines changed multiple times.

- In August 2021, the district will partner with the Developing Mathematical Thinking Institute of Boise, Idaho, to offer professional development to all KCS D elementary teachers in the skills of teaching and learning mathematics. We believe students and parents will see an immediate benefit from this training.



STATE CHAMPIONS 4A CHEER

The Henley High School Cheer Team won the nonbuilding competition and claimed first-place in the stunt category. Team members: Tatiana Briones, Maya Rea, Sapphire Honeycutt, Kelsie Felsing, and Lexi Dolan.

STATE CHAMPIONS 4A FOOTBALL

Mazama Vikings topped off an undefeated season by taking the championship in a 27-21 win against Marist Catholic.



#PROUDTOBEKCS D

2021 CRYSTAL APPLE AWARDS

The Klamath County School District awards Crystal Apples to nine employees who best exemplify our mission:

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

Videos about the winners are on KCSD's YouTube channel:
[Klamath County School District News](#)

Helena De Jong

Science teacher, Henley High School: "She pours her heart into everything she does, and she does so much ... words cannot adequately capture the breadth of her impact. ... She was patient, and I could tell that she believed in my abilities, more than I believed in myself."



Delana Heidrich

English language arts teacher, Bonanza Jr/Sr High: "At least once in our lives, we should be inspired by a teacher who truly makes a difference, who can ignite a passion for learning, who can unlock the doors to discovery, or who instills a belief in possibilities."



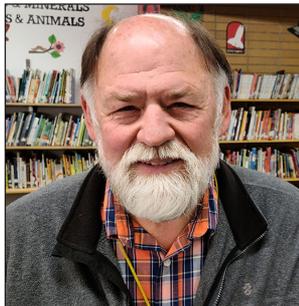
Megan Parrish

Student Information System specialist, District Office: "If a secretary had a question, if a principal had something critical happen, if there was an issue with one of our programs, I knew Megan would be able to identify the problem, and probably get it fixed before anyone else got involved."



Steve Snyder

Bridges paraprofessional, Stearns Elementary: "Even though many of his students have severe disabilities, he has never let that define what they are able to accomplish. He goes the extra mile to ensure his students are able to participate to the best of their abilities ... and never feel left out."



Dawn Alexander

Head Cook, Shasta Elementary School: "Dawn has always been exceptional, but when the pandemic closed schools, she stepped up her game. What she has done for our Shasta community, and for the district, putting out 20,000 meals a month ... she's just amazing."



Julie Grantom

Head cook, Merrill Elementary School: "Julie was an inspiration before COVID-19 hit, but she is off the charts now. Her workload is incredible, yet she always has a warm smile and caring personality. ... Julie is a constant light in a difficult year ... Our school is a better place for having her."



Anna Hernandez

Kindergarten teacher, Malin Elementary: "Anna has rich community ties that allow her effectiveness to go beyond the regular school day. She's also able to help our Spanish-speaking students, and that makes the transition into kindergarten easier for them."



Stacey Ramirez

Counselor, Henley Middle School: "Stacey instills in students the attitude that the sky is the limit. She never takes the cookie-cutter approach when looking for solutions. Her flexibility in problem solving is inspirational ... She has a unique ability to assist students who are facing enormous challenges."



Jeannie Smith

Fourth-grade teacher, Peterson Elementary School: "She's got such a heart for kids. She wants them to not only be good students but good people ... She is a genuine human being who is determined to do what she needs to do to help children succeed during these crazy times."