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For immediate release

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**Oregon expands career readiness with $10.3 million investment in hands-on learning for 101 schools**

*“*Our ability to attract good jobs is fundamentally linked to the availability of a skilled workforce*,” says Avakian*

**PORTLAND, OR—**One hundred and one Oregon middle schools and high schools have secured career readiness grants totaling $10.3 million, Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian and Acting Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction Colt Gill announced today.

The CTE Revitalization Grant funds will serve diverse communities around the state with programs focused on advanced manufacturing, engineering, agricultural science, aviation, robotics, forestry, home construction/renovation and biomedical/health sciences.

“Our state’s ability to attract and retain good jobs is fundamentally linked to the availability of a skilled workforce,” said Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian. “Today’s grants mean that more students around the state will have access to hands-on learning programs. As our economy changes – especially with automation on the rise – the importance of skills training in middle school, high school and throughout a person’s career will only continue to grow.”

In total, the 32 grants will leverage additional funds and resources from 335 local business and community partners.

 “These grants will help more students prepare for college and career,” said Acting Deputy Superintendent Colt Gill. "I’m very pleased to see the ongoing expansion of hands-on, applied learning to more schools around the state. These programs are good for students, good for businesses, and good for local communities.”

Graduation rates for students in Oregon CTE programs are 15.5% higher than the statewide average.

The grants build on earlier investments by the Oregon Legislature in 2011, 2013, 2014, and 2015 totaling $23 million.

The CTE Revitalization Advisory Committee – comprised of representatives from organized labor, trade organizations, education and Oregon’s energy and business community – reviewed 64 applications totaling $21 million in requests. The committee prioritized applications based on geographic diversity, community partnerships, and programs that lead to high-wage, high-demand occupations, especially for historically underserved students.

In addition to the regular CTE Revitalization Grant, a summer supplement was also offered for schools wishing to expand opportunities for students outside of the regular school year.

| ***Recipient*** | ***Project Name*** | ***Regular Award*** | ***Summer Award*** | ***Total*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Athena Weston SD | Weston McEwen CTE Project | $271,628 | $0 | $271,628 |
| Beaverton SD  Southridge High School | Embrace, Inspire, Empower-CTE Opportunities for All | $317,286 | $0 | $317,286 |
| Bend-La Pine SD  Bend High School | Bend High School Culinary Kitchen Upgrade and Food Truck | $328,126 | $0 | $328,126 |
| Bend-La Pine SD  La Pine High School | LaPine HS MFG & Construction Tech | $334,715 | $0 | $334,715 |
| Bethel SD | CTE Cruise: Engaging & Inspiring Grade 8 Students to Pursue CTE Pathways | $332,181 | $0 | $332,181 |
| Cascade SD | Approaching MACH Speed | $0 | $45,000 | $45,000 |
| Lincoln City Career Tech HS | Coastal Drone Academy | $336,286 | $0 | $336,286 |
| David Douglas SD | Design, Create, Make! Middle School Summer Camp | $0 | $44,506 | $44,506 |
| Dayton SD | Innovate Dayton | $336,029 | $82,800 | $418,829 |
| Douglas ESD | Douglas Healthcare Career Pathways Program (DCHCP) | $432,367 | $0 | $432,367 |
| Forest Grove SD  Forest Grove High School | Forest Grove HS Mechatronics Pathway | $334,688 | $99,699 | $434,387 |
| Gresham-Barlow SD  Center for Advanced Learning | Updraft to Apprenticeship | $430,493 | $0 | $430,493 |
| Hillsboro SD | Bioscience Technologies Program | $334,715 | $99,960 | $434,675 |
| Jefferson County SD | Warm Springs & Madras: Middle School to High School CTE Pathway Focused on Underrepresented Minorities | $336,286 | $100,000 | $436,286 |
| Junction City SD  Junction City High School | Junction City HS Culinary Arts Revitalization Project | $336,286 | $0 | $336,286 |
| Lake County SD | Revitalization of Welding and Small Engines | $336,286 | $0 | $336,286 |
| Lincoln County SD Waldport High School | Full Steam Ahead 2.0 | $335,459 | $0 | $335,459 |
| McMinnville SD | CTE Seminar Project | $190,574 | $93,137 | $283,711 |
| Mt. Angel SD | Building Opportunities by Local Design (BOLD) | $283,993 | $0 | $283,993 |
| Multnomah ESD  Helensview School | Blazing the Way: Phoenix Industries | $336,286 | $0 | $336,286 |
| North Bend SD | North Bend Trades Center | $336,286 | $0 | $336,286 |
| North Marion SD  North Marion High School | North Marion Habitat Partnership | $75,615 | $0 | $75,615 |
| North Santiam SD | North Santiam Pathways to Health | $336,286 | $40,000 | $376,286 |
| Perrydale SD | Designing the Future of Agriculture | $336,286 | $36,000 | $372,286 |
| Prairie City SD | Agricultural Science & Technology Instructor | $336,286 | $0 | $336,286 |
| Roseburg SD  Roseburg High School | Expanding Horizons | $0 | $99,999 | $99,999 |
| Salem-Keizer SD | Roadmap for Success | $0 | $98,885 | $98,885 |
| Scappoose SD  Scappoose High School | SHS Innovation Center | $336,286 | $87,169 | $423,455 |
| Southern Oregon ESD | Southern Oregon Air Academy Partnership Project | $382,226 | $0 | $382,226 |
| Wallowa County ESD  Joseph Charter School | Joseph Charter School New Heights Aviation Center | $431,162 | $0 | $431,162 |
| Warrenton-Hammond SD  Warrenton High School | Revolutionizing CTE with Warrenton Technology Center | $336,286 | $100,000 | $436,286 |
| West Linn-Wilsonville SD  West Linn-Wilsonville School District | Engineering & Multimedia Design Project | $328,215 | $94,500 | $422,715 |

A diverse coalition of advocates will seek to refill and expand the grant fund during the 2019 Oregon legislative session as part of the larger effort to ensure that every middle school and high school has access to high-quality and engaging CTE programs.

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