

Oregon Continues Oregon Head Start Pre-K Program Expansion

SALEM – State Schools Superintendent Susan Castillo announced today that the Oregon legislature’s Emergency Board has approved \$25 million in expansion funding for Oregon Head Start Prekindergarten (OHS PreK). Today’s funding will continue last year’s expansion efforts and add 1336 enrollment slots in the 2008-2009 program year. Funding for this second round of expansion was based on a competitive grant application process. Programs receiving funding to serve additional children include:

- Albina Head Start (Multnomah County): 80 slots
- Clackamas County Children’s Commission (Clackamas County):77 slots
- Head Start of Lane County: 160 slots
- Head Start of Yamhill County: 60 slots
- Kids and Company of Linn County (Kidco) Head Start: 57 slots
- Mt Hood Community College (Multnomah County): 125 slots
- Neighborhood House (Multnomah County): 25 slots
- Neighbor Impact (Deschutes): 65 slots
- OCDC of Jackson County: 54 slots
- OCDC of Klamath County: 38 slots
- OCDC of Marion County: 40 slots
- OCDC of Washington County: 180 slots
- Portland Public Schools Head Start (Multnomah County): 119 slots
- Salem-Keizer Head Start (Marion County): 60 slots
- Southern Oregon Child and Family Council (Jackson & Josephine Counties): 171 slots
- Umatilla-Morrow Head Start (Umatilla County): 25

Last year expansion slots were awarded to existing OHS PreK programs with the immediate capacity to address unmet service needs in their counties. In the fall of 2007, 27 programs added 1732 enrollment slots. The addition of this year’s 1336 slots brings the total number of expansion slots to 3,068.

Expansion Summary

Number of state funded OHS PreK enrollment slots before the 2005-2007 Biennium expansion	3486
Number of state funded OHS PreK enrollment slots added in the first phase of expansion (2007-2008 program year)	1732
Number of state funded OHS PreK enrollment slots added in the second phase of expansion (2008-2009 program year)	1336
Total number of slots added during the 2007- 2009 Biennium expansion	3068
Total number of state funded OHS PreK enrollments slots, after the 2007-2009 Biennium expansion	6554

State funding for OHS PreK started in 1987-1988 with 360 children and their families. In 2008-2009, the state will be serving 6554 children.

Combined with funding from the Federal Office of Head Start and other funders, more than 12,661 children and their families will now be able to enroll in OHS PreK’s comprehensive early childhood programs each year.