



SOUTH SALEM HIGH SCHOOL
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Sandy Husk, Superintendent

Dear Chair Rosenbaum and members of the committee,

South Salem High School is an impeccable school that is approaching its 60th year of excellence. Our American Government class at South Salem High is working to pass a resolution commending the school for its excellent history and accomplishments. Through this project, the American Government class is learning about the legislative process. The resolution works to instill South Saxon Day on September 5th, 2014. We appreciate your hearing HCR28 and are asking that you and your committee support the resolution.

South Salem High School has one of the best and unique academic programs in Salem, Oregon. It is the one school out of nineteen high schools in Oregon to offer the international Baccalaureate program and is the only high school in Salem to offer it. The program was first introduced to South Salem High School in 1999 and has been consistently growing since. Fifty-three percent of the junior and senior classes take IB classes. South Salem High School was one of the first schools in Oregon to start the Academic Honors in 1983 and the Honors Society Program has been at South since 1955. In 1987 South Salem High School was honored as a Blue Ribbon School, which is one of the highest honors bestowed to a school in the United States. South Salem High School strives and obtains academic excellence.

Throughout the 60 years of being open, South Salem High School has always competed at the highest levels that the state has to offer (4a and 6a). In all, South Salem High School has won 19 state championships in 11 different sports. In addition, South Salem has a tradition of having the best athletic program in the Central Valley Conference. It has been awarded 14 Director's Trophies throughout the 33 year existence of the award. South Salem is also the only school in the history of Oregon to win football and tennis State Championships in the first year of a school being open. All of these accolades are examples of South's excellence in athletics.

South Salem High School has a strong DECA program which builds leaders and entrepreneurs. The program gives students business experience. DECA promotes innovation, teamwork, professional responsibility, leadership and community orientation. Approximately 150 students are involved at South Salem. These students receive knowledge directly applicable to careers and professional interactions which benefits them in their futures. Since 2006, South Salem High School has sent 177 people to the international competition where South Salem has performed admirably with 12 finalists (placing in the top 16) in the year 2012. Out of the DECA prizes awarded at the State Career Development Conference, South Salem High School wins

approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of the possible awards. The DECA chapter at South Salem High is the paragon of DECA excellence in Oregon.

South Salem High School has a strong culinary program. Having a former chef as the culinary teacher enables the students to obtain skills that are not available anywhere else in Salem. The culinary team has competed at the national competition 5 times and has won the Oregon ProStart High School Culinary Championship. The students in the culinary program are able to compete against other schools and learn to deal with the pressure of being chefs themselves. Many of these students receive scholarships to culinary schools where they pursue careers that South Salem High inspired them to achieve.

The South Salem High School music program is an example of the school's history of excellence. South Salem has one of the best orchestras and jazz choirs in the state. The school has been honored with a gold plated music program and has won 32 state championships. At the first state competition, South Salem High School won first place with both the band and choir. Students have followed their musical talents onto schools like Julliard and George Fox University. South Salem High School has inspired its students to accomplish great things.

South Salem High School has various accomplishments which have all led to successful graduates whom have profoundly profited the community. Each student at South Salem has benefited from something that the school offers and would like to see a day implemented to commend the school for its excellence. Throughout this process we are documenting the steps we have taken in passing this resolution. This will allow an outline for other schools to follow if they wish to create resolutions for their own schools. Our American Government Class is asking for you and your committee to support this resolution. We ask that you do adopt HCR 28. Thank you for your time and consideration.