



# PRESS RELEASE

REP. PAUL EVANS, HOUSE DISTRICT 20  
REP. TERESA ALONSO LEON, HOUSE DISTRICT 22

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For Immediate Release  
March 13, 2018

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## **Legislators Secure Final Funding for Local Student Success Center**

*Mike McLaran Center for Student Success will serve students in Salem-Keizer*

SALEM – The Mike McLaran Center for Student Success will receive the final \$250,000 needed to complete its fundraising campaign, thanks in large part to the work of Rep. Paul Evans (D-Monmouth), Rep. Teresa Alonso Leon (D-Woodburn), Sen. Peter Courtney (D-Salem) and a bipartisan group of legislators during the recently closed legislative session.

The \$3 million project, located in the Starkey-McCully building in downtown Salem, serves students in the Salem-Keizer School District. The center provides a variety of services aimed at educational and social success.

“I am grateful our colleagues saw fit to help fund the Mike McLaran Center for Student Success,” Rep. Evans said. “This place will provide critical support including academic advising, career exploration, as well as college participation assistance for students across the socioeconomic spectrum. I truly believe this \$250,000 will transform the lives of families across our community. This is a tremendous win for our school district, our region, and mostly for our families.”

The center is organized into four distinct areas. Those areas are:

- College preparation and awareness, providing college test preparation and financial aid support.
- Career exploration and exposure, pointing students to internship opportunities, job postings, career mentors and resume writing.
- Academic supports, which includes tutoring and an academic center.
- Social supports, providing parental supports and education, financial literacy, and health and nutritional education.

“We owe it to our students to provide them with every opportunity to get ahead. I was proud to advocate for the funding of the Mike McLaran Center for Student Success because I know that when we invest in our students and their future, our entire community wins,” Rep. Alonso Leon said. “I look forward to the opening of this center so it can begin providing much-needed services to students in the Salem area. “

For more information, visit <https://skeducationfoundation.org/about/mclaran-center/>.

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