



The Honorable Greg Smith

Oregon House of Representatives
District 57

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 13, 2016

Over \$390,000 of Legislative CTE Funding Finds Its Way to Local High Schools

HEPPNER, Ore. – The Morrow County Welding and Manufacturing Project has been awarded \$390,745.00 to help fund CTE programs at its three high schools; Riverside, Irrigon, and Heppner. Funds were awarded through the competitive Oregon CTE Revitalization Grant.

The CTE Revitalization Grant is part of the Oregon Legislature’s investment in CTE programs during the 2015 Legislative Session. Investments included a dedication of \$20 million to CTE funding in the Department of Education’s budget (HB 5016). Also, the Legislature passed HB 3072 which creates pilot programs to grow CTE instructors and test ways to elevate CTE courses to the same level as other high school curricula.

“This is welcome news for administrators, educators, students, parents, and employers in Morrow County,” said [Representative Greg Smith \(GOP-Heppner\)](#). “Stronger CTE programs in our schools provide options for our students and more developed workforce for local business and industry. It is win-win for our communities.”

During the 2015 Legislative Session, Representative Greg Smith helped led a broad CTE coalition work group dedicated to finding stable increased funding for CTE programs throughout Oregon.

The Morrow County School District, in collaboration with employers, will use the grant funds to expand and strengthen existing Manufacturing: Industrial and Engineering Systems and Agricultural Science and Technology CTE programs. They plan to do this by updating infrastructure, and purchasing industry-standard welding and manufacturing equipment. These improvements will also provide a training resource for industry partners and the community. The Morrow County Welding and Manufacturing Project will also support the region workforce development plan that includes construction of the BMCC College Workforce Training Center in Boardman.

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