

Health and Science School (HS2)
Frequently Asked Questions
2010-2011

What grade levels will you have in 2010-11 at HS2?

We will enroll students in grades six through twelve for the 2010-11 school year. Middle school classrooms will be in the north section of our building and high school classrooms will be on the south side of the building. Shared spaces include the library, cafeteria, gym, auditorium, and a few specialist classrooms. We have a separate lunchtime for our MS and HS students.

Where is the school located?

We are currently at the Capital Center (18640 NW Walker Rd) on the SW corner of 185th and NW Walker Rd. The district has purchased the building and we will remodel and expand as we grow to capacity (700 students in grades 6-12 by 2010-11).

What subjects will be taught for the middle school and high school grades?

Middle school students will take classes in science, humanities, math, art, PE, and Spanish (8th grade only). High school courses are listed on our course sequence sheet (see website).

What are the starting and ending times for HS2?

Like all options programs and schools, Health and Science currently starts at 7:40 AM and ends at 2:05 PM each day.

Is busing provided for students at HS2?

Yes, and this is true for all options programs and schools in the Beaverton School District. Morning buses pick up students close to their homes and shuttle them to their option school with no more than one bus change at a school "hub." On the way home in the afternoon, students currently ride a bus to their neighborhood high school and then ride the regular bus routes home from there.

How is HS2 different from the Rachel Carson program at Five Oaks (grades 6-8)?

While the focus at Rachel Carson is on environmental science (and they are an excellent program), at HS2 we focus on medicine, health, and engineering. HS2 connects coursework around the ideas central to these core subjects and involves students in active learning in groups. Students at HS2 also have an advisory (small class) that meets for 30 minutes every day with the same teacher leader for all of middle school.

How is HS2 different from SST at Merlo Station (grades 9-12)?

Using the Expeditionary Learning model, Health and Science engages all students, but is also especially attractive to those students that have not been successful in a traditional school setting. Additional differences include:

- Health and Science is a middle/high school
- HS2 has daily advisory classes ("Crew" class each day for 30 minutes with about 15 students and one teacher that remains with the group for all of middle or high school)
- HS2 uses proficiency-based grading (see next question)

What is proficiency-based grading and how does it work at HS2?

Each class at Health and Science uses specific learning targets to define the knowledge and skills that students need to master to be successful. Targets are clearly defined and students are given multiple opportunities to provide evidence that they have met or exceeded the target. Based on

the number of targets in class, we translate student performance into traditional letter grades (A, B, C, or I for "Incomplete/Failing") at the end of each term.

I heard that HS2 received a grant for something called Project Lead the Way. What is that?

Yes, with the generous support of the Engineering Technology and Industry Council (ETIC), we are able to purchase training and equipment for the engineering and biomedical courses that are taught as a part of the national program called Project Lead the Way. These courses are specifically designed to increase interest, ability, and college success in the biomedical sciences and engineering. We will be teaching PLTW courses in grades 10-12 that are potentially connected to dual credit (high school and college credit).

Do you have Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) classes at HS2?

While we respect both of these programs, we have chosen to align our advanced courses with local colleges and universities for dual credit. This means that students take a class that can award both high school and college credit (tuition fees required, but at a greatly reduced rate). We have finalized our agreements with Portland Community College, Portland State University, and the Oregon Institute of Technology for these courses. Please see our high school course sequence sheet for the types of courses that are offered as dual credit in the 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. Current acceptance rates for all types of college preparatory programs are: AP accepted by about 50% of US colleges and universities, IB accepted by approximately 20% of US colleges and universities, dual credit (the option used by HS2) accepted by approximately 80% of US colleges and universities.

I've also heard that Health and Science has other grant funding to support the school. What specific support do those provide?

Yes, we have been extremely fortunate to receive support from many of our community, business, and higher education partners. These include the following grants:

- Expeditionary Learning Schools (\$700,000 over seven years) to support staff training in the Expeditionary Learning model (learn more at <http://elschools.org/>)
- Oregon Small Schools Initiative (\$615,000 over five years) to support recruiting, staff development, and new school support staff (learn more at <http://www.e3oregon.org>)
- Engineering Technology and Industry Council (\$74,000 over two years) to support equipment and training for the Project Lead the Way courses for the high school levels at HS2
- Intel Corporation (\$68,000) for the purchase of classroom technology (laptops, LCD computer projectors, etc) and as a main supporter for the summer recruiting camps that we have held for students in 2006 and 2007.
- Vernier Software and Technology (\$8,500) as donated equipment
- Oregon Health and Science University (\$6,000) as donated equipment and funding for the summer camp visit to the BodyWorlds 3 exhibit at OMSI
- Beaverton Education Foundation (\$23,000) for the support of the 2007 and 2008 summer bridge camps for incoming HS2 students

Why did my student's electronic device get confiscated?

Students must surrender electronic devices including, but not limited, cell phones, pagers, gaming devices, MP3 players, and I-Pods to a staff member when it causes a disruption to the learning environment and/or when asked. A parent is responsible for picking up confiscated devices in the main office.