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*Aug. 27, 2019*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Glendale hosting barbecue to build stronger relations with community**

GLENDALE, Ore.-Glendale School District is inviting the local community to come out to its free barbecue on Aug. 28 at the Glendale High School football field from 5-7 p.m.

The purpose of the barbecue is for the community to share their opinions and feedback on how to improve relations between the community and Glendale School District.

Last year, Glendale School District qualified for a grant from Oregon’s Chronic Absenteeism Plan, due to the high percentage of chronically absent students, which was at 36 percent. Part of the funding is to help school districts increase community involvement. Glendale is using funding from the grant to host the barbecue.

Glendale School District Superintendent David Hanson says improving community relations is his top priority, and meeting the citizens of Glendale is a great start to know how to better serve students.

“Our faculty and staff have been working tirelessly to get our district to the standard it has the potential to reach,” Hanson said. “We don’t just want to hear from adults at the panel, we also want to hear the voices of students. We want to know what can we do as educators to better their experience in the classroom.”

The barbecue will have booths set up so local community members will be able to meet people from the schools and local services. There will also be chances to win prizes.

Food such as hamburgers, hot dogs, and veggie and chicken burgers will be served at the event.

**BBQ Summary**

\*\*\*We had a total of 609 people attend the BBQ, which was about 75% of the people in town. We served 400 hamburgers, 320 hot dogs, 420 bottles of water, 565 cookies, 600 bags of chips, and then 475 soft drinks. We had booths with free toothbrushes and dental information, health care, volunteering in schools, free books, and another booth with raffle prizes. We also had four home school families come to the BBQ to see what types of things we had going on in the district. After the BBQ, two of the four families enrolled their children in our school district.