FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 25, 2018

Media Contact:
Mark Witty, Baker School District 5J, 541-620-2109, mark.witty@bakersd.org

Baker 5J Graduation Data Released

Baker City, Ore. - The State of Oregon released the 2016-17 graduation data results this morning. On-time graduation rates for Oregon students increased slightly, nearly 2%, from 2015-16. On-time graduation is defined as students who graduate with a regular or modified diploma within four years of entering high school.

Baker School District is happy to report modest gains in graduation rates across most schools. The 4-year cohort rate (on time graduation) for Baker School District showed modest improvements, increasing to 72.99% for 2016-17; the 4-year completer rate increased 2.05%.

Baker School District Superintendent Mark Witty stated “Our goal remains to provide quality educational experiences for students from Birth to Career. It is critical that we provide students with engaging, high-interest opportunities such as Expeditionary Learning, strong Career and Technical Education (vocational coursework), Friday and Summer Academy and Friday Experiences. Working with multiple community partners is a key strategy in the effort to help every student succeed. The Baker School District Staff is committed to assist every student not only to graduate, but be fully prepared for a positive direction after high school.”

EAGLE CAP Innovative High School showed the greatest improvement, increasing from a 43.2% 4-year graduation rate in 2015-16 to 70% in 2016-17. Four-year graduation rates were up from 2015-16 for Baker Web Academy and Baker Early College as well.

Baker High School’s “on time” graduation rates decreased from 87.1% in 2015-16 to 79.09% for 16-17.

Greg Mitchell, Principal of Baker High School, stated, “We are making concerted efforts to address student retention and provide support systems that will ensure all students have an engaging course of study that leads to successful post-secondary options. This year, we have begun a program that is structured to provide individualized instruction and mental health support for trauma-affected youth who may otherwise exit high school before completing their graduation requirements. In addition, we are implementing a school-wide Personalized Learning Plan that will connect each student with an adult advocate who will monitor that student’s progress and provide guidance on developing their college or career pathway. Although we are disappointed in this latest graduation rate data, we are

The Baker 5J schools exist to be the center of community vitality eliminating the barriers for gratifying individual educational experiences in order to have capable contributing citizens with character.
optimistic that the support systems being implemented will connect students to their educational experience in a more meaningful way.”

Baker 5J 5-year cohort rate increased to 74.56% (up 2.53%); the 5-year completer rate rose to just under 80%, a gain of 3.37%. Completer rates include students who complete requirements for an Extended Diploma, GED certification and Adult HS diploma.

About Baker 5J School District

Nationally recognized Baker School District 5J (BSD) in Baker City, OR, is the largest of three rural school districts in Baker County, serving 1,700 students and employing over 110 educators and staff. District elementary schools include Brooklyn Primary School, Haines Elementary, Keating Elementary School, and South Baker Intermediate. Baker Middle School and two high schools, Baker High School and Eagle Cap Innovative High School, are also part of BSD. Additionally, BSD sponsors two charter schools, Baker Web Academy and Baker Early College, each offering teacher-supported online education. BSD provides next generation education for the future of Eastern Oregonians and launched Baker Technical Institute (BTI), a career and technical program that partners with regional employers and industry experts to provide an innovative education in hands-on fields. BSD believes strong schools are the foundation of strong and vibrant communities and is committed to prepare students to become successful life-long learners.

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