EDUCATE • INSPIRE • EMPOWER

Hospital Schools Program

October 2026

Hospital Schools Overview

The MESD Hospital School Program (HSP) provides trauma-informed, equity-centered instruction to students hospitalized across multiple metro area hospitals, ensuring academic continuity during medical and mental health crises.

Teaching staff collaborate closely with families, medical providers, community services and partner districts to address barriers, such as language access and cultural needs while supporting diverse learners with individualized plans. The program also prioritizes smooth transitions back to home schools by coordinating services, updating supports, and communicating with school teams statewide.

HSP SITES ACROSS THE METRO AREA

Doernbecher Children's hospital (DCH)

Acute/Oncology/Neurology

OHSU- Hemostasis and Thrombosis Center (HTC)

Bleeding disorders

Shriners Hospital

Orthoscopic

Randall Children's Hospital (RCH)

Acute/Oncology and Rehab

Fresenius Kidney Care

Pediatric Dialysis

Unity Center for Behavioral Health

Providence Willamette Falls- CHild and Adolescent Psychiatric Unit (CAPU)

WHO WE ARE AND WHO WE SERVE

Our site teams serve students from all over the state and southwest Washington who are inpatient at one of our areas hospitals

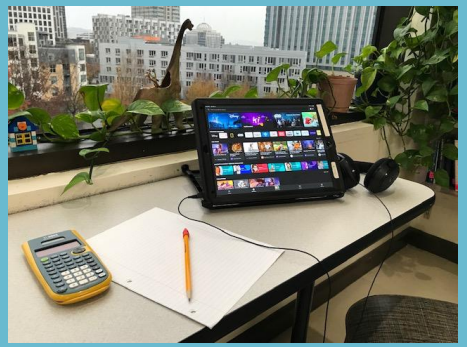
Last school year we served 1488 students across our sites

K-12 and up to 21 if receiving SPED services

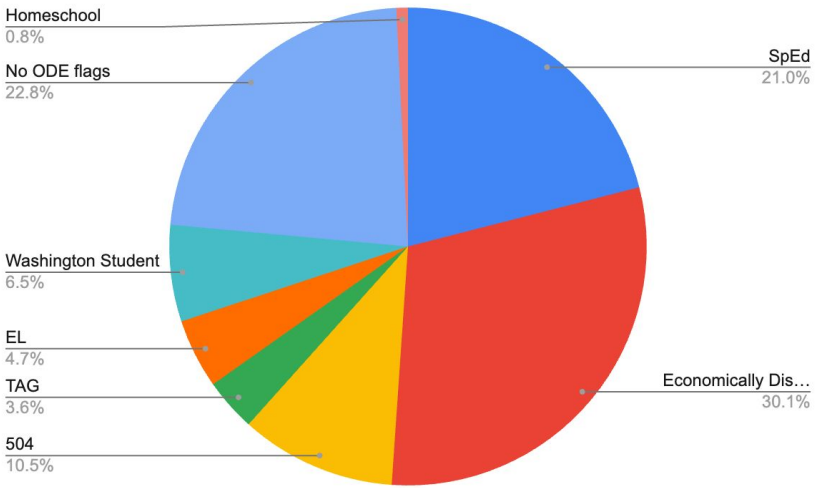
12 Licensed teachers with Sped Endorsements

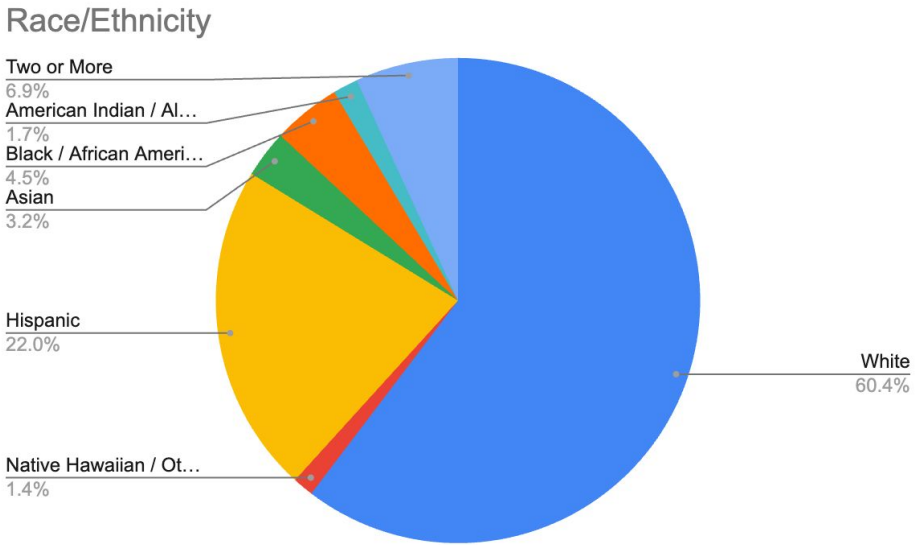
5 Educational Assistants

4 bilingual staff members



HSP Student Demographics - 25-26 school year





Blueprint'28 connection:
Goal 1 - Creating A High-Quality Learning Experience for All

- During the 25-26 school year, our program actively worked on training and embedding the Wayfinder Social Emotional Curriculum into lessons as well as into daily communication with Hospital Staff and our partner schools.
- Each site is able to serve GenEd and SpEd students in the classroom or bedside.
- Teaching teams create lessons that are engaging, rigorous and high interest in order to keep students on track while hospitalized.
- HSP Teachers consistently work to grow in their own skills and are always working to find ways to improve their own practice.
- Student Centered Learning is a value to all of the HSP team
- Trauma Informed Practices and Collaborative Problem Solving help teachers navigate hard situations when working in high trauma spaces.

Blueprint'28 connection:
Goal 2: Operationalizing Systems That Engage & Empower Communities

- HSP teachers are embedded members of the larger interdisciplinary medical teams, providing important information to teams around academics, social and emotional needs and vice versa. The teachers are an integral part of the larger teams and the services they provide are highly valued.
- The HSP teams work closely and collaboratively with districts and schools around the state as well as community partners to ensure that our students have the best possible outcomes when they return to school post hospitalization.
- The HSP team actively participates in community events and component district conversations and trainings to help our receiving districts better understand the needs of our students.
- Several of our HSP teachers have created community partnerships that help support our students including book drives, free tutoring services, and lobbying- HB 3603 was a direct result of our teams advocacy efforts to help support students who were being dropped by the 10 day rule when they were hospitalized.

Blueprint'28 connection:
Goal 3: Build A Culturally Responsive Workforce

- The HSP team is committed to our own learning and growth. In 25-26 the team participated in several professional learning opportunities including partnering with our MESD Climate and Culture team to do a monthly book study using Alex Shevrin Venet's book- *Equity Centered Trauma Informed Education* complete with a virtual session with the author.
- This school year we are continuing to dive deeper into her work with the book *Becoming an Everyday Changemaker.*
- The HSP PD is driven by student need, data, staff feedback and program priorities. Everyone has a voice in how we want to grow and move forward as a team.
- Continued development includes Trauma informed Practices, Collaborative Problem Solving, SEL training
- HSP leadership is committed to hiring and retaining staff who are representative of the students we serve.

QUESTIONS