FUNDING FOR THE TECHSMART INITIATIVE

Funds for the TechSmart Initiative derive from the cable services franchises negotiated by the MHCRC with Comcast, Frontier and Reliance Connects. The cable companies pay three percent of their gross revenues for video services within Multnomah County to support community uses of cable system technology, including funding for the MHCRC's Community Grants program. Cable companies enter into franchise agreements in order to use the public rights of way for their business purposes.

ABOUT THE MHCRC

The Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission (MHCRC) is an intergovernmental commission created by the cities of Portland, Gresham, Troutdale, Wood Village and Fairview and Multnomah County to efficiently administer the cable services franchise agreements, including implementation in the community of public benefit obligations of the companies.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

MHCRC TechSmart:
www.mhcrc.org
AHR Partnership:
www.allhandsraised.org
The Collective Impact Forum:
www.collectiveimpactforum.org
Stanford Social Innovation Review:
www.ssireview.org
Foundation Strategy Group:
www.fsg.org

The Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission's **TechSmart Initiative for Student Success** plans to strategically invest about **$19 million** over the next **10 years** in local public schools to positively impact academic outcomes for all students in Multnomah County.
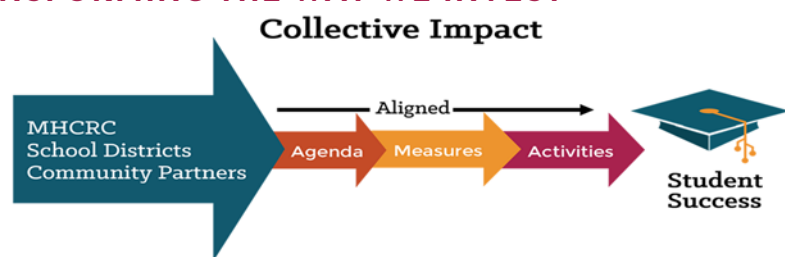
TechSmart Initiative for Student Success

TECHSMART INITIATIVE

The **MHCRC TechSmart Initiative** is a long-term funding commitment aimed at improving academic outcomes for all students in Multnomah County. The Initiative provides grants to school districts for technology and teacher supports in order to innovate and transform teaching strategies and practices.

The MHCRC has also partnered with Portland State University to provide additional evaluation resources to districts for identifying promising and effective strategies and practices and for sharing those strategies across all districts in the County.

TRANSFORMING THE WAY WE INVEST

Through a thoughtful, research-based process, the MHCRC transformed the way it invests in public education -- from funding individual, project-based grants with isolated outcomes to working strategically with school districts and other aligned partners to fund longer-term change aimed at large scale improvement in education.

ALIGNED STUDENT OUTCOMES

The TechSmart Initiative aligns with the All Hands Raised Partnership. Initiative investments focus on the following academic outcomes key to student success:

- Kindergarten Readiness
- English Language Learners' Progress
- Third Grade Reading
- Eighth Grade Math
- Ninth Grade Credit Attainment
- High School Graduation

FUNDING INNOVATION IN EDUCATION

The MHCRC seized the opportunity to align a significant portion of its grant funds for public education after successful negotiations of a cable services franchise agreement with Comcast resulted in increased funding for community grants.

Along with the opportunity created by the increased funds, the MHCRC found a compelling intersection of factors, which lead to the focus on public education:

- Our communities identify relevant, high quality public education as a critical social issue.
- Technology is a key component of effective teaching and learning.
- The inclusive, intentional community effort of the All Hands Raised Partnership created a common agenda and priority indicators for public education in Multnomah County.

"The MHCRC is thrilled to be working alongside so many others who understand that success of our youth is key to the success of our communities. The TechSmart Initiative will help Districts gain critical resources to discover how to best use technology in teaching and learning to improve outcomes for all students.

- Carol Studenmund, MHCRC Chair

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