



Commissioner Brad Avakian
Bureau of Labor & Industries

Press Advisory

For News Planning

October 30, 2012

CONTACT: Bob Estabrook, 503-709-0730

Avakian to Tour Mt. Angel and Silver Falls CTE Program

Visit highlights the districts' innovative partnership and new CTE programs made possible by the CTE Revitalization Grant

SILVERTON - Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) Commissioner Brad Avakian will visit Mt. Angel and Silver Falls School Districts on Wednesday, October 31st, to tour the new vocational education programs made possible by the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Revitalization Grant. Avakian has also invited local elected officials.

This multi-district partnership received \$170,365 from the CTE Revitalization Grant Fund last April to create the new program: "Building the Pipeline through Project-Based Learning." Over 1,800 students will be served by new and expanded programs in **pre-engineering, biomedical science/sports medicine, agricultural sciences, and business administration** at four schools: Mt. Angel and Mark Twain Middle Schools and Kennedy and Silverton High Schools.

By sharing curriculum, infrastructure, professional development, and other resources, each school has been able to expand access to existing CTE programs and build entirely new programs; this innovative approach will reach more students than each school would be able to achieve independently and maximizes grant funds. The grant funds have also made it possible to bring CTE programs to the middle schools, which did not previously have CTE programs.

Tour of Mt. Angel and Silver Falls School Districts' "Building the Pipeline through Project-Based Learning" CTE program with Commissioner Avakian, local elected officials, students and educators

Wednesday October 31, 2012 from 8:00am to 9:00am

Silverton High School (1456 Pine Street, Silverton, Oregon 97381) then to Mt. Angel Middle School (460 East Marquam Street, Mount Angel, OR 97362)

Avakian is recognized as a champion for "21st century shop classes" in Oregon schools, having led the fight to pass House Bill 3362 in 2011 and establish a dedicated grant fund to help schools and school districts create or expand CTE education options that work in concert with local employers to train young people for high-wage, high-demand jobs at a younger age. The first [eight grants awarded from the Career and Technical Education Grant Fund](#) will benefit 21 schools across Oregon this school year.

#####

The mission of the Bureau of Labor and Industries is to protect employment rights, advance employment opportunities, and protect access to housing and public accommodations free from discrimination.