

# OREGON Small Schools INITIATIVE

## Freshman Academy

815 South Oakdale Ave., Medford, OR 97501 (541) 842-3680

<http://www.medford.k12.or.us/Page.asp?NavID=2530>

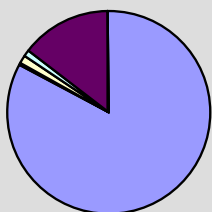
Principal: Hal Jones

Freshman Academy welcomes freshmen to the spirit and traditions of South Medford High School, while acting as a bridge between middle school and high school. All students are prepared for academic success in high school with challenging coursework at all levels. Freshman Academy provides an equal opportunity education for the diverse student body, ensures that a caring adult will connect with each student, provides high support for struggling or disengaged students, and builds character and maturity in a culture of cooperation, respect, and responsibility.

The following data reflects 2007-2008, unless otherwise noted

### Student Population

Total Enrollment	454
1-year drop-out rate (campus)	1.6%
Low-income students	45.0%
English language learners	15.0%



European American	- 82%
Asian/Pacific Islander	- 1%
African American	- 1%
American Indian	- 1%
Latino, Hispanic	- 15%
Other	- 0%

### Student Achievement

10<sup>th</sup> grade students meeting or exceeding state benchmarks

**No data available for Reading, Writing, and Math**

Sources: Oregon Department of Education and Freshman Academy at South Medford

### A Tradition of Innovation

South Medford High School has enthusiastically pursued innovation for more than a decade. All decisions at South Medford focus on student success. Teachers and support staff insist on high expectations while providing high support for all students. Freshman houses, implemented in 1999, were designed to help 9th graders transition successfully into high school. While continuing to grapple with high dropout rates and math performance below state averages, South Medford took steps toward breaking the large student body into smaller learning communities in 2006. Each community has implemented hands-on, collaborative, project based learning, common reading/writing strategies, and a focus on implementing research-based best practices in instruction.