Faces of Beaver Hangouts

Engage  Inspire  Empower
**Engage**

Students with their post-secondary goals and opportunities, and overcoming financial and institutional barriers.

**Inspire**

Youth to follow their dreams and plan for a better future through personal narratives and insights.

**Empower**

Students to take control of their education and future by providing them with the necessary information to navigate college.
At Beaver Hangouts we strive to provide every child across Oregon an opportunity to learn about post-secondary education options through the use of technology and near-peer coaching by Oregon State University volunteers. Our program is free and easily adaptable to classroom needs. We focus on underserved and historically marginalized communities to provide equitable access to post-secondary education.
To Future College Access Corps Coordinators,

You might find yourself opening the door to Beaver Hangouts on your first day and have the thought, “I get an office.” I know, awesome, right? This will be your home base for the next ten and a half months. As you settle in and start to review the program organization by previous coordinators you might start hyperventilating. But wait, there is no need to panic. You will get up to speed in no time with Beaver Hangouts, even if you have no previous coordinating experience. You will come to realize that coordinating the program is all about patience, especially for yourself. Patience is key because you will need to be able to multi-task, work as a team, and manage last minute changes and technical difficulties. Beaver Hangouts is a collaborative effort, especially on the part of College Access Corps Coordinators and the Oregon State University students who volunteer as College Access Coaches.

When you have settled in and sit at your computer to spend another day writing a multitude of emails, and tracking a variety of components on spreadsheets, we want you to hold on to the little moments that show your marriage to the keyboard is integral to the program. Moments like overhearing a coach share their personal experiences about their college journey with K-12 students and the laughter that follows on the other end of the computer. Or, observing a session done entirely in Spanish and seeing the exhilaration on the coach’s face in that special moment. Or, reading the letters the students write to their coaches that exemplify exactly what we are all here to do—show students that post-secondary education is actually a possibility. All of those instances will serve as a reminder for why you are doing the hard and tedious work that you will often be tasked to do. You set the stage for equitable access to higher education by connecting with Coaches in order to place them with classes of similar backgrounds and shared experiences.

We have devoted so much time to expanding and creating new avenues for Beaver Hangouts this year. So much so that we truly feel a sense of ownership and pride over the program. The personal investment that comes along with feeling like we have made something real is the driving force. The wonderful Coaches are not just the faces of the program; they are the lifeblood. Getting to know each Coach on a personal level and sharing in their college journeys is the greatest reward. Most of all, as we set the stage for college students to teach younger students about college, we get to learn so much from the youth and the coaches ourselves. We hope that you gain as many skills, friendships, and life lessons as we have. And we wish you all the best in creating something for yourselves in Beaver Hangouts.

Good luck, and have a blast!
Marisol Moreno Ortiz and Kali Doten
2016-2017 Beaver Hangouts CAC Coordinators
Grade 6 students at St. Andrew Nativity School in Portland with their coach, Trenton. Letters written to Trenton by the boys shown above.
To K-12 Teachers in Oregon,

For the past two years, my students and I have enjoyed the benefits of participating in the Beaver Hangouts program from Oregon State University. I have chosen to utilize this program with my middle school AVID classes, grades 7 and 8. In AVID, we focus a lot of our attention on post-secondary education, with college being one of those areas that we put our efforts into learning about. Beaver Hangouts allows my students to Skype and interact on a bi-monthly routine with college students who attend Oregon State University.

These wonderfully trained and highly skilled college students do an absolutely fantastic job. As a teacher, explaining the excitement, benefits, and personal growth that college offers can be a hard sell to middle school students. They believe you, but it is just not quite the same as hearing it from a current college student, someone closer to their age range. Beaver Hangouts creates easy and informative lesson plans for students to participate in, super easy for the teacher to prepare for. Some of my favorite lessons covered financial aid, budgeting, dorm room tours, careers, and college majors.

Through this program, my students are able to gain a stronger understanding of what college is about. More importantly, they learn the steps they need to take now, and the skills they need to begin to hone, in order to make their goal of post-secondary education a reality.

Jason Erickson
AVID 7th & 8th
Social Studies 6th Grade
Madison Middle School
Eugene, Oregon

Coach Nancy (green folder) with Jason Erickson’s AVID class at Madison Middle School in Eugene.
To the skeptical Oregon State University Student,

You have probably seen flyers advertising Beaver Hangouts around campus so you already know that it is a minimal time commitment where you Skype with K-12 classrooms across Oregon. This probably makes you wonder... How can I possibly make a difference in a student’s life by sitting in front of a computer for an hour every other week? Will I even be able to make a connection with my class virtually? Will I actually provide students a better opportunity for college access and readiness? Will they care about what I have to say and the experiences I share with them? Honestly, these were some questions that crossed my mind when I first signed up to be a Beaver Hangouts coach two years ago.

College students can have a strong impact on younger students’ aspirational goal of attaining post-secondary education. We quantify and validate the efficacy of Beaver Hangouts with pre- and post-program surveys. But surveys can only say so much. Personally, I know that I am making an impact through the interactions I have with my students. For example, it is awesome to see how quickly students can answer my “jeopardy” questions after coaching them all year, and how competitive the class can get answering my questions about post-secondary education from the information I just told them. It makes me realize, “Wow! I was able to teach the students some new and useful information that can help them succeed.”

I could continue telling you about many of the rewarding experiences I have had as a Beaver Hangouts coach, but I know that it would not truly convey the genuine nature of the conversations and connections built by engaging with these students firsthand. I highly encourage and welcome you to join our Beaver Hangouts team so that we can work together to serve, connect, and engage with students in underserved communities. By sharing our experiences and knowledge about the scary process of navigating through college and life with these students, we help to provide students with tools they need to succeed. Come see for yourself!

Best,
Theresa Dinh
Beaver Hangouts Student Coordinator
Junior, Biology
Oregon State University
To my younger self,

I am wrapping up my third year of college now (whoa!), and to be honest, I don’t get the chance to think about you so much. Between classes, work, keeping up with friends, and extracurriculars, I keep my sight focused on the upcoming days, weeks, and years. But every now and then, I Skype with a middle school classroom in Lebanon to talk about college preparedness and I am constantly reminded of you. I think back to the first time you entertained the idea of a career in medicine and rushing in to tell your eighth-grade teacher, the fears you had about going to a high school across town with no other classmates joining you, and the dread of formulating a plan for after high school.

Well, I’m happy to say that you overcame those small concerns that seemed so big at the time and are actively pursuing your career. Every time I Skype with my classroom in Lebanon, I wish you were sitting there so I could tell you the things I’m about to tell you now.

First off, don’t worry so much. My Beaver Hangouts students worry so much! And I know you did, too. You like to plan and outline five-year plans, but make sure to leave room for those plans to guide and inspire you, rather than pester you. True, some things are completely out of your control. The inequity embedded in the system that you’re trying to navigate through is obvious in the eyes of a Coach, but perhaps not so much to young students. So when you get frustrated over certain things and can’t really pinpoint what’s making you tick, I get it. Please don’t check out, though. Continue to be awake and absorb all that’s around you. You’ll find people who are willing to listen and share their advice. You’ll find unique opportunities to help you advance your interests. And you’ll find ways to have fun as you’re trying to figure out life. Some of my students are interested in theater and running, so maybe you could try those out?

I hate it when people tell me this, but I’ve come to embrace the truth behind it: keep doing what you’re doing. You’re just like my students in that you don’t give yourself enough credit. But you know more than you think you do.

That’s all I have for now. The only other advice I could think of is don’t watch so much TV!

With Love,

Mai Le
Beaver Hangouts Student Coordinator
Junior, Biochemistry/Biophysics
Oregon State University

Mai Skyped with her class at Yoncalla Middle/High School while Beaver Hangouts staff tabled for coach recruitment at OSU’s Student Experience Center Plaza
Dear Beaver Hangouts AmeriCorps Members,

Let me start by stating that if it weren’t for you all, the OSU Beaver Hangouts program would not have reached the level of success that it has at this point. Having only been administering the College Access Corps program for the past two years, I have seen this program grow exponentially in both strength and numbers. Through the Beaver Hangouts program, youth in rural communities all throughout the State of Oregon who would otherwise be left on the fringe with limited access to the types of resources big cities can offer have been able to gain access to a few of those resources and learn about post-secondary opportunities that may not have been previously considered. Through Beaver Hangouts, not only are youth able to have contact and build relationships with college students, they are also able to be coached in their everyday curricula and academic needs that will help prepare them for their post-secondary pathways of choice. This is an incredibly empowering service to provide, as it is often this transition from secondary to post-secondary life that can be one of the most challenging periods of our young adult life. The opportunity to be coached through this process is definitely a privilege I wish I had access to in my adolescence.

One of the reasons that I am so passionate about mentorship programs is because, as a child, I was never granted such an opportunity. Due to my positionality and the environment in which I was raised (woman of color in all white spaces), I internalized a lot of what I inherently knew to be false pretenses about my intelligence. Although I was determined to prove my peers wrong and prove my intelligence, I did so out of internalized oppression and fear, not love and excitement for what I had to bring to my community. I’d internalized other’s negative perspectives of my intelligence to a degree that I felt I even needed to prove my worth to myself. Initially, my pursuit of knowledge was not out of love for myself, but out of fear that others were right about me. As I have watched youth who develop under the guidance of a mentor or coach, I have seen youth pursue knowledge and their passions with a knowledge of their own self-worth and a love for themselves, this is transformative. As we grow, the value of those who we consider our mentors grows as we recognize how impactful having someone in our lives who inspires us to reflect and motivates us to follow our inner-guide, our passions.

The OSU Beaver Hangouts program has been able to breach a new frontier of mentorship and coaching that utilizes technology to reach rural populations who may not have access to such an opportunity so that the amazing, transformative power of mentorship can be shared in a way that is equitable and accessible to all.

Sincerely,

Kaycie López Jones
Educational Equity Program Manager
Campus Compact of Oregon
Dear 2016-2017 Student Coordinators,

As CAC Coordinators for Beaver Hangouts we had a lot on our plate this year. Where would we have been without your help and dedication to the program? We ask this because your work, your insight as experienced coaches and successful college students, and your friendships have been a blessing to us.

Your contributions through your years of service as coaches and as student coordinators in developing Beaver Hangouts into an impactful resource is invaluable. When pieces of the history and previous organization of the program was missing from the materials we could pull from, you had the perspective as returning coaches to give us a sense of how far we have come. You developed solid and engaging lesson plans for all of the age groups we serve, making sure we had 15 lessons for each curricula. You represented Beaver Hangouts in social media with program updates and coach recruitment. You created the winter newsletter to inform our partners of the many wonderful things Beaver Hangouts has accomplished this academic year. You branched out to BH Community College and BH STEM programming. And we are so pleased in the seriousness in which you took your rolls as skills trainers in our coach training retreats.

Just as importantly, your bright personalities and attitudes, while at work, added so much to our days in the office. It has been so fun and an honor working and collaborating with the four of you!

Some of you are graduating this year, ending the multi year saga, and some of you will continue your education next year along with your participation with Beaver Hangouts. All that comes next for you, we wish you the best and we wish you happiness. And if you ever need a letter of recommendation, hit us up!

Thank you, Mai, Theresa, Joseph, and Sabrina! Thank you for your help this year and thank you for the laughs and kindness.

Bon voyage,
Kali Doten and Marisol Moreno Ortiz
2016-2017 CAC Coordinators

Theresa
Mai
Joseph
Sabrina
Dear College Students at Oregon State University,

“Can you eat pizza for breakfast?” “Can you play video games until 3am?”

As I sit at my desk, I hear young students blurting out questions. I look across the room watching our College Access Coaches who are looking into computers as they Skype with K-12 classrooms all across Oregon. I am reminded of the phrase, “Kids say the darnedest things.” It brings a smile to my face. Not just because the questions and comments are so heartfelt and curious, but because I know through these questions, these youth are learning about independence, about living away from home, and most importantly, what it will be like to be a college student someday. And really, that is what this work is all about.

Then with that same curiosity I hear, “Can I speak in Spanish with my friends during the day?” “Is there bullying in college?” Now, I am not so amused. These questions are expressions of the harsh realities some children face every day, realities of inequity, and injustice in our communities. Knowing that you can go to college, and how to navigate that process isn’t quite the norm for the students that we interact with through Beaver Hangouts. Some of them come from rural families, first-generation families, and, underserved families with other languages spoken at home besides English. Often financial resources are scarce, and college role models rare. There are so many barriers to success in their lives that often these kids do not understand the potential that they have!

Every day outside my door I hear our Coaches serving as vital links to the youth. I hear them talk about how they are paying for college, loans they have taken out, and scholarships they have worked hard to receive. They openly discuss what they would do differently to prepare for the journey to a post-secondary degree. Some say they would get more involved in their communities, some say they would take classes that were more difficult in high school, and some say they would take school more seriously. They always mention the people in their lives, teachers, parents, and counselors, that paved the path and provided support and believed in them. I smile once again. I appreciate the candidness and earnestness, of the coaches and their willingness to share their personal lives with almost complete strangers. Through sessions, these school-aged kids, many of whom have never envisioned themselves attending higher education, realize that this college “thing” is attainable, because they can see and talk with successful college students that come from their communities, that look like them, and that speak their home languages.

So, I write this letter to you, college students of Oregon State University. You are the connection to our Oregon youth and to their attainment of a higher education. Many of you understand and can relate to the barriers the youth face. You have an opportunity to be the change agent for our state. You can help us overcome the challenges we are facing in our failing K-12 school system and help us increase high school completion rates.

I end with more comments from our K-12 students, because the work of dedicated Beaver Hangouts staff and coaches helps bring us closer to the kind of world we all want to live in, one that encourages each child in Oregon to reach their full potential.

“I can afford college” “I want to be a Doctor.” “I can achieve anything.”

Warmly,
Jean Garcia-Chitwood
Precollege Programs Coordinator
History of Progress

The graphs that follow show the progression of the program since its inception in 2012. Program staff sets annual goals for each parameter based on previous year data and intended growth.
**2016–2017 Progress**

Goals set for the CAC coordinators were to recruit 100 Coaches, reach 50 classrooms, and serve 1000 students. The graphs below depict the impact of Beaver Hangouts in the 2016-2017 Academic year.

Many of the classes we partnered with were AVID, SMILE club, or in Gear Up Schools.

78 Coaches were recruited and trained. This resulted in 50 training hours and an additional 6.5 hours of training during the Winter and Spring Retreats.

Student impact hours totaled approximately 484. This can be translated to about $11,688.60 in volunteer time value for Oregon. Hourly value can be found at independentsector.org.
This chart indicates the break down of grade ranges. Of the classes we served and received grade data for this year. Most of our coaching sessions were with grade 6-8 students. Even though post-secondary education is still years away for those students, the programming is relatable and accessible, making it enjoyable and relevant.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th># of classes</th>
<th>GEAR UP</th>
<th>SMILE</th>
<th>AVID</th>
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<td>McKenzie Schools, Blue River</td>
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<td></td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>La Pine High School, La Pine</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ontario Middle School, Ontario</td>
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<td>Monroe Middle School, Monroe</td>
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<td>Joseph Lane Middle School, Roseburg</td>
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The expansion of Beaver Hangouts is due, in large part, to our partnerships with Gear Up, SMILE, and AVID programs across the state. Gear Up aims to increase the number of low-income students in middle and high schools who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary programs. SMILE helps minority students, low income students, and potential first-generation college students gain STEM skills. AVID prepares students for success in high school, college, and a career, especially those traditionally underrepresented in higher education. We are forever grateful to engage with students from these areas to build an organizational ecology that helps advance the individual missions of each program.
The graph above displays the percentages of students that qualify for the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch Program in the schools we partnered with this year. Many fall well above the 50% limit that Beaver Hangouts uses to quantify our connection to underserved communities and children in Oregon.
Beaver Hangouts Spanish sessions began in November 2017 with Four Rivers Community School in Ontario. Coaches of these two immersion classes have been Alex, Ivy, Gabi, and Lauren. The students had seven sessions that informed them about different topics on college. Each session, the two classes alternated between using only Spanish or English, with Alex and Gabi providing the Spanish programming and Ivy and Lauren providing the English lessons.

Beaver Hangouts Native began Winter term with two students, Raven and Ameyalli, working at the Eena Haws Native American Longhouse Cultural Center. As coaches, they led nine sessions with 2-5 grade students in the Salem/Keizer Indian Education Program Cultural Connections class. Ame and Raven provided engaging lessons while sharing their experiences and insights as Indigenous college students. We hope to improve BH Native in the coming years by developing programming specific to the needs of Native American youth in Oregon and tools to achieve access to higher education.

BH Spanish/Immersion

Beaver Hangouts Spanish sessions began in November 2017 with Four Rivers Community School in Ontario. Coaches of these two immersion classes have been Alex, Ivy, Gabi, and Lauren. The students had seven sessions that informed them about different topics on college. Each session, the two classes alternated between using only Spanish or English, with Alex and Gabi providing the Spanish programming and Ivy and Lauren providing the English lessons.
Coach Miguel, an Oregon Coast Community College alumnus, currently at Oregon State, facilitated Beaver Hangouts sessions with prospective transfer students. Sessions were co-coached by Sabrina, also a transfer student, with students at OCCC. Sabrina, who was also a Student Coordinator for Beaver Hangouts this year, designed the transfer specific lesson plans and coordinated the sessions.

We also partnered with a group of Oregon Leadership Institute students at Portland Community College Rock Creek. Coaches Alin, Erica, and Marisol are seen answering questions about life at a four year university.

Juntos

Beaver Hangouts received A Noble Cause Grant which allowed us to recruit OSU students in Adelante de Acción and partner with Juntos to provide programming to Latinx communities. In winter and spring terms, we coordinated sessions with Juntos Club at three schools: Madras High School, Hood River Valley High School, and The Dalles High School. These sessions took place during the students’ lunch hour. Along with the sessions, that were often shorter in length, to accommodate the needs of the clubs, Noble Cause allowed for a site visit to Madras High School for Juntos Family Night.

Jean with coaches Jessica and Cynthia at Madras High School.
Three pieces were written for the program, this year. “College students serve as mentors to St. Helens high schoolers,” by Nicole Thill from South County Spotlight News, “Hanging with the Beavs,” by Jennifer Moody of the Albany Democrat-Herald, and “Program links up younger, older students,” by Hunter Marrow from The Argus Observer. These pieces have helped future partners become aware of the hard work of our Beaver Hangouts Coaches and the reach of Beaver Hangouts in Oregon.

During Spring term Beaver Hangouts partnered with Adelante Mujeres to have female STEM major coaches reach young girls in the Chicas Youth Development Program. The after school sessions were coached by Naderah Zarei with Aloha Huber Park School, Lauren Reyes with Five Oaks Middle School, and Saddie Vela and Shaylin Pfarr with Neil Armstrong Middle School.

As part of the Lincoln County School District Homeless Education and Literacy Program, JOY serves to provide housing insecure students job training and placement. Beaver Hangouts partnered with Toledo and Waldport JOY clubs this year to provide insight on post-secondary education. Coaches Shaylin and Dana met with students from each group over Skype a few times to lead discussions on interests and careers, time management, and life as a college student.
Coach Training Retreats

Coaches and coordinators convened during Winter and Spring terms to celebrate their service in Beaver Hangouts at two coach training retreats. The retreats offered a space for Coaches to gather with good company and good food, and also provided opportunities for them to refine their coaching skills and learn about the importance of their service.

Winter Retreat

CAC Coordinators facilitated discussions about educational justice in Oregon and the legacy of white supremacy in the United States to establish a context for programs such as Beaver Hangouts. Coaches engaged wholeheartedly in dialogue on topics that many people shy away from—privilege, race, and inequity. By learning about, and confronting systemic social issues, Beaver Hangouts Coaches are more adaptable to interact with the diverse set of students they mentor. Coaches also shared how their service in Beaver Hangouts relates to other aspects of their lives in order to reflect on their own experiential learning.

Spring Retreat

This retreat off with a scavenger hunt of key terms used in our programming and related to the educational system. For both retreats Coaches also had the chance to address common challenges they face when video conferencing their classrooms by role playing difficult scenarios in “BH Theatre”. Student Coordinators led the skits by performing a problematic coaching session, and Coaches had the opportunity to step in and offer their suggestions to fix the issue. Bonding over technological problems and student disengagement, Coaches brainstormed ideas to manage such issues to prepare them for the rest of the year. Both retreats were concluded with an intersectionality exercise, allowing everyone to deepen their understanding of self-identity and to visualize the ways in which power and oppression intersect to affect themselves and each other.

Mai, Saddie, Joseph, Gina, Delaney, Margaret, and Theresa concluding the spring retreat.
Trenton visited his class on May 25 at St. Andrew Nativity School in Portland to coach a session on “Best Fit College” in person.

Coaches Ame and Raven visited students in the Salem\Keizer Indian Education Program Cultural Connections Class on May 11 where they designed their own college together.

Coach Mai visited her class at Seven Oak Middle School in Lebanon on May 18. Here she is teaching the “First Year Experience” lesson plan.
Virtual Campus Tours

Some classes are not able to bring their students to tour OSU due to funding or distance from campus. With this in mind Beaver Hangouts offers programming for coaches to give their class a virtual tour using a tablet.

The weekly schedule white board is filled with class visit and virtual tour dates.

Coaches Margaret and Tom taking their Roseburg High School freshman class through the library on a virtual campus tour.

Coaches McKenzie and Lily gave their students at Joseph Lane Middle School the opportunity to see the OSU campus through the virtual sphere.

Coach Jessica showing Madras High School Juntos Club the Women’s Center while describing the function of cultural centers on campus.
Many of our partners have been with Beaver Hangouts multiple years. Over the years it has grown to include more classrooms all over Oregon. We extend our deepest gratitude for our 2016-2017 partners:

Aloha Huber Park School
Beaverton High School
Benson Polytechnic High School
Building Blocks 2 Success
Camas Valley School
Chiloquinn High School
Coquille High School
Culver High School
Driftwood Middle School
Five Oaks Middle School
French Prairie Middle School
Four Rivers Community School
Hood River High School
Joseph Lane Middle School
La Pine High School
Lincoln Elementary School
Madison Middle School
Madras High School
McKinney Elementary School
Mckenzie Schools
Monroe Middle School
Neil Armstrong Middle School
Nyssa Elementary School
Ontario Middle School
Roseburg High School
Salem Keizer Indian Education Prog.
Sellwood Middle School
Seven Oak Middle School
South Albany High School
South Meadows Middle School
Southridge High School
St. Andrew Nativity School
St. Helen’s High School
Taft High School
The Dalles High School
Toledo JOY Program
Waldport JOY Program
Yoncalla Middle/High School

Geraldine Araujo
Maria Carrillo
Sarah Inskeep-Mueller
Antonio Jackson
Wendy Roque
Tanner Glidden
Forest Martin
Wendee Bowen, Brad Woolledge
Leila Cassel
Geraldine Araujo
Kenneth Bee
Julie Bodily, Maria Ortega
Sara Tiscareno Kennedy
Kaitlin Weaver
Cindy Jarrett
Aubrey Stenger, Michelle Niktab
Christina Hinton, Jason Erickson
Christina Diaz-Toledo
Patty Smith
Brent Caulley
Marie Louise Martison
Geraldine Araujo
Paula Barnhart
Leonel Martinez
Shelby Maerz
Richie Charles
Kasey Bond
Lisa Van Veldhuizen
Rose Zoelner
Gracelda Villanueva
Jacob Small, Addie Lyden
Lizzie Petticrew
Neil Ford
Matt Hilgers
Sara Tiscareno Kennedy
Haylie Rose
Dee Dean
Janelle Wilde
Each year Beaver Hangouts reaches more schools and students, particularly in rural communities in Oregon. The map above shows the location of each school and organization that has had one or more sessions with Beaver Hangouts during the 2016-2017 academic year.

65 classes in 38 schools/clubs
In the Minds of Students: Beaver Hangouts through their perspective

“Seeing someone who is in the place I will be in a few years. Gives me hope.” –Sabrina, grade 12

“The most useful thing about participating in this program was it helped me gain a greater understanding of college and classes to take.” –La Pine High School AVID student

“I learned about what it's like to be at college and what it has to offer. Beaver Hangouts helped a lot by getting to hear a real person’s experience.”
–La Pine High School AVID student

“I got to learn about what college professors look for and how classes are ran. I was shown all the different clubs. Someday I hope to pursue my dreams.” –La Pine High School AVID student

“It gave me a better understanding of how to pursue my dream.”
–La Pine High School AVID student

“I learned a lot of important life and future skills and it helped me discover what I really want to do and what kind of college I want to attend.”
–Synthia, grade 9

“I was able to get a good perspective on how college would apply to my interests, and I gained information on what it is like at college and the things required to get there.” -Evan, grade 9

“I got to learn about what to expect from college life and how to tackle its challenges.” –Lacey, grade 11

“It mostly let me know that college isn’t going to be easy, and I’ve gotta work hard for it.” –Dru, grade 11
**Questions about College from Students**

“What is it like being away from home? Are the classes hard? Are the classes fun? Can you easily get homework done? Do you need good grades to get into football?”

Four Rivers Community School, grade 5 student

“How do you get a career? How much money do you waste each year? Is it hard in college? What would be the best college for me? Do you have breaks/recess, if so how long do they last? Is it hard being a college student? How do you know what you wanna be? Is it true, the more years you study for your career, the more professional you get?”

Four Rivers Community School, grade 5 student

“Is it expensive? Is it fun?”

Four Rivers Community School, grade 5 student

“What is college about? How many colleges are there in the world? Do you have to do college for 4 years? Is college important? Why do you have to go to college? How many years can you be at OSU?”

Four Rivers Community School, grade 5 student

“¿Qué hacen cuando no tienen clases? ¿Qué pueden hacer cuando no tienen clases?”

Four Rivers Community School, grade 5 student

“¿Cuántos años es lo máximo que puedes estar en la universidad?”

Four Rivers Community School, grade 5 student
Thank You 2016–2017

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Beaver Hangouts
Our mission at Beaver Hangouts is to provide all students with an equal opportunity for college access and readiness through the use of technology. We serve a variety of K–12 schools and programs all over Oregon. Our main focus is rural and underrepresented populations. Over 50% of the students in the schools we currently work with qualify for the Federal free or reduced-price lunch program. Beaver Hangouts is designed to provide college access information to all K–12 students by volunteer OSU students, anyone is eligible to apply.

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