



The Honorable Gregory V. Smith
Oregon House of Representatives
District 57

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REPRESENTATIVE SMITH ENGAGES FOSSIL STUDENTS AND COMMUNITY THROUGH CIVICS LESSON AND TOWN HALL

FOSSIL, OR. – Representative Gregory Smith (R-Heppner) visited Wheeler High School to teach a civics lesson to the entire high school before concluding the day with a community town hall focused on local priorities and open dialogue.

Fossil pupils received a hands-on look at the legislative process, taking on the roles of elected officials, journalists, and community advocates. Through active participation, students demonstrated strong critical thinking, teamwork, and confidence as they debated issues and made decisions together.

“It was impressive to see the confidence and intentionality Fossil students brought to the discussion,” said Representative Smith. “They stepped forward as leaders without hesitation, and their ideas reflected a high level of academic preparation along with a strong sense of shared responsibility and teamwork.”

Following the school visit, Representative Smith met with members of the Fossil community for a town hall focused on open, constructive dialogue. Residents shared perspectives on local priorities, ongoing challenges, and areas for improvement.

“The Fossil community showed up in a meaningful way this Wednesday,” said Representative Smith. “The discussion was thoughtful, respectful, and productive, reflecting a shared commitment to engaging on important issues with civility and mutual respect. I appreciated the opportunity to listen, exchange ideas, and have a constructive dialogue with community members.”

Fossil Superintendent Jon McMurray said, “It was a pleasure to host Representative Smith at Wheeler High School. We are grateful for the time he took to be present with our students, both in the classroom and during the town hall with our entire high school and the broader Fossil community. His willingness to listen and engage in a meaningful, practical way is deeply appreciated. He is welcome back anytime.”



Representative Smith with Fossil High School Students



Representative Smith hosting the Fossil Town Hall

Representative Smith is the Republican budget leader who represents the entirety of Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, and Wheeler counties, as well as portions of Clackamas, Jefferson, Marion, Umatilla, and Wasco Counties.

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