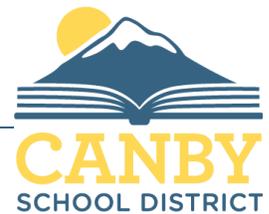


1130 S Ivy Street  
Canby, OR 97013  
503-266-7861



## NEWS RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Autumn Foster, Communications Coordinator  
[fostera@canby.k12.or.us](mailto:fostera@canby.k12.or.us) 503-266-0013  
APRIL 11, 2019

### CANBY HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATES A WEEK OF KINDNESS FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

**Canby, Oregon** - Canby High School is celebrating kindness as part of its ongoing efforts around mental wellness and suicide prevention. The week encourages students to walk in “others’ shoes” as they model kindness, friendship, trust, gratitude, and empathy.

Last spring, two deaths by suicide rocked the entire Canby community. Soon after, a group of community leaders established the Canby Suicide Prevention Task Force. The task force, in partnership with Canby Rotary and CHS’ “Talk About It” group, have worked together to raise money to support suicide prevention efforts at Canby High School and in the community.

“We’re grateful for the support from our community,” said CHS Assistant Principal Cari Sloan. “The more we can talk about mental wellness and suicide prevention, the more aware our students are about how to seek help or how to support others in crisis. Suicide prevention is our shared responsibility.”

Several different student groups are organizing events for “Others’ Shoes” Week. Students will be encouraged to show their support for one another with activities and games. In addition, a generous grant from community partners, including Cutsforth’s Marketplace, will fund a guest speaker from [Character Strong](#). [Esteban Gast](#) will speak about kindness to all students at Baker Prairie Middle School and Canby High School on Monday, April 22.

On Thursday, April 25, Canby High School will host a benefit concert featuring [Luz Elena Mendoza of the group Y La Bamba](#) and Canby High School teacher [Isabeau Waia’u Walker](#). The event is open to the public. There is a suggested \$5 donation. All proceeds will go directly to [Lines for Life](#).

As newsrooms around the state work on #BreakingTheSilenceOR, Canby students are leading by example by building a culture of care in which all students feel safe and supported. Student leaders and high school staff are available for news stories. Please contact [Autumn Foster](#) to coordinate interviews.

###