On February 21, Congressman Blumenauer paid a visit to his old neighborhood, Centennial School District. Starting with a meeting with key principals and administrators at the District Office, the Congressman learned about the challenges faced by educators in elementary schools, middle schools, and Centennial High School as budgets fail to keep pace with today's needs: students who arrive without any English skills, students who need remedial help with basic reading and math skills, and even families who need help putting food on the table. At Centennial High, the Congressman visited an Advanced Placement Government Class, where he fielded a broad range of questions from engaged and articulate students. Students participating in Centennial's Student Body Government met with the Congressman wearing "Love Unity Respect" t-shirts from a school unity assembly earlier that day.

Blumenauer culminated his visit with a tour of the High School, his alma mater, remarking on the great sense of cooperation and school spirit he found there. "I am amazed at the changes in my old neighborhood and impressed with the sense of community and commitment that exists at Centennial in meeting today's challenges."

Rep. Blumenauer is joined at the head table by Teresa Baldwin, Centennial District Superintendent.

Blue Principal Marc Pudenfield, Centennial School Board Member Rod Boettcher, rep.