Orienting New Board Members

The following ideas were sent to OSBA by current school board secretaries on what they do to orient new board members in their districts:

- attend the OSBA conference and NSBA conference if they can go
- OSBA board member publication
- Summer Board Conference
- Annual Conference (November)
- Resources (Handbooks/Pamphlets) from the OSBA website
- Walk them through the district’s website – especially where to find and how to search policies
- Give an overview of programs and methods of communication the district uses – Microsoft Office, esp. Outlook, Facebook, calendars, website, newsletters, etc.
- Go through copies of OSBA’s Public Meetings Law, Board Meetings and Executive Sessions, Boardsmanship for Oregon School Board Members, Budget Committee Handbook with them and refer them to OSBA’s site for other training materials and opportunities
- Schedule a time for them to meet with the superintendent alone or with the board chair
- Introduce them to district office admin staff so they know who to contact with questions
- print the information from OSBA website
- sit down with superintendent who gives information about board meetings and policies