
Event Agenda

OSBA's 80th Annual Convention

Thursday, November 12, 2026

Preconference and Admin Pros Registration

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM | Location: Columbia

Breakfast

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM | Location: Mt. Hood Foyer

Admin Pro Preconference: Presented by Keynote Speaker Sarah E. Merkle: Minutes Masterclass: Parliamentary Procedure to Practical Application

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM | Location: Mt. St. Helens

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

CHARTER SCHOOLS

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

A full-day, interactive learning experience designed specifically for administrative professionals who support Oregon school district, charter school, education service district and community college boards. Participants will build their understanding of effective minute-taking, parliamentary procedure and Oregon-specific requirements and best practices, then apply their learning through scenarios, scripted mock board meetings, peer discussion and hands-on minute-taking practice with real-time guidance and feedback.

Speaker



Sarah E. Merkle

Administrative Professionals Preconference - Keynote speaker

Education Leaders Preconference - An OSBA-COSA Collaboration: Building Strong Board-Superintendent Partnerships

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM | Location: Mt. Hood

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Effective governance starts with a strong, trusting relationship between the school board and superintendent. This full-day preconference, co-led by OSBA and the Coalition of Oregon School Administrators, will bring together board members and executives to explore the roles, responsibilities and practices that support a successful partnership. Participants will examine how board leadership teams can work together to build trust, communicate effectively, navigate and support the evaluation process, use data to inform decisions, and make thoughtful decisions around policy and budgets. Through discussion, practical tools and best practices, participants will learn how to establish expectations that can strengthen the board-superintendent relationship and support better outcomes for students.

Speakers



Kristen Miles

Board Development director | OSBA



Vince Adams

Board Development Specialist | OSBA



Krista Parent

Executive Director | COSA



Dr. Raeshelle Meyer

Director of Professional Learning | COSA

Break

10:15 AM – 10:45 AM

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Board Development director | OSBA



Vince Adams

Board Development Specialist | OSBA



Krista Parent

Executive Director | COSA



Dr. Raeshelle Meyer

Director of Professional Learning | COSA

Networking Lunch

12:15 PM – 1:30 PM

Admin Pro Preconference: Presented by Keynote Speaker Sarah E. Merkle: Minutes Masterclass: Parliamentary Procedure to Practical Application

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM | Location: Mt. St. Helens

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Break

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM

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Board Development director | OSBA



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Executive Director | COSA



Dr. Raeshelle Meyer

Director of Professional Learning | COSA

Convention Registration

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM | Location: Columbia

Visit with Exhibitors & Welcome Social

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM | Location: Exhibit Hall

OSBA Legislative Policy Committee Meeting

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM | Location: Mt. Hood

Friday, November 13, 2026

Registration

7:30 AM – 4:00 PM | Location: Columbia

Visit with Exhibitors

7:30 AM – 4:00 PM | Location: Exhibit Hall

Oregon Rural School Board Members Caucus Meeting

7:45 AM – 8:45 AM | Location: Salon A and Salon B

Breakfast and Networking

7:45 AM – 8:45 AM | Location: Exhibit Hall

Council of School Attorneys Workshop

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM | Location: Mt. Hood

OREGON COUNCIL of SCHOOL ATTORNEYS WORKSHOP

FRIDAY
NOV. 13

8:15 a.m. | Continental Breakfast and Networking with Colleagues

Assorted pastries, breads with toasters • Berry jam, peanut butter • Whole fruits • Hard cooked eggs • Oatmeal with honey, brown sugar, blueberries, chopped dates, chopped walnuts, cinnamon, shredded coconut
Orange juice • coffee • decaf coffee • assorted teas • herbal tea

9 a.m. | Welcome and Agenda

Haley Percell, chief legal officer and deputy executive director, OSBA

9:15 a.m. | Culture Wars: Let's Discuss Civilly

Mike Porter, Miller Nash LLP | Mike will review cases relating to hot topic issues in schools, including parental rights and transgender student rights, and invite discussion about difficult scenarios districts may be navigating.

10:15 a.m. | Top 5 'Did You Know' How AI Can Help Your Practice

Miller Nash Staff | Miller Nash staff will demonstrate the AI products their firm uses. Attendees are invited to share and discuss how they are using AI in their practices.

10:45 a.m. | Business Meeting and Break

Haley Percell, chief legal officer and deputy executive director, OSBA

11 a.m. | Special Education Update

Elizabeth Polay, Garrett Hemann Robertson P.C. | Elizabeth will discuss hot topics in special education.

12 p.m. | Networking Lunch

Pan seared salmon with lemon herb butter sauce GF DF • Baked chicken on braised greens GF DF • Assorted local Olympia Provisions salamis, Northwest cheeses with bread shards and house made compotes • Butternut squash soup GF • Roasted Northwest root vegetables: parsnips, carrots, red onions, baby potatoes, and turnips GF DF VEGAN • Oregon wheatberry with Misty Mountain mushrooms DF VEGAN • Jack Siri Farms greens, roasted Columbia Gorge pears, fennel, candied walnuts and Pinot Noir vinaigrette GF DF VEGAN • Kale salad with hazelnuts, dried cranberries, red onion and sherry vinaigrette GF DF VEGAN • Fresh baked bread and butter • Apple hazelnut tart • Mixed berry tart • Hazelnut crunch
Iced tea • coffee • decaf coffee • assorted teas • herbal tea • soda • sparkling water

1 p.m. | Labor Update and Strike Planning

Brian Hungerford, The Hungerford Law Firm | Brian will provide a labor update and discuss how attorneys can help their school clients prepare for a potential strike.

2:30 p.m. | Snack Break

Freshly baked cookies • House fried chips • Onion dip • spinach artichoke dip • warm buffalo chicken dip • pico de gallo with tortilla chips • Coffee • decaf coffee • assorted teas • herbal tea • soda • sparkling water

2:45 p.m. | OSBA Policy and Legislative Update

Spencer Lewis, Policy Services director, OSBA • Adrienne Anderson, Senior Government Relations counsel, OSBA
Spencer and Adrienne will review the 2026 legislative session policy outcomes and discuss what is coming in the 2027 session.

3:45 p.m. | Adjourn

GF = gluten free | DF = dairy free

General Session

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM | Location: Oregon Ballroom (Salon E-I)

- OSBA executive director opening remarks
- OSBA Board of directors introduction
- OSBA President remarks
- Student performance
- Keynote: Jeff Utech

Break and Keynote Book Signing

10:30 AM – 11:00 AM | Location: Oregon Ballroom (Salon E-I)

When the Dais Is the Situation Room - Arco Iris Spanish Immersion Charter School

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Salon B

BOARD MEMBERS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

The toughest moments in public service rarely come with a script. In this interactive workshop, participants will work through realistic boardroom scenarios that require clear communication, strategic thinking and sound decision-making under pressure. Designed for both new and experienced board members, attendees will work together to discuss challenging agenda items, practice navigating conflict and explore leadership approaches through a collaborative, guided exercise.

Speaker



Danielle Siver

Co-founder and Board secretary | Arco Iris Spanish Immersion Charter School

Making Strategic Budget Decisions While Protecting Student Success

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Sunstone

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

As districts across Oregon face declining enrollment, rising costs and reduced funding, Crook County School District followed its district priorities to align resources, prioritize investments and make intentional budget reductions -- all while keeping student outcomes at the center of every decision. A focus on data-driven decision-making, stakeholder engagement and clear district priorities helped CCSD maintain strong results, including a 97% graduation rate, test scores above the state average, and family recommendation levels exceeding 90%. This session will share strategies and governance practices for making difficult financial decisions while protecting the programs and supports that have the greatest impact on students. Participants will leave with actionable approaches for aligning budgets with district priorities, mission and measurable student outcomes.

Speakers



Joel Hoff

Superintendent | Crook County School District



Briana Van Roekel

Director of School Improvement | Crook County School District



Scott Cooper

Board vice chair | Crook County School District

What's My Role in Improving Education?

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Eugene

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

This session is a collaboration between the Oregon School Board Members of Color Caucus and the Oregon Network for Education Excellence, a ground-up statewide education system improvement project. State-level education governance decisions can trigger a chain reaction impacting the decisions that school board members must make, affecting student opportunities and achievement for generations. This session will help school board members better understand how state governance decisions shape outcomes at the local level. Together we will explore the question, "Who is responsible and for what?" and begin a collective exploration of "Who should be?".

Speakers



Pooja Bhatt

Founder | Oregon Network for Education Excellence



José Gamero-Georgeson

Board president and School board chair | OSBA and David Douglas School District



Luhui Whitebear

Board member and Board chair | OSBA and Corvallis School District

Level Up New Board Member Cohort Meeting

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Portland

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

Level Up Cohort members will discuss current issues and continue investigating good governance protocols.

Speakers



Kristen Miles

Board Development director | OSBA



Mark Mulvihill

Regional trainer and Superintendent | OSBA and InterMountain Education Service District



Michael Campbell

Regional trainer and Board member | OSBA and Phoenix-Talent School District

Budget 101

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Mt. St. Helens

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

This workshop will provide an overview of Oregon education funding, including an overview of the State School Fund and how each district's allocation is determined by the state. This session will help board members understand how their funding is set and how to anticipate when their allocation may change.

Speakers



Vanessa Clark

State School Fund Program Manager | ODE



Stacy Michaelson

Director of Government Relations and Communications | OSBA

Navigating HQIM, Standards, Instruction and Effective Data Use

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Pearl

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

Participants will learn how districts can achieve systems-level coherence by adopting and effectively using standards-aligned, high-quality instructional materials and using assessment evidence to continuously improve teaching and learning. These efforts will help ensure all students have access to grade-level learning and achieve improved academic outcomes.

Speakers



Andrea Lockard

Assistant superintendent of Research, Assessment, Data, Accountability and Reporting | ODE



Eric Anderson

Assistant Superintendent, Office of Teaching, Learning and Assessment | Oregon Department of Education

BoardBook in Action: A Live Demonstration and Discussion

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Douglas Fir

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

Curious about BoardBook? Join BoardBook representatives for a live demonstration designed for school board members and the administrative professionals who support them. See how BoardBook can support agenda and meeting management, explore key features and workflows, and ask questions alongside experienced users who can share practical tips and real-world perspectives. Whether you currently use BoardBook or are considering it for your organization, this interactive session will help you better understand what the platform can offer.

Speakers



Hal Frazier

Sales and marketing consultant | BoardBook



Jenn Nelson

Board Development Specialist | Oregon School Boards Association

Panelists



Janet Bojanowski

Board and Governance Program Supervisor | Bend-La Pine Schools



Kelly Douglas

Director of the Superintendent's Office | West Linn-Wilsonville School District

Improving Student Outcomes Through Scouting Partnerships

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Salon C

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

The ability to sit still, follow directions, regulate behavior and interact well with others are vital to classroom management. Those skills may be taught in the classroom but can be supported and reinforced in youth programs such as scouting. Scouting further helps build friendships and social and emotional well-being, while giving back to the school communities that support them. Learn about the research that demonstrates the positive student outcomes that come from Scouting, and hear

firsthand experiences from parents and educators who use the Scouting program.

Speakers



Erik Johnsen

Board member | Medford School District



Gary Carroll

Council and CEO/scout executive | Pacific Crest and Scouting America



Nathan Kramer

Director of Field Service/Chief Operating Officer | Pacific Crest Council, Scouting America



Devin Hunt

Former principal | Glendale Elementary School

Labor Trends for School Board Members

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Salon A

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

Hear about the latest trends relating to labor relations in schools, including bargaining and the board's role.

Speaker



Brian Hungerford

The Hungerford Law Firm LLP partner

QEM Unpacked: Understanding the Quality Education Model

11:00 AM – 12:15 PM | Location: Salmon

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

The Quality Education Model provides a framework for continuous improvement that supports student success through effective governance, strategic leadership and evidence-based decision-making. In this session, school board members will explore core components of the model, their role in fostering a culture of quality, and how governance practices influence educational outcomes. Participants will examine practical strategies for aligning board priorities, policies and oversight with the principles of the Quality Education Model to strengthen accountability and drive continuous improvement across the district.

Speaker



Tricia Mooney

Superintendent | Quality Education Commission and Hermiston School District

Lunch and Award Program

12:15 PM – 1:15 PM | Location: Oregon Ballroom (Salon E-I)

- *Board Member of the Year Remarks*
- *Teacher of the Year Remarks*
- *Superintendent of the Year Remarks*

OSBA Region Roundtable Discussions

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM | Location: See below

Join us at your OSBA Region Roundtable, led by your region's OSBA Board representative. It's your chance to connect, share insights and champion solutions tailored to your local educational landscape. Together, let's ignite meaningful conversations and lift student success.

Room - Region

Belmont - Eastern
Salon D - Washington
Meadowlark - Central
Laurelhurst - Charter Schools
Sunstone - Yamhill/Polk
Salon C - Linn/Benton/Lincoln
Salon A - Gorge
Salon B - Multnomah
Douglas Fir - Southeast
Pearl - N. Coast
Eugene - Marion
Portland - Clackamas
Mt. St. Helens - Lane

Break

2:30 PM – 3:00 PM | Location: Exhibit Hall

School Finance and Budget Oversight: The Board's Role

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Salon B

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

LI BRONZE

Budget adoption and oversight are critical aspects of the board's governance role. Leaders from Scio and North Bend school districts will share their experiences in navigating school finance, the roles of the budget committee and the school board in budget adoption, and the year-long process of financial oversight.

Speakers



Kristen Miles

Board Development director | OSBA



Kim Roth

Superintendent | Scio School District



Brody Foster

Accountant | Scio School District



Tim Crider

Superintendent | North Bend School District

Building Legislative Relationships for Rural District Advocacy

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Salon C

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

Do you know your local legislators, and do they know you? Building relationships can make a significant difference for rural districts during the legislative sessions. Join the Oregon Rural School Board Members Caucus for discussion and practical tips from those who are successfully making connections.

Speakers



Tracy Adevai

President, Board chair and Legislative Policy Committee member | Oregon Rural School Board Members Caucus, Glide School...



Mark Witty

Educational Consultant | Retired Oregon Superintendent (Volunteer)



Andrew Bryan

Educational consultant / Board Member | Baker School District 5J



Nick Green

Founder and president | Catalyst Public Policy Advisors



Amy Charette

Board Member

How Early Decision Making is Crucial in Avoiding Litigation

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Eugene

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Employment and liability claims rarely follow a straight path, and a single decision can significantly affect the outcome. In this interactive workshop, participants will navigate realistic K-12 scenarios involving issues such as employee misconduct, student injuries and boundary-crossing concerns, making key decisions along the way. Through audience participation and discussion, attendees will see how different choices can lead to vastly different legal, financial and reputational consequences for their districts. Participants will leave with practical strategies for managing risk, responding effectively to complaints and incidents, and avoiding common pitfalls.

Speaker



Angela Smith

Property/casualty claims assistant manager | PACE

Raise Your Voice and Keep Calm: Community Engagement When It Matters

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Pearl

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

LI SILVER

The public wants to know what you are doing, whether it's passing a tight budget, facing a student safety issue or dealing with staff misconduct. When communication breaks down, trust falls and tempers rise. Learn how, when, where and what to communicate so your schools come out with a stronger community relationship on the other side of your challenges.

Speaker



Jake Arnold

communications and news specialist | OSBA

Better Together: The Board Chair and Secretary as a Leadership Team

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Douglas Fir

BOARD MEMBERS

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

BOARD CHAIRS

Explore the critical partnership at the heart of effective board governance. This session highlights how a strong, collaborative relationship between the board chair and board secretary creates clarity, continuity and trust across the board's work. Participants will examine complementary roles, shared responsibilities and practical strategies for communication, agenda setting, documentation and decision-making. Through real-world examples and best practices, this presentation emphasizes how alignment between these two leadership roles strengthens board culture, supports transparency and enhances overall organizational effectiveness. Ideal for board leaders seeking to elevate governance through intentional teamwork and shared leadership.

Speakers



Heather Severns

Executive assistant to the superintendent/board secretary | Multnomah Education Service District



Katrina Doughty

Board member and Board chair | OSBA and Multnomah Education Service District

Trauma Informed Immigration Support for School District Employees

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Salon A

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

How can school boards lead with compassion while ensuring schools are prepared to support immigrant students and families? Learn how David Douglas School District developed trauma-informed immigration support protocols, staff training and community resources that help students feel safe and connected during times of uncertainty. Participants will gain practical tools and governance strategies to help boards strengthen district preparedness, reinforce welcoming school practices, and build trust with their communities.

Speakers



Andreina Velasco

Navigator | David Douglas School District and Grow Your Own Pathway



Aidé Juarez Valerio

Director of Communications, Family Engagement and Strategic Partnerships | David Douglas School District



José Gamero-Georgeson

Board president and School board chair | OSBA and David Douglas School District

ESD Board Governance Essentials: Strengthening Leadership for Regional Impact

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Portland

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

LI BRONZE

Learn how education service district boards and superintendents can work collaboratively to

strengthen governance practices that build direction, alignment and commitment across regions. This interactive workshop focuses on how ESD boards can ensure the services they provide to component districts are reducing barriers for students, particularly those furthest from opportunity. Participants will explore best practices that support effective board–superintendent relationships, improving student learning outcomes for component districts, and engaging in peer discussion to identify practical strategies for overcoming shared governance challenges.

Speakers



Mark Mulvihill

Regional trainer and Superintendent | OSBA and InterMountain Education Service District



Aimee VanNice

Assistant Superintendent | InterMountain Education Service District

Bridging the Gap: Generational Communication for Effective Board Leadership (Keynote Followup)

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Mt. St. Helens

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

School boards today serve communities where up to five generations may be represented in a single meeting — from members of the Silent Generation and Baby Boomers to Millennials and Generation Z parents. Each generation brings different experiences, communication preferences, expectations and perspectives on education. This interactive session will help school board members better understand how generational influences shape conversations, community engagement, conflict and decision-making. Through practical scenarios, discussion and reflection, participants will explore strategies for communicating more effectively across generations, strengthening relationships with stakeholders, and fostering trust in an increasingly complex educational landscape.

Speaker



Jeff Utecht

Keynote Speaker | Jeff Utecht Consulting

From Agenda to Packet: Systems for Successful Board Meetings

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Salmon

EXECS/SUPTS

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

BOARD CHAIRS

Building an effective board packet takes more than assembling documents. Explore practical systems for managing annual agenda planning, meeting timelines, staff submissions, board member onboarding and packet preparation. See examples of tools and workflows used to keep the process moving, including how BoardBook can support agenda development, packet creation, meetings and minutes. The session will include practical examples, peer perspectives and time for Q&A.

Speakers



Jenn Nelson

Board Development Specialist | Oregon School Boards Association



Janet Bojanowski

Board and Governance Program Supervisor | Bend-La Pine Schools



La'Nell Trissel

Senior executive assistant and board liaison | OSBA

From Tension to Trust: Helping Board Chairs Lead Constructive Conflict

3:00 PM – 4:15 PM | Location: Sunstone

BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD CHAIRS

Conflict is a natural part of board governance, but when it shows up in the meeting room, chairs often feel pressure to either push through it or shut it down. This session will help board leaders understand how conflict shows up, how it can become constructive, and how chairs can create enough structure for every voice to be heard with care and respect. Participants will leave with practical tools and chair language to pause tense moments, clarify the governance issue, keep the meeting on track, and know when deeper conflict needs a separate process.

Speaker



Vince Adams

Board Development Specialist | OSBA

Oregon School Board Members of Color Caucus Meeting

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM | Location: Mt. Hood

Garret Hemann Robertson, P.C. Reception

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM | Location: Salon A, B, C and D

Saturday, November 14, 2026

Registration

7:30 AM – 10:00 AM | Location: Columbia

Visit with Exhibitors

7:30 AM – 4:00 PM | Location: Exhibit Hall

Breakfast and Networking

7:30 AM – 8:45 AM | Location: Exhibit Hall

Oregon Small Schools Breakfast and Program

7:30 AM – 8:45 AM | Location: Mt. Hood

General Session

9:15 AM – 10:45 AM | Location: Oregon Ballroom (Salon E-I)

- *OSBA President-elect remarks*
- *Student performance*
- *Capitol Watch*

Break

10:45 AM – 11:15 AM | Location: Exhibit Hall

Filling Board Vacancies with Confidence: Policy, Process and Practice

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Portland

BOARD MEMBERS

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

BOARD CHAIRS

While designed with board clerks, secretaries and executive assistants in mind, this interactive workshop is valuable for any board member involved in filling a board vacancy. Learn how to navigate the process from start to finish by reviewing OSBA's sample policy and vacancy application, then practice nominations, motions and appointments through realistic board meeting scenarios.

Speakers



Leslie Fisher

Policy Services specialist | OSBA



Jenn Nelson

Board Development Specialist | Oregon School Boards Association

The Proper Way to Answer Complaints

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Mt. St. Helens

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Boards have a variety of complaint procedures in policy and must navigate them from time to time. OSBA legal and policy staff will outline some of the complaint procedures and model how to follow board policy to effectively manage complaints that come before the board.

Speaker



Spencer Lewis

Deputy legal and policy officer | OSBA

Building a Research Network to Improve Student Outcomes

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Salmon

BOARD MEMBERS

Oregon lacks a research infrastructure to connect community members, school board members, researchers and policymakers in making data-informed decisions. This workshop describes an innovative disruption to our system designed to increase the amount of data and research used by school board members and other policymakers. Discuss how higher education, school boards and community members can work together to build a more equitable system.

Speakers



Andy Saultz

Dean of the Graduate School of Education and Counseling | Lewis & Clark College



Becky Tymchuk

Board member | Northwest Regional Education Service District

Governing the Bond: The Board's Role in Capital Project Success

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Douglas Fir

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

Voters said yes. Now the real work begins. A bond program is one of the largest financial commitments a district will ever make, and the board's governance choices can make or break it. This session shows boards how to oversee capital projects without micromanaging them. A superintendent who has passed four bonds and two experienced owner's representatives will share practical tools drawn from decades of Oregon school construction: clear decision protocols, useful progress reporting and warning signs every board should know. You will leave with a governance framework you can put to work at your next board meeting.

Speakers



David McKay

CEO | HMK Company



Chris McKay

Vice President of Operations | HMK Company



Charan Cline

Superintendent | Redmond School District

Liability Claims Game Show

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Pearl

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

Test your knowledge of liability exposures from the boardroom to the classroom and how these can affect your district or school. Bring your smart device and answer questions in this interactive game. There might even be prizes for the top scores.

Speakers



Dave Harvey

Director of PACE Administration | PACE (Property Casualty Coverage for Education)



Jens Jensen

Director of Claims | SDAO

Effective Leadership Requires Board Leaders, Administrative Support and Superintendents

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Eugene

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

BOARD CHAIRS

When the leadership team includes board, superintendent and administrative professionals, the work flows more smoothly.

Speakers



Emily Mentzer

Communications Coordinator | Central School District



Jennifer Kubista

Superintendent | Central School District



Byron Shinkle

Board member | Central School District

Astoria's Strategic Roadmap for Budgeting

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Salon B

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

Navigating declining enrollment and shifting state revenues requires more than just balancing numbers — it demands a strategic roadmap. This presentation introduces Astoria School District's annual data-driven budget guide, a powerful tool designed to align demographics, staff allocations and community goals with critical funding decisions. Learn how board members can transform complex fiscal challenges into transparent, actionable strategies that protect your district's future and unite your stakeholders.

Speakers



Craig Hoppes

Superintendent | Astoria School District



Heidi Wintermute

Board member | Astoria School District



Jenna Rickenbach

Board Member | Astoria School District

Leading through School Consolidation and Closure: Lessons from the Field

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Salon A

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

School consolidation and closure are among the most difficult decisions a district will face. Join experienced leaders as they share how they navigated declining enrollment, financial realities, community concerns and the decision-making process. This panel will explore lessons learned, communication strategies, governance considerations and provide practical insights for leaders who may face similar challenges.

Speaker



Kristen Miles

Board Development director | OSBA

Panelists



Kraig Sproles

Superintendent | Bethel School District



Kathy Ludwig

Superintendent | West Linn-Wilsonville School District



Ryan Noss

Superintendent | Corvallis School District



Curt Nordling

Board Member | Bethel School District



Luhui Whitebear

Board member and Board chair | OSBA and Corvallis School District



Kirsten Wyatt

Board member | West Linn-Wilsonville School District

Governance, Opportunities and Responsibilities in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Mt. Hood

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly changing how students learn, educators teach and organizations operate. As AI becomes increasingly present in schools, school board members have a critical role in ensuring their districts navigate both the opportunities and challenges ahead. In this hands-on session, participants will explore the current state of AI in education, examine emerging governance and policy considerations, and gain practical experience using AI tools. Through guided activities and discussion, board members will develop a deeper understanding of how AI impacts student learning, staff operations, community expectations and district decision-making. Participants should bring a laptop computer or smartphone capable of accessing AI tools during the session.

Speaker



Jeff Utecht

Keynote Speaker | Jeff Utecht Consulting

Govern With, Not For: Four Strategies for Board Partnerships with Students

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM | Location: Salon C

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

CHARTER SCHOOLS

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

BOARD CHAIRS

Solutions to complex school problems should be decided with students rather than for students. Students can surface equity concerns, safety issues, mental health trends and other needs that formal data collection often misses or lags. Participants will review four proven structures that bring student voice to school boards and hear directly from students who have influenced decisions. Participants will self-assess their current context and take away a toolkit that includes instructions to build student partnerships.

Speakers



Kari Nelsestuen

Co-founder | Community Design Partners



Julie Smith

Co-founder | Community Design Partners

OSBA PRIDE Advisory Committee Meeting and Lunch

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM | Location: Mt. Hood

Networking Lunch

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM | Location: Exhibit Hall

Hot Topics Roundtable Discussions

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM | Location: Oregon Ballroom (Salon E-I)

1. Leadership Institute and Board of Honor

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

The OSBA Leadership Institute program acknowledges individual achievements in board development. We have now created the Board of Honor program to recognize significant achievements in good governance for full boards. Learn about this program and a new two-year, customizable training series that will help boards earn that distinction.

Speaker



Kristen Miles

Board Development director | OSBA

2. How Can the Rural Caucus Support You?

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

The Oregon Rural School Board Members Caucus wants to know: What can we do for you? As you lead important work in rural districts across the state, your perspective matters. Tell us about your goals, challenges and opportunities, and let's identify ways we can support your efforts, connect resources and help drive meaningful results.

Speaker



Tracy Adevai

President, Board chair and Legislative Policy Committee member | Oregon Rural School Board Members Caucus, Glide School...

3. Student Representatives on the Board

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Many boards have increased student engagement by adding a student representative to the board. Come see the OSBA sample policy language and discuss what your board can do to center student voice.

Speaker



Leslie Fisher

Policy Services specialist | OSBA

4. Board Vacancies

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Keep your board at full strength. We will discuss the policy and process for declaring a vacancy and filling it so you can get back to board governance matters.

Speaker



Rick Stucky

Policy Services specialist | OSBA

5. Transgender Students and the Law

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Hear about the current PRIDE Advisory Committee and efforts to keep students safe on and off the sports field.

Speaker



Althea Ender

Advisory Committee member, School Board member and Legislative Policy Committee member | OSBA and David Douglas Sch...

6. Board Leadership: Practical Tools and Support

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Explore practical resources for board chairs, vice chairs and emerging board leaders, and bring your questions about meeting procedures, parliamentary practice, conflict, public comment or community relations. You'll also learn about the Board Chair Cafe, OSBA's monthly informal virtual gathering; the Board Leadership Academy; and other OSBA resources.

Speaker



Vince Adams

Board Development Specialist | OSBA

7. Executive Sessions

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

This hot topic table will address common issues board members face involving executive sessions.

Speaker



Kyle Haney

OSBA

8. Public Records Do's and Don'ts

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

This hot topic table will review best practices for public records, including district documents and board member communications.

Speaker



Kaleb Raever
OSBA

9. Board Meeting Nuts and Bolts

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

This hot topic table will address board meeting basics and common issues board members face. There will also be time for questions and discussion.

Speaker



Leslie Howell
Assistant legal counsel | OSBA

10. New Math Targets

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

ODE will go over the new math goals and how they are preparing department-level supports.

11. Instructional Time Rules

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

ODE will go over the latest on their instructional time rules adoption.

12. Strengthening Governance Through Administrative Professional Connections

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Discover how OSBA's Administrative Professionals Connection and emerging governance support services are helping board clerk-secretaries and administrative support professionals build confidence, strengthen governance practices and connect with peers across Oregon.

Speaker



Jenn Nelson
Board Development Specialist | Oregon School Boards Association

13. Immigration Enforcement Policies

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

In 2026, the Oregon Legislature passed a requirement for boards to adopt immigration enforcement policies. Come learn about these requirements.

Speaker



Spencer Lewis
Deputy legal and policy officer | OSBA

14. PACE Services

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Discover the wide range of PACE benefits for members, from legal services and risk management to expert claims management.

Speaker



Dave Harvey
Director of PACE Administration | PACE (Property Casualty Coverage for Education)

15. What to Expect in 2027: Emerging Legislative Issues

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

It's time for another long session. Find out what OSBA is hearing and expecting for 2027. Learn what the key issues will be, ask questions and discover how you can get involved.

Speaker



Adrienne Anderson

Senior Government Relations Counsel | OSBA

16. Building a Stronger Board Together

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Gain insight into what's working and where there's room for growth. OSBA's Board Self-Assessment Survey helps boards evaluate their effectiveness, strengthen governance practices and turn reflection into action for greater impact on student success.

Speaker



Janet Avila-Medina

Board Development specialist | OSBA

OSBA Annual Membership Meeting

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM | Location: Oregon Ballroom (Salon E-I)

Break

2:45 PM – 3:15 PM | Location: Ballroom Foyer

Beyond the Evaluation: Roles, Relationships and Responsibilities

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Location: Salon B

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

BOARD CHAIRS

Executive evaluations require clear governance, defined roles and trusted partnerships. Join board chairs, vice-chairs and administrative support professionals for a practical walkthrough of the evaluation cycle, focusing on responsibilities, confidentiality, communication and accountability at every stage.

Speakers



Kristen Miles

Board Development director | OSBA



Jenn Nelson

Board Development Specialist | Oregon School Boards Association

Advocacy 101: Awareness to Action

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Location: Mt. Hood

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

LI SILVER

As elected officials, board members are uniquely positioned to advocate with legislators about their community's education priorities. This session will focus on the key parts of legislative advocacy, starting with awareness of issues, lifting up your school stories and encouraging legislators to act. Participants will learn what advocacy is and why it's important and will leave with practical tools to implement this session.

Speakers



Adrienne Anderson

Senior Government Relations Counsel | OSBA



Lesley Rivers

Government relations member engagement specialist | OSBA

School Board Retreat: One Day, Lasting Impact

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Location: Salon A

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

CHARTER SCHOOLS

BOARD CHAIRS

Crafting a high-impact, one-day summer board retreat can set the stage for effective board governance, annual goal setting, respectful board-superintendent relationships and increased clarity around how to engage with the community with individual curiosity but collective voice. This presentation will include examples of retreat icebreakers, operating agreement exercises, goal-setting processes, activities that address community expectations, feedback and complaints, and transparency and trust. Participants will leave with practical ideas/tools that could support their own board retreat and help build a stronger board team.

Speakers



Kathy Ludwig

Superintendent | West Linn-Wilsonville School District



Kirsten Wyatt

Board member | West Linn-Wilsonville School District

Motions, Mayhem and Meeting Leadership

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Location: Pearl

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD CHAIRS

What does an effective board meeting look like when the agenda meets real life? In this interactive session, participants will explore meeting structure, essential parliamentary procedure, and the leadership roles of the board chair and vice chair, and then put those skills to work through lively, realistic boardroom scenarios. Together, we'll practice navigating common meeting challenges, consider what works and what does not, and leave room for questions, problem-solving and a little fun along the way.

Speaker



Vince Adams

Board Development Specialist | OSBA

PERS Side Account Expiration

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Location: Portland

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

Learn about the side accounts set to sunset in 2027. This workshop will overview the Public Employees Retirement System process for monitoring side account balances and notifying employers whose accounts expire sooner than expected, and how that will impact their PERS rates.

Speaker



Jake Winship

Actuarial manager | Oregon PERS

Advancing Equitable Outcomes for Students in Foster Care and Housing Instability

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Location: Eugene

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

Supporting students experiencing housing instability and foster care requires systems that prioritize stability, access and belonging. This session shares insights from ongoing policy discussions about highly mobile students, including strategies for addressing enrollment barriers, student support needs and educational continuity. Participants will engage in discussion about policy approaches that advance equitable outcomes while remaining practical for districts to implement.

Speakers



Marlie Magill

Foster Care state liaison | ODE



Lexi Morales

State coordinator | McKinney-Vento



Spencer Lewis

Deputy legal and policy officer | OSBA

Govern With, Not For: Four Strategies for Board Partnerships with Students COPY

3:15 PM – 4:30 PM | Location: Salon C

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

LEVEL UP COHORT

BOARD MEMBERS

EXECS/SUPTS

ESD/DISTRICT STAFF

CHARTER SCHOOLS

ADMIN PROFESSIONALS

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Speakers



Kari Nelsestuen

Co-founder | Community Design Partners



Julie Smith

Co-founder | Community Design Partners

Sunday, November 15, 2026

OSBA Board of Director's Meeting

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM | Location: Mt. Hood