

## Board Talking Points

September 2024

The start of school is a wonderful time! It marks a new beginning for the students and families in our region. After 37 years in the business, the first day of school is still very exciting to me!

**School Accountability Framework** Over the past year, ODE conducted 13 listening sessions with school district leaders across the state regarding the challenges and top priorities facing Oregon schools. Eastern Oregon superintendents participated in our regional listening session at IMESD during the May superintendent meeting.

Participants shared their input on key features of an accountability framework. ODE compiled the data to formulate five themes:

- **Theme 1** The number of initiatives and reporting requirements strain the system.
- **Theme 2** Attracting and retaining high-quality staff is a challenge.
- **Theme 3** Support is needed for attendance and mental health.
- **Theme 4** Make accountability measures meaningful.
- **Theme 5** Allow time to make progress.

These five themes accurately describe concerns continually expressed by our regional staff as well. As we move into the 2024-2025 school year, we'll need to advocate with the education lobby and regional legislators to address these issues.

## MISSION

To provide outstanding customer service to our school districts in four areas: special education, technology, school improvement, and administrative services.

## VISION

IMESD strives to ensure the success of every child by providing equitable services to close the opportunity gap. We are committed to the values of antiracism and multiculturalism.