

Board Talking Points

October 2022

One of the best aspects of living in eastern Oregon is the beautiful fall weather. News for October:

State Update An historic degree of change will soon occur in state government. Oregon citizens will elect a new governor and over 1/3 of the legislature will turn over. For the first time in 40 years, Oregon will also have a new Senate Chair and House Speaker. This degree of sea change will certainly impact public education.

School leadership will face several challenges in the upcoming legislative session. The preliminary 23-25 State School Fund (SSF) calculation is much too low for K-12. We have our work cut out for us in advocating for adequate funding to address the significant mental health, learning loss, and facility needs in our schools. In addition, we must protect our other funding sources, such as the Student Success Act and High School Success. This message will be repeated at various OSBA and COSA events in the coming months.

High School Diploma Report ODE recently released a report regarding changes to the state diploma. The report analyzed data from other states, as well as multiple focus group interviews in Oregon. Since graduation rates are a leading indicator of school success, the diploma report will be a top discussion item in the legislative session.

Fall Regional OSBA and IMESD will sponsor the annual fall regional dinner this month. We hope you can attend either night:

- Fall Regional Dinner, Monday, October 3, 6:00 PM, LaGrande, EOU Gilbert Center
- Fall Regional Dinner, Tuesday, October 4, 6:00 PM, Pendleton, Pendleton Convention Center