

Mark Mulvihill, *Superintendent*

Joe McElligott, *Board Chair*

Kelly Bissinger, *Vice Chair*

Dale Bingham

Merle Comfort

Steve Muller

Ryan Neal

Verneda Wagner

District Board Talking Points September 2018

Welcome back to school! It is always fun to feel the excitement in the air as students return to the classroom.

Our regional districts continue to thrive. Many indicators, such as graduation rates and kindergarten assessment data, exceed state averages. Multiple school districts are engaged in significant facility improvements due to matching state grants and local bonds. Finally, student enrollment continues to climb, totally over 31,000 K-12 students in our 18 component districts.

The upcoming legislative session will be a very busy one. Due to record revenues coupled with record expenditures, there will be many opportunities and challenges. We also have a Governor's election, in which the leading candidates are running on platforms to increase spending for education. I would encourage school board members to become involved in the political process this year.

On that note, OSBA will be conducting the annual fall regional meetings on the following dates:

- Tuesday, October 16, 6:00 PM, Pendleton: BMCC Pioneer Hall
- Wednesday, October 17, 6:00 PM, La Grande: LGSD Middle School

Hope to see you there!

Mark S. Mulvihill, Ed. D
IMESD Superintendent