

## Minutes in Brief

### Southern Oregon ESD SOESD Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, February 18, 2026 6:00 PM

SOESD Administration Office, 101 North Grape Street, Medford, OR 97501

#### Board Members in Attendance:

Mary Barton	Present
Ariel Bloomer	Present
Brian Clark*	Present
Jessie Hecocta	Absent
Rhonda Lawrence	Absent
Ana Mannenbach	Present
Bob Moore*	Present
Rebecca Mueller	Absent
Richie Owens*	Present

Present: 6, Absent: 3.

#### Staff and Guests in Attendance:

Mark Angle-Hobson	Kylee Harrison
Janet Avila-Medina,* OSBA Board Development Specialist	Liz Littleton
Ryan Aydelotte	Ryan Swearingen
Tom Bigboy	Jeanetta Woodside
Forest Evergreen	
Erin Green	

\*Attended via video/audio conference

#### 1. Preliminary

##### 1.A. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Southern Oregon Education Service District Board of Directors was held in the downstairs conference room of the SOESD administration office in Medford and by video/audio conference on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. Chair Mannenbach called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

##### 1.B. Roll Call

##### 1.C. Land Acknowledgement

Southern Oregon Education Service District and the areas in which we serve are located within the ancestral homelands of the Shasta, Takelma, Latgawa, Klamath, Modoc, and the Yahooskin-Paiute peoples who lived here since time immemorial. The full text of SOESD's land acknowledgment can be read on the SOESD website:

<https://www.soesd.k12.or.us/equity>

##### 1.D. Pledge of Allegiance

1.E. Comments from Representatives of the Associations

Ryan Aydelotte, co-president of the classified association, reported that a meeting is scheduled to discuss the upcoming bilingual stipend, and he noted that the remote-work group is making good progress and continuing to move forward.

No representatives from the licensed association were in attendance.

1.F. Requests to Address Agenda Items

No requests to address agenda items were received.

2. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda consisted of the following items:

- A. Approval of Agenda
- B. Approval of Minutes: January 21, 2026, Regular Meeting
- C. Personnel Report
- D. Financial Report
- E. Approval of Proposed Board Policies

**IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER BARTON AND SECONDED BY MEMBER OWENS TO:**

Approve all items on the consent agenda as presented.

Barton: Yea, Bloomer: Yea, Clark: Yea, Hecocta: Absent, Lawrence: Absent, Mannenbach: Yea, Moore: Yea, Mueller: Absent, Owens: Yea

**Motion Carried – Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3**

3. Communications

3.A. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Angle-Hobson reported that recent work has focused on preparations for the new district office in Phoenix. Substantial completion is expected on March 23, with furniture installation beginning the next day. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is scheduled for April 14, and Administration and Human Resources will begin a move-in on April 15.

Superintendent Angle-Hobson responded to a question regarding rounding professional development, explaining that Studer Education uses rounding as a structured process for administrators to regularly check in with employees to identify needs, recognize strong work, and remove barriers. Cabinet is continuing training with Studer's digital tool before introducing the process to administrators.

He also noted recent superintendent appointments in the region: Dr. April Harrison, Rogue River School District; Jeannie Grazioli, Medford School District; and Jim Helman, Eagle Point School District. Superintendent Angle-Hobson participated in the interview process with Eagle Point School District and has offered transition support.

3.B. OAESD Governance Council Meeting Debrief

Member Barton reported on the February 5 OAESD meeting, noting that OAESD's financial position has improved following recent system changes. The state revenue forecast is slightly better than expected, and OAESD plans to request use of the state stability fund during the short legislative session. OAESD is developing a statewide "One

Big Deal” strategic plan to increase awareness of ESD roles, strengthen coordination with ODE, improve communication among the 19 ESDs, and consider organizational adjustments.

Member Barton noted discussion about ESDs taking a larger role in identifying and implementing high-quality instructional materials, including providing professional development. The next OAESD meeting will be held during the OAESD Spring Summit in May. She also participated in an ODE session on high-quality instructional materials and noted that implementation support will remain a focus

### 3.C. Electronic Services Program Presentation

Tom Bigboy, Chief Information Officer, presented on the Electronic Services Program and the extensive range of services they provide.

## 4. Business Affairs

### 4.A. Contracts for Services

Administration requested the Board’s approval to enter into agreements in the 2025-2026 fiscal year with PNW Professionals and Amergis for the amounts not to exceed as presented.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER BARTON AND SECONDED BY MEMBER OWENS TO:**

Approve entering into agreements for staffing services not to exceed the amounts presented.

Barton: Yea, Bloomer: Yea, Clark: Yea, Hecocta: Absent, Lawrence: Absent, Mannenbach: Yea, Moore: Yea, Mueller: Absent, Owens: Yea

**Motion Carried:** Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

## 5. Administration

### 5.A. First Reading of Proposed SOESD Board Policies

Superintendent Angle-Hobson reported that a final cross-reference check with OSBA revealed a set of personnel policies that had not yet been reviewed by the board. The policies were in several emails, mislabeled as a previously finished policy section. The policies mirror student-facing versions; personnel policies use G codes and student policies use J codes. A crosswalk of both policy sections was created with OSBA.

Superintendent Angle-Hobson stated that the board had two options for reviewing the policies: either review, discuss, and approve them that evening or put them on next month’s consent agenda as a second read. He confirmed that board policy permits approval on first reading.

He noted that the personnel policies are largely dictated by federal and state law and clarified that delaying approval would not impact the district’s contract completion date with OSBA.

The board requested clarification on the following policies:

**CCBDA/GDBDA AR (3)(A):** CHRO Swearingen will confirm whether gender-neutral language is allowable so the policies can be made consistent.

**CCBDA/GDBDA-AR (3)(D):** No change will be made at this time; any update to the Department of Defense name will be addressed through a future OSBA policy update.

**GCDA/GDDA – Criminal Records Check and Fingerprinting:** It was clarified that fingerprinting costs are deducted from the employee’s paycheck.

**GCPD-AR – Discipline of Licensed Staff:** Pronoun usage in the policy will be reviewed.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER BARTON AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BLOOMER TO:**

Approve section G policies with revisions noted.

Barton: Yea, Bloomer: Yea, Clark: Yea, Hecocata: Absent, Lawrence: Absent, Mannenbach: Yea, Moore: Yea, Mueller: Absent, Owens: Yea

**Motion Carried:** Yea: 6, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

6. Executive Session - ORS 192.660 (2)(i) - Evaluation of the Superintendent  
At 7:08 pm, Chair Mannenbach announced the board would be meeting in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(i) - Evaluation of the Superintendent to review and evaluate the performance of the Superintendent.
7. Open Session  
At 8:10 pm, Chair Mannenbach reconvened the Board into open session.
8. Miscellaneous
  - 8.A. Next Regular Meeting: March 18, 2026, 6:00 PM, SOESD Administration Office in Medford  
Chair Mannenbach announced the next board meeting will be on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 6:00 pm at the administration office. With the new District Office opening, Chair Mannenbach suggested holding one meeting there before June and then deciding as a board where to hold the meetings. Superintendent Angle-Hobson recommended that the Budget Committee meetings remain at the current office, as the Business Office will continue to be located there.
  - 8.B. SOESD Budget Committee Meeting, May 13, 2026, 6:00 PM, SOESD Administration Office in Medford
  - 8.C. OAESD Spring Summit, May 14–15, 2026, Sunriver, Oregon  
Any board members who wish to attend are asked to let Liz Littleton know as soon as possible so that registration and lodging reservations can be made.
9. Adjournment  
There being no further business, Chair Mannenbach adjourned the meeting at 8:13 PM