

Blueprint & Beyond

COMPONENT DISTRICT EDITION

A regular update from the
Superintendent's Office
for the districts we serve.



1. Superintendent's Message

Dear Component District Colleagues,

Thank you for the many ways you have supported SOESD in developing our five-year strategic plan. Along with refreshed mission, vision, and core values, the plan will be presented to our board for approval in March. Whether you participated in a focus group, completed one (or more) surveys, or shared input in another way, we are deeply grateful! Our direction is stronger because you took the time to lend your voice to the process. And there are additional opportunities for feedback ahead.

Each year, the SOESD cabinet meets with the leadership teams of our component districts to reflect on our partnership. This spring, we plan to center those conversations around three questions:

1. What is going well?
2. What roadblocks are you experiencing?
3. Is there anyone who has been especially helpful to you?

I would welcome insights on these questions from anyone who engages with SOESD services. Your perspective helps us understand both what is working and where we can improve. You can email our Communications and Partnerships Coordinator, Erin Green, with your feedback: erin_green@soesd.k12.or.us.

Later this spring, we will also launch our annual customer satisfaction survey. This survey provides a more detailed opportunity to share feedback on the specific services we provide.

Our mission, vision, and core values anchor us in the WHY of our work. Our strategic plan clarifies WHAT our priorities will be over the next five years. Your feedback helps us refine HOW we serve you...with greater clarity, responsiveness, and impact.

Thank you for being an engaged and trusted partner in this work. We are better together.

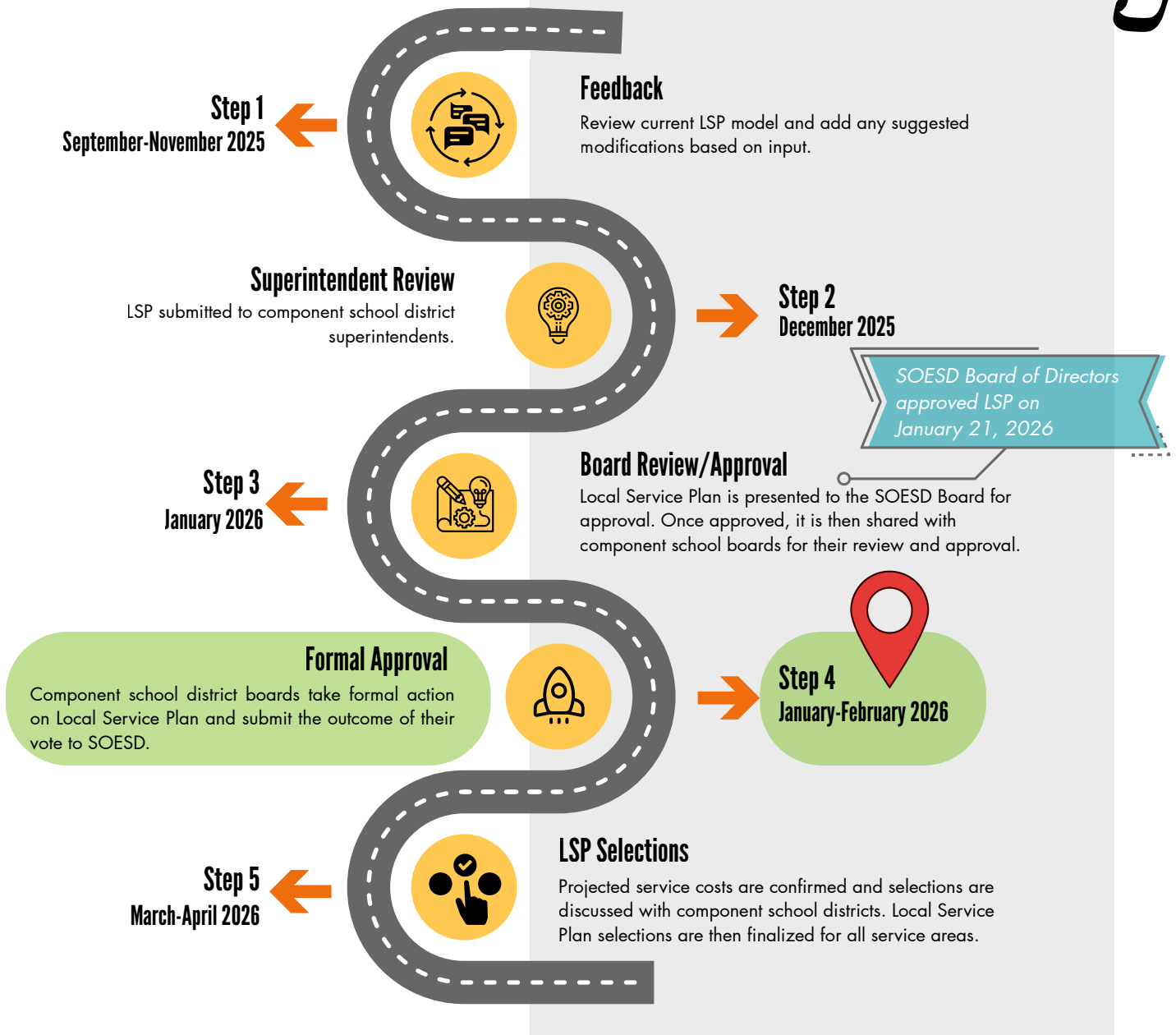
Best!
Mark

Mark Angle-Hobson
ED.D.

This Edition's Topics!

- 1.....Superintendent's Message
- 2.....Local Service Plan: Process & Draft
- 3.....Future of SOESD: Strategic Plan + Vision, Mission, & Values
- 4.....From Southern Oregon to Salem: Advocating for Our Schools
- 5.....SOESD Leadership: Engagement Across Our Region and Beyond
- 6.....Save the Date: District Office Grand Opening

2. Local Service Plan: *Process & Draft*



CLICK
HERE

Digital
LSP Draft

Storybook
LSP Draft

3. Future of SOESD: *Strategic Plan + Vision, Mission, Values*



Timeline:

We've made great strides in our strategic planning process, engaging staff, stakeholders, and community members along the way. Here's a recap of our work so far and where we're heading.

- 9/30/25: Steering Committee Meeting #1
- 10/27-31/25: Focus Groups (134 participants)
- 11/19/25: Steering Committee Meeting #2
- 1/6-8/26: Focus Groups (18 participants)
- 1/9-14/26: Focus Group Survey (46 responses)
- 1/27/26: Steering Committee Meeting #3
- 1/30-2/9/26: Validation Survey (57 responses)
- 2/17/26: Steering Committee Meeting #4
- 3/18/26: Presentation & Vote on Strategic Plan by SOESD Board of Directors

Five-Year Strategic Plan

Validation Survey Highlights:

- 57 responses received
- 80–91% of responses were in the top two categories (agree or strongly agree)
- Feedback led to minor revisions, including grammatical adjustments
- Pillar numbers do not indicate rank and will not appear in the final draft
- Readability level: 10th grade / professional level

Vision, Mission, Values



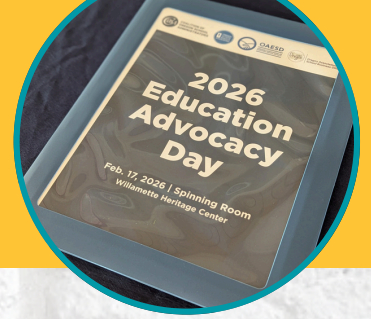
At a recent mid-year retreat, our administrative team dedicated time to reflecting on and drafting updated statements for our vision, mission, and core values. We are now sharing this work with staff to gather feedback, validate the direction, and refine the language. The next step will be to bring the input back to leadership to further refine the statements and plan how we will operationalize our values and support staff in living into our mission and vision.

Together, these statements help answer essential questions: What is our purpose? Where are we headed? How will we show up along the way? When done well, they serve as a daily guide for decisions and actions, not just words on paper.

The revised vision and mission are grounded in our statutory role as an Education Service District and will be presented for a board of director's vote alongside the Strategic Plan on March 18.



4. From Southern Oregon to Salem: *Advocating for Our Schools*



On Tuesday, February 17, SOESD participated in Education Advocacy Day in Salem. It was a day filled with connection, advocacy, and hope. Nearly 100 students, administrators, and education advocates gathered at the Oregon State Capitol to meet with legislators and share how state-level decisions impact our schools. Representatives from Southern Oregon included district and board leaders from Ashland, Phoenix-Talent, Three Rivers, and Grants Pass, along with SOESD.

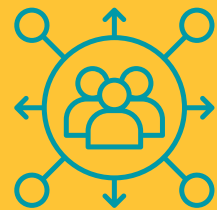
The group's message focused on the importance of the Education Stability Fund, created by voters in 2002 to protect essential student services during economic downturns. The fund has been used nine times, most recently in 2020 when \$400 million helped prevent significant cuts during COVID. We asked lawmakers to commit to accessing the fund in the 2026 session to help avoid reductions to school budgets and ensure students continue to receive critical supports.

SOESD is proud to help connect regional experiences to statewide conversations. We're grateful to everyone who came together to share their time, voice, and stories in support of our schools.



5. SOESD Leadership

Engagement Across Our Region and Beyond



We recently received feedback encouraging SOESD to continue increasing visibility and involvement in regional, statewide, and national leadership efforts. We appreciate this input and are pleased to share a snapshot of how our administrators are currently engaged.

Our administrative team contributes in many ways beyond their day-to-day responsibilities, participating in efforts that advance education, equity, school improvement, and other priorities aligned with our mission and key areas of work. These contributions help amplify SOESD's impact and connect Southern Oregon to broader conversations shaping education.

Please view the list of boards, commissions, advisory groups, and collaborative efforts our leadership team participates in below. We hope this provides transparency into our level of involvement and our continued commitment to serving our component districts.

SOESD Regional,
Statewide, &
National Leadership



We also want to recognize the many SOESD staff members beyond the leadership team who serve on committees and collaborative efforts. We are grateful for their time, expertise, and dedication.



NATIONAL
COUNCIL
ON SEVERE
AUTISM



THE
CHAMBER
OF MEDFORD & JACKSON COUNTY



SOUTH-CENTRAL
EARLY LEARNING
HUB
DOUGLAS, KLAMATH & LAKE COUNTIES



Recovery Schools
Advisory Committee



Jefferson Regional
Health Alliance

6. Save the Date: *SOESD District Office Grand Opening!*

You're invited to the

SOESD *District Office* **GRAND OPENING**

Ceremony + Ribbon Cutting

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 | 4 – 6pm

5465 S. Pacific Hwy.
Phoenix, OR 97535



SOESD

Southern Oregon Education Service District

