

Minutes in Brief

Southern Oregon ESD SOESD Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 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*	Present
Rhonda Lawrence*	Present
Ana Mannenbach*	Present
Bob Moore:	Absent
Rebecca Mueller:	Present
Richie Owens*	Present

Present: 8, Absent: 1.

Staff and Guests in Attendance:

Mark Angle-Hobson	Liz Littleton
Tom Bigboy	Ryan Swearingen
Forest Evergreen	Carlie Wiley-Wolter
Isobel Evergreen	Jeanetta Woodside
Erin Green	
Kylee Harrison	

*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, April 15, 2026. Chair Mannenbach called the meeting to order at 6:04 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

Isobel Evergreen, Co-President for the Classified Association, reported that Administration has agreed to include all part-time classified staff in union representation upon MOA ratification. She also noted ongoing collaboration on a code review for focal student group roles. Discussions on a bilingual stipend continue, though the current MOA draft does not yet reflect staff input.

Carlie Wiley Wolter, from the Licensed Association Executive Council, reported that the Association continues working with the district and the bilingual work group to finalize an MOA for a bilingual stipend recognizing licensed employees who use bilingual skills in their work. The Association is also collaborating with the district on a step placement MOA to recognize relevant experience. Both MOAs are moving

toward finalization for approval and implementation.

1.F. Requests to Address Agenda Items

No requests to address agenda items were received.

2. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Agenda

B. Approval of Minutes: March 18, 2026

C. Personnel Report

D. Financial Report

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER MUELLER AND SECONDED BY MEMBER CLARK TO:

Approve all items on the consent agenda as presented.

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

Motion Carried – Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

3. Communications

3.A. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Angle-Hobson reported that the past month has been largely focused on preparation for the ribbon-cutting and grand opening of the new district office. He referred the board to his written report in the agenda and invited questions.

3.B. HMK Presentation

David McKay, CEO of HMK Company, presented that the new district office project is complete, on schedule, and under budget. Total revenue is approximately \$28.279 million, and projected expenses are approximately \$26.801 million, leaving the project just under \$2 million below budget, with additional savings expected from contract close-outs, including an estimated \$400,000 from unused contractor contingency. Remaining project funds may be used to support additional work, such as improvements at the Ramsey Street facility.

3.C. Southern Oregon Success Presentation

Eva Skuratowicz, Program Manager for Southern Oregon Success, presented an overview of the regional initiative serving Jackson and Josephine counties. She reported that more than 22,000 participants have received ACEs and trauma-informed training and highlighted the Family Success Plan, which provides \$1,400 per family for direct support. She also shared updates on regional service navigation, youth development efforts, chronic absenteeism initiatives, and ongoing grant funding efforts.

4. Administration

4.A. Board Retreat Special Meeting — Interest and Timing

Superintendent Angle-Hobson presented and discussed planning for a board retreat. He shared that he and Liz Littleton contacted Janet Avila-Medina, OSBA Board Development Specialist, about year-two board retreat topics, including reviewing the Board and Board-Superintendent working agreements, determining whether to partner with OSBA again for the superintendent evaluation and Targeted Feedback Survey, and unpacking the new strategic plan to clarify the Board's role and reporting expectations. The Board expressed interest in continuing with a retreat. Next steps include having Liz Littleton, Board Secretary, send possible dates based on Janet Avila-Medina's summer availability and securing a venue. The Board requested an outline as planning moves forward.

5. Business Affairs

5.A. Contract for Services

Superintendent Angle-Hobson stated that he will work to bring future contracts to the Board earlier in the school year to avoid the need for late-year approval requests. Kylee Harrison, Assistant Superintendent, then presented a contract for approval with PNW Professionals to provide speech-language pathologists for Early Childhood Services in Josephine County. She noted that while the district's goal is to hire permanent, full-time staff and recruitment efforts are ongoing, contracting is necessary to ensure that services and IEP requirements are met in the interim. Ms. Harrison noted that contracted specialists sometimes apply later and are hired on as regular employees.

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER OWENS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER CLARK TO:

Approve entering into an agreement with PNW Professionals for staffing services not to exceed \$315,000.

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

Motion Carried – Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

6. Executive Session

At 6:45 PM, Chair Mannenbach announced that the Board would meet in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(i) to review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the superintendent.

7. Open Session

Chair Mannenbach reconvened the Board in Open Session at 7:10 pm and requested the Board to entertain a motion to approve the SOESD Superintendent Summative Evaluation Report.

IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER OWENS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER CLARK TO:

Approve the SOESD Superintendent's Summative Evaluation Report.

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

MOTION CARRIED: Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 1

At 7:12 PM, Chair Mannenbach departed the meeting, and Vice-Chair Owens assumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Vice-Chair Owens read the SOESD Superintendent Summative Evaluation Report, and board members acknowledged their appreciation for Superintendent Angle-Hobson. The superintendent expressed his appreciation for the Board's recognition, affirmed that its goals and working agreements have supported recent progress, and acknowledged that feedback on the pace of change is appropriate and will inform implementation of the five-year strategic plan.

8. Miscellaneous

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 6:00 pm. The Board discussed the location of this meeting. It was decided that the next regular meeting of the SOESD Board of Directors will be held at the Operations Center (formerly known as the Administration Office) at 101 N. Grape Street, and that all remaining board meetings for the current fiscal year will be held at that location.

Budget Committee Meeting scheduled for May 13, 2026, at 6:00 pm at the Operations Center. 101 N. Grape Street in Medford. The budget materials will be distributed in advance of this meeting.

9. Adjournment

Vice-Chair Owens adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.