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Level Up Your Board

1 message

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BOARDSMANSHIP FOR BEGINNERS

LEVEL UP

2026-27 COHORT

This year, OSBA introduced the [Level Up: Boardsmanship for Beginners](#) cohort program. This unique training series allows newer school board members to learn with peers and the guidance of OSBA experts what it means to be a good school board member.

Our first cohort this spring enthusiastically embraced the opportunity in Level One to better understand both the guiding philosophy and the nuts-and-bolts mechanics of being a school board member. They are ready to move to the next step.

We would like to know if anyone from your board would be a good candidate to join them for Level Two.

"This is the first board I've ever sat on. The cohort program has been great to learn the ins and outs, the do's and don'ts, how to do your job correctly, and the dynamic between the superintendent and the board. It's great to have this learning opportunity to see how to go about things in a way that is professional and effective."

- Tyler Hunt, Fossil School Board

The two-cycle cohort program is designed for newer board members, but anyone can enter at Level Two. Level One was all about "Learning the Job." Level Two gets into the real goal of most school board members: "Making an Impact."

Level Two launches July 1. We will provide new cohort members an overview of the first level's learning before diving into how board members should work with each other and the superintendent for transformational leadership.

The Level Up program surrounds board members with support, including a regional in-person meeting, quarterly virtual meetings, a cohort listserv and a mentor. Level Two enrollment includes free registration for the OSBA Annual Convention and its preconference and a Summer School Session of their choice. To book each of those events separately would cost \$1,245.

For just \$1,700 for the whole year, a school board member will receive all that training and support for free plus additional time, tools and resources from the Board Development team. And to really help strengthen your board, for each additional member from the same board who signs up, OSBA will discount that price an additional 5%.

Board members need to act now, though, if they want to take advantage of the free Summer School Session conference. The Level Two yearlong program starts July 1, and the first [Summer School Session](#) is July 10.

Help us find the right candidates. **Who on your board would benefit from a grounding in good governance and the coaching to become an outstanding leader?**

"I wasn't excited when I came to the in-person meeting because I was worried it was not going to be applicable. I'm loving it, and I'm learning a lot. The lessons are in comprehensible chunks. The people are gracious and generous with their attention. The caliber of the people in our cohort – it's really nice to see people who are there because they care and are doing all this public service."

Lori Greenfield, Linn Benton Lincoln ESD board member

To sign up members or start a conversation about the program, contact OSBA Board Development's Reggie Glenn at rglenn@osba.org before **June 26**. You can also find information and register at our [Level Up webpage](#).

Register before June 26

Set your district on a strong leadership path by helping us identify members who are ready to Level Up.

P.S.: We are also signing up board members to be mentors. If you have an experienced board member who provides great leadership, let us know so we can tap their knowledge.

Sincerely,



Kristen Miles

OSBA Board Development director



The Oregon School Boards Association empowers all public-school boards with the knowledge, skills, tools, and resources to govern, lead, and advocate for improving student success and positive outcomes for every learner.

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