



THE OREGON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR

PINEHURST SCHOOL CELEBRATES LITERACY WITH NEW BOOK VENDING MACHINE



Thanks to a Library Revitalization Grant, Pinehurst School in the Greensprings area has unveiled an exciting new feature: a book vending machine filled with brand-new, high-interest titles for students.

The machine was introduced at the school's final family engagement event of the year, where every child in attendance received a special token to "purchase" a book—whether they attend Pinehurst or not. The initiative aims to promote literacy and student engagement, particularly in rural communities with limited access to public libraries.

Students can earn tokens throughout the year by demonstrating positive habits such as consistent attendance. These tokens can then be exchanged for books—helping build both reading skills



and home libraries in an engaging, tangible way.

Book vending machines have become a creative and impactful strategy in encouraging young readers, especially in areas where access to fresh reading material may be limited. The excitement of choosing a book from a machine brings a new level of joy to reading.

Pinehurst School's community, staff, and families celebrated the machine's unveiling with pride and enthusiasm. District administrator Emily Cozza, who shared the story and helped bring the idea to life, emphasized the importance of fostering a love of reading in every child.

The book vending machine stands as a symbol of innovation, equity, and the power of a good book in the hands of a young reader.



Looking Back to Move Forward: Help Shape COSA's Future

As we approach the close of the school year, it's a natural time for reflection—looking back on what we've accomplished and using those insights to inform our planning for the year ahead. At COSA, our work is driven by you—our members—and your needs and feedback are essential to guiding our direction. That's why we are asking for a few minutes of your time to complete a brief survey, open now through the Seaside Conference in June. Please use the link at the bottom of this page to share your voice so we can better understand how to serve and support you in the work ahead.

Many of you have shared how valuable “Communities of Practice” are as a structure for deep learning, strategy-sharing, and mutual support. We're listening. That's why our August Summer Conference in Eugene will center on the theme of **“Future Ready Leaders,”** with a strong focus on Generative AI. We'll learn from a Colorado district that has reimagined school in the age of AI, and our COSA-led Community of Practice—currently exploring Ethan Mollick's Co-Intelligence in a book club format. We hope that through these learning opportunities that our leaders will dream big about what's possible.

If you've integrated AI into your leadership in meaningful ways, we invite you to **submit a proposal** to lead a breakout session at the conference on August 4–5. Your innovation could spark the next great idea for your colleagues.

As we all navigate weekly challenges—especially those driven by troubling federal decisions that threaten public education—please know that COSA remains unwavering in our advocacy for Oregon's students, families, and schools. Thank you for standing up for what's right every day in your districts and communities. We are proud to stand alongside you.

In Leadership,
Krista



Your Voice Matters: Take Our Quick Member Survey!

We're looking to hear from our entire COSA community to ensure our direction truly reflects all voices.

This quick, 5-minute survey asks for your insights on:

- Preferred communication methods
- Impactful elements of our professional learning
- Areas you want COSA to prioritize moving forward

Your responses are crucial as we reimagine and improve how we support you and your leadership journey. Please take a moment to share your perspective—your input will directly influence COSA's next steps.

[Click here to take the survey or use the QR code!](#)



Waves of Change: Leading Schools with Courage

Keynote speakers:

- Mónica Guzmán, author, *I Never Thought of it That Way*
- Carmen Xiomara Urbina, *Leading with Love In Confrontational Times: Centering Our Children, Our Values, and Our Courage*
- Dr. Sheldon Berman, *The Call to Courage: Reclaiming the Positive Narrative to Protect Good Teaching, Important Content and Students' Sense of Belonging*

Register and learn more here



Future Ready Leaders: Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence



Submit an RFP by May 23!



Registration opens early May

The Summer Conference is designed to equip school and district teams with the tools, insight, and inspiration needed to lead in a rapidly evolving landscape. This team-focused event will help kick off the school year with practical strategies, visionary thinking, and collaborative learning centered on AI's role in shaping the future of education.



United Conference July 10-13

Join over 4,000 school leaders at UNITED 2025, co-hosted by the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) and the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), taking place July 11–13, 2025, in Seattle. This premier event offers a dynamic platform for principals and assistant principals to connect, share strategies, and amplify their collective voice in shaping the future of education.

Why Principals Should Attend:

- **Enhance Instructional Leadership:** Gain insights into effective teaching practices, data-driven decision-making, and innovative approaches to bridge academic gaps and support diverse student populations.
- **Foster Inclusive School Cultures:** Learn strategies to build trust, promote equity, and implement restorative practices that contribute to a positive and inclusive school environment.
- **Empower Student Voice and Agency:** Discover methods to prioritize critical thinking, promote digital citizenship, and implement tools that enhance student engagement and leadership.

For more information and to register, click here.

EXPANDING CONNECTIONS: COSA'S ENHANCED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2025-26

We're excited to announce an expansion of COSA's professional learning communities and leadership development opportunities for the 2025-26 school year. Building on the success of our existing programs, we're creating more structured ways for education leaders to connect, collaborate, and grow together throughout the year.

Our approach includes academies for new leaders across multiple roles, targeted communities of practice, and regular connection opportunities at both in-person events and virtual meetings. Whether you're a superintendent, principal, assistant principal, or SPED director, we've designed learning experiences to support your professional growth and create meaningful connections with colleagues facing similar challenges.

The expanded offerings include monthly principal calls by level, as well as structured learning communities for new superintendents, new principals, new assistant principals, and new SPED directors. These academies combine in-person sessions at our major conferences with monthly virtual check-ins to provide ongoing support throughout the year.



We're particularly excited about the development of our **communities of practice**, including the SPED Directors Communities of Practice, Inclusive Schools Learning Collaborative for superintendents and SPED directors, Aspiring Superintendent Learning Collaborative, and the New to Oregon Superintendent Community of Practice. These collaborative spaces allow for deeper problem-solving, sharing of best practices, and building supportive professional networks.

More information about these opportunities will be on the COSA website in the coming weeks. Early registration is encouraged as some programs have limited capacity to ensure quality learning experiences. We look forward to supporting your leadership journey in the coming school year!

COSABOT OFFICE HOURS



We're excited to offer weekly office hours **every Wednesday from 7:45–8:15 AM** to support your COSABot journey. Bring your ideas, questions, and insights. We're here to learn with you and continue evolving COSABot based on your real-world needs.

 Join us on Wednesday mornings on [this Zoom link](#)!

June State Revenue Forecast Looms Large Over Legislative Session

One of the most consequential days of the 2025 Legislative Session is fast approaching. On Wednesday, May 14 the June Economic and Revenue Forecast will be released. This tax collection and budget data will be the benchmark the Legislature uses to prepare final budget recommendations for the 2025-27 biennium.

Several weeks ago, there was optimism in Salem that a positive forecast could be used to invest in critical state programs, including the State School Fund. Given recent events related to tariffs and the economic uncertainty and instability we have seen over the last few weeks, there are concerns that hoped-for increases to budget coffers will not materialize.

Whatever happens, we need to be ready to pivot and advocate for our students, schools, and communities.

Here are three key things to keep in mind:

- Whatever budget news the revenue forecast brings, K-12 advocates still need to make a clear and convincing case to invest in our public schools to meet the increased, and increasingly complex, needs of our students.
- Your advocacy for increased funding for Special Education in four key areas (raising the 11% cap, increasing the High-Cost Disability reimbursement, and fully funding Regional Inclusive Services and EI/ECSE) has been impactful and legislators clearly understand that our SPED funding is insufficient and inequitable. Please continue to prioritize these asks when you meet with legislators.
- Even more than usual, the budget process during the 2025 Session will be a marathon and not a sprint. Legislators are rightfully wary about the significant uncertainty at the federal level.

We did not find out our State School Fund number until May 23rd during the 2023 Session. We urge COSA members to continue to advocate for increased State School Fund investments through Special Education until the final gavel drops. The COSA team has prepared [**SSF talking points and messages**](#) you can use with your local legislators.

Key Information and Implementation Timeline

Oregon Department of Education Resources

- [State Summer Learning Grants Program Resources Page](#)
- [2025 Summer Learning Grant Program Parameters](#)

2025 Implementation Timeline

- [April 25](#): ODE released [the list of eligible entities and allocations](#)
- [April 29](#): ODE provided an [application webinar](#) for eligible entities
- [April 29](#): Application process opens for eligible entities
- [May 6](#): Weekly Office Hours begin (4 pm every Tuesday)
- [May 12](#): Applications due
- [May 13 - 20](#): ODE will confirm applications have been received and funds secured
- [May 21](#): ODE will release final awards based on the applications submitted
- [June 16](#): Final application refinements, goals, and program schedules due to ODE
- [June - August](#): Grantees provide summer programming
- [October 17](#): Last day incurred expenses will be eligible for reimbursement
- [November 14](#): Last day to submit reimbursement claims to ODE
- [November 14](#): Final reports due to ODE



Summer Learning Funding for 2025 and Beyond

In April, the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed [HB 2007](#) and [HB 5047](#) into law. We want to thank Oregon lawmakers and the Governor for: advancing these bills; investing \$35 million from the General Fund in summer learning programs with a focus on research-aligned literacy strategies and academic enrichment this summer; and providing a stable mechanism for investing in summer learning opportunities in future summers.

Stable and predictable funding in the future is crucial because it will help give school districts, Education Service Districts, public charter schools, and tribal partners more time to plan, staff, and collaborate with regional and local partners on implementing – and sustaining – high-quality summer learning programs that students and families can count on.

These bills are an important step towards increasing high-quality expanded learning opportunities for more students across Oregon. This summer and beyond, we will need to continue to elevate the work educators around the state are doing to support students through high-quality summer learning programs. Our shared advocacy will be critical to securing more funding in the future so that we can provide all students, regardless of zip code, access to high-quality expanded learning opportunities.

Please contact [Morgan Allen](#) and [Parasa Chanramy](#) if you need any policy and advocacy support.

COSA Partner Programs Powering Student Success

COSA is partially supported by Partners that provide many important goods and services for education. The Collaborative Corner will feature partner highlights and resources in each monthly communication.

The Consortium for School Networking (CoSN), in partnership with COSA, is honored to support the work of current and aspiring superintendents and district leadership teams in leading all aspects of digital learning transformations.

CoSN/AASA EmpowerED Superintendent Free Leadership Resources

CoSN and AASA-The School Superintendents Association joined together several years ago to create The EmpowerED Superintendents Initiative to support superintendents and other school leaders in leading technology innovations within their school districts. Listed below are two examples of multiple free resources that are readily available on the [CoSN EmpowerED Superintendents website](https://www.cosn.org/empower-ed).

Critical Focus Areas: Issue One-Pagers – The “One-Pager” documents cover a variety of of edtech topics that are written to help superintendents and school leaders effectively communicate with their stakeholders on a wide range of critical educational technology topics such as:

- [Artificial Intelligence & Generative AI](#)
- [The Importance of Cybersecurity](#)
- [Leadership for Digital Learning](#)

CoSN Membership: If you, your school or district would like more information about joining CoSN or getting more involved with CoSN, please contact membership@cosn.org



Webinar: School Climate and Culture—Why Students Feel Disconnected, and How Districts Are Responding

When students feel connected, safe, and supported, they thrive. But how are districts actually working to create that kind of environment—especially in a post-pandemic world?

ThoughtExchange surveyed 100+ K-12 leaders across the country about their school climate and culture strategies, and in this 30-minute live session, we'll unpack what we learned. Join them live to hear how education leaders are addressing the most pressing challenges and what's working in their communities. You'll walk away with powerful insights and strategies to help strengthen school climate, increase student engagement, and support staff and families.

This session will cover:

- The top barriers to school culture and climate identified by 100+ K-12 leaders.
- Proven strategies districts are using to foster belonging, safety, and engagement.
- How ThoughtExchange helps uncover real-time insights to drive meaningful action.

 May 15, 2025, at 10:00–10:30 AM PST

[Register now!](#)

