LOCAL SERVICE PLAN
2026-2027

High Desert
Education Service District

High Desert Education Service District
2804 SW 6th Street
Redmond, OR 97756
www.hdesd.org

Approved 12/16/2025

High Desert Education Service District

High Desert Education Service District (HDESD) provides services to the four component districts in Crook and Deschutes Counties: Bend-La Pine Schools, Crook County, Redmond and Sisters School Districts.

Our Vision

A region where students, families and educators thrive.

Our Mission

We support student success through equitable and specialized services.

Priority Areas and Goal Statements

1. ### Champion Students

   Goal Statement: Provide equitable, innovative and impactful services to our region that ensure all students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

2. ### Champion Relationship

   Goal Statement: Foster deep and meaningful collaboration with families, community organizations, district partners, and staff to build shared ownership for student success.

3. ### Champion Equity

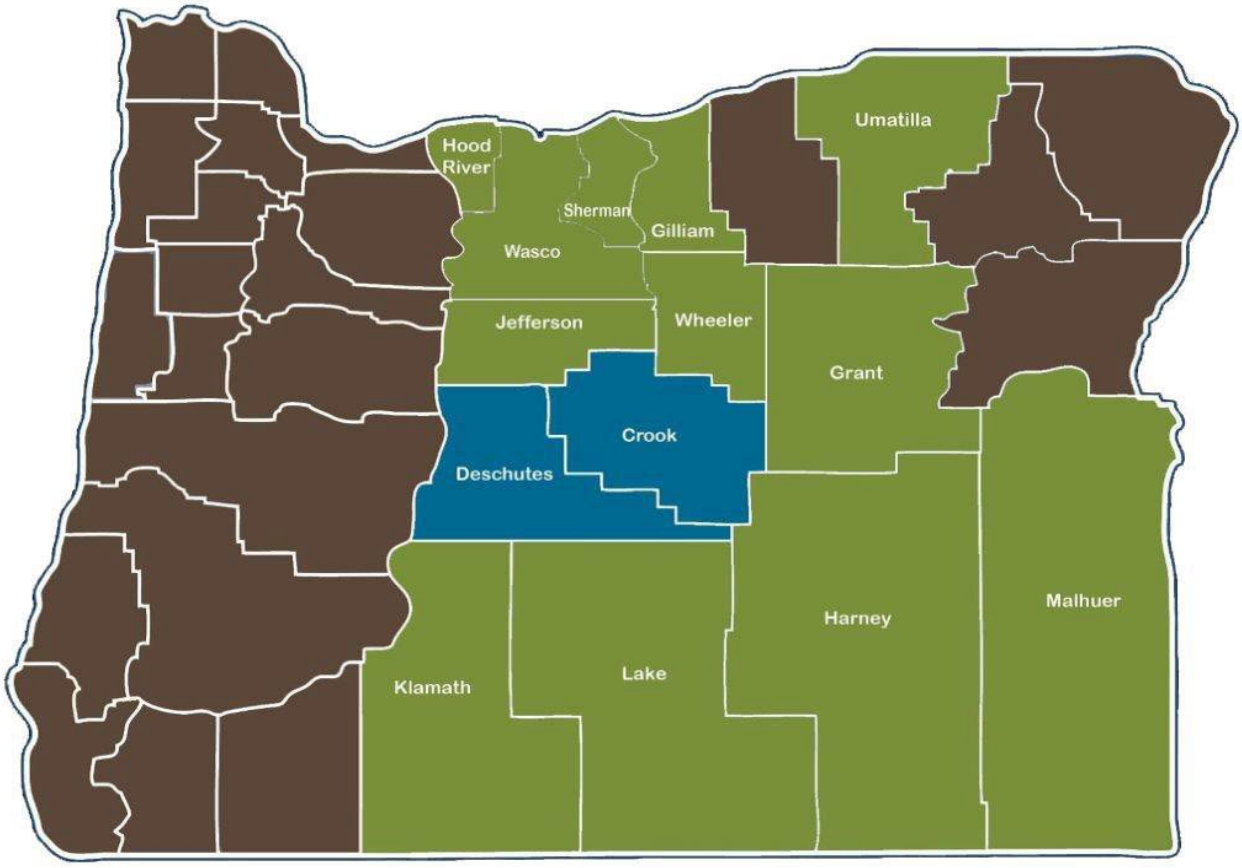
   Goal Statement: Advance educational equity by dismantling barriers and expanding access to inclusive, culturally responsive programs, services and supports.

4. ### Champion Excellence

   Goal Statement: Operate with integrity and intentionality by delivering services with excellence, efficiency, and measurable impact.

High Desert Education Service District

High Desert Education Service District (HDESD) provides services to the four component districts in Crook and Deschutes Counties. HDESD also provides services in twelve additional counties through regional contracts andfee for service



Organization

Board of Directors

HDESD has a nine-member board of directors. Five board members are elected by our component districts (Bend-La Pine 2; Redmond 1; Sisters 1 and Crook County 1) and those five members appoint four more board members each to represent one of the following constituencies within Deschutes and Crook Counties: Social Services, Higher Education, Business and At Large.

Carlos Perez, Board Chair	Elected by Bend-La Pine School District Board of Directors
Gwen Carr, Vice-Chair	Elected by Crook County School District Board of Directors
Anthony Georger	Appointed Business Community Representative
Annemarie Hamlin	Appointed Higher Education Representative
Alex Hinkle	Appointed At Large Representative
Matt McGowan	Elected by Redmond School District Board of Directors
Mary Paulson	Elected by Bend-La Pine School District Board of Directors
Elizabeth Sanchez	Appointed Social Services Representative
Emily Stukel	Elected by Sisters School District Board of Directors

Administration

Dr. Sara Johnson, Superintendent
Debi Brazelton, Chief Human Resource Officer
Jenny Faircloth, Executive Director of Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education
Rutila Galvan-Rodriguez, Executive Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
Angella La Fontaine, Chief Financial Officer
Shay Mikalson, Chief Student Success Officer
Jihan Nelson, Executive Director of Special Programs
Rachel Wente-Chaney, Chief Information Officer

In addition to the department administrators, HDESD is organized in alignment with the four core service areas outlined in the law. HDESD administrators have been assigned responsibility for each of the four departments:

Administrative and Support Services – Dr. Sara Johnson
Children with Special Needs –Jenny Faircloth and Jihan Nelson
School Improvement Services – Shay Mikalson
Technology Services – Rachel Wente-Chaney

Introduction

In collaboration with component school districts and their superintendents, the HDESD has developed the 2026-27 Local Service Plan pursuant to ORS 334.175 and OAR 581-024-0285. The HDESD Local Service Plan includes the following Core Services:

Administrative and Support Services consolidate and improve component school district business functions, liaison services between the Department of Education and component school districts and registration of children being taught by private teachers, parents, or legal guardians pursuant to ORS 339.035.

Services for Children with Special Needs include special education services, services for at-risk students and professional development for staff who provide these services.

School Improvement Services support component school districts in meeting the requirements of state and federal law, allow the HDESD to participate in and facilitate a review of the state and federal standards related to the provision of a quality education by component school districts, address school-wide behavior and climate issues, and provide professional staff educational opportunities.

Technology Services support component school district technology plans, including network services, information systems services, information security services, instructional technology services, distance learning and professional staff development.

The 2026-27 HDESD Local Service Plan includes services required by state and federal law and services contracted to school districts, and other public and private entities.

An education service district may provide entrepreneurial services to public and private entities and to school districts that are not component school districts of the education service district with the approval of the constituent districts through their approval of the Local Service Plan.

HDESD Board of Directors and the component school districts' Board of Directors approve the Local Service Plan annually.

Local Service Plan Approval Process

The Local Service Plan must be approved by the HDESD Board of Directors and affirmed by at least two thirds of the HDESD component school district's Board of Directors representing at least 50 percent of the total number of students enrolled in component school districts of the HDESD.

- **December 2025**: The 2026-2027 Local Service Plan (including suggested new services) reviewed by the HDESD Executive Council and approved by the HDESD Board of Directors.
- **January-February 2026**: Local Service Plan submitted and presented to component school district Board of Directors for approval.
- **June 2026**: Local Service Plan services and budgets approved by HDESD Budget Committee and HDESD Board of Directors.

Amendment Process

The HDESD Local Service Plan can be amended by two thirds vote of the HDESD component school district's Board of Directors, representing at least 50 percent of the total number of students enrolled in component school districts of the HDESD.

Revenues

State School Fund: 90% of State School Fund monies received by the HDESD are spent on services provided directly to component school districts pursuant to OAR 327.019(8).

Grants and Contracts: HDESD receives state, federal and private foundation grants and contracts to provide services to component and non-component districts.

Entrepreneurial Services: HDESD provides services to non-component districts if the services are currently provided to component districts and may provide savings or added value to component districts.

Annual Performance Measures

Services provided by HDESD and outlined in the Local Service Plan are measured annually by the setting of goals and measurement of outcomes in relation to the HDESD Board of Directors' Strategic Priorities.

Student Success Act

The HDESD continues to increase its investment dedicated to supporting our component districts' Integration Plan for Aligned Student Success implementation as required by HB 3427 Section, 25. In this pivotal role, the HDESD serves as the liaison between the Oregon Department of Education and the districts we serve to align for student success through integrating the following list of aligned programs for better coherence and impact: Student Investment Account; High School Success; Career and Technical Education Perkins V; Continuous Improvement Planning; Early Literacy; Every Day Matters; Small and Rural Schools Support; and Early Indicator Intervention Systems. Through regional leadership, coaching, professional development, and technical assistance, the HDESD helps our component districts improve access and opportunities for all students, especially those who have been historically underserved in the education system

For more details, please access the High Desert ESD's Comprehensive Support Plan.

Administrative and Support Services

DIRECT SERVICES: Services to HDESD component districts funded by the State School Fund.

Business Services: Provides full-service school district business administration services including payroll, accounts payable, grant administration, budget, audit administration and cash management.

Grant Writing: Assists component districts with grant applications.

Human Resource Services: Provides Human Resource services specific to the individual needs of a school district.

Legal Services: Provides general counsel legal services to component districts in the areas of school law, public administration, labor and employment relations, civil rights, and special education

Regional Benefit Support: Provides services in the enrollment and support of employee health benefits.

Regional Financial Systems (RFS) – Application Support: Provides financial application support or direct services to participating districts which could include the following: training, implementations, interfaces, application updates, hosting support, business process and workflow support.

Substitute Services: Provides an employee absence and substitute management system for certified teachers, classified educational assistants and secretarial substitutes. The program includes recruiting, hiring, scheduling and payroll for licensed and classified substitutes.

Programs or funding in addition to Local Service Plan dollars.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND CONTRACTS: Federal grants, state grants and contracts and contracts with component districts and agencies.

Home School Registration: All Home School families must register their child with HDESD annually.

Medicaid Administrative Claiming: Provides a revenue source for four school districts for FAN and Nursing Services.

Programs or funding in addition to Local Service Plan dollars.

ENTREPRENEURIAL: HDESD provides services to non-component districts if the services are currently provided to component districts and may provide savings or added value to component districts.

Regional Financial Systems (RFS) – Application Support: Provides financial application support or direct services to participating districts which could include the following: training, implementations, interfaces, application updates, hosting support, business process and workflow support.

Legal Services: Provides legal services to district boards and administrators. In an increasingly complex legal environment, this service is provided at a cost that is substantially lower than the going market rate.

Business Services: Provides full-service school district business administration services includingpayroll, accounts payable, grant administration, budget, audit administration and cash management.

Substitute Services: Provides an employee absence and substitute management system for certified teachers, classified educational assistants and secretarial substitutes. The program includes recruiting, hiring, scheduling and payroll for licensed and classified substitutes.

Children with Special Needs

DIRECT SERVICES: Services to HDESD component districts funded by the State School Fund.

Alternative, Summer & Extended School Year: Provides direct and supervisory services for alternative schools, summer schools and/or extended school year programs.

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA): Works with students with severe autism or communication deficits who benefit from Applied Behavior Analysis.

Behavior Programs: Provides services to children with emotional and/or behavioral problems that adversely affect the child's education performance.

Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education Evaluation Team: Provides evaluation for children birth to 5 as a Childfind service identifying children with disabilities.

Childfind: Provides free Childfind events in partnership with local educational, health care and social service organizations.

Professional Development: Provides professional development to districts supporting children with special needs.

Sign Language Interpreters K-12: The Sign Language Interpreter program serves Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) students.

Special Education: Provides ancillary special education services to children eligible under IDEA part B and C (children birth to 21). This includes Assistive Technology, Augmentative Communication, Occupation and Physical Therapy, Sign Language Interpretation and Braille/low vision support.

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Concussion Support: Provides support to families and districts to help students "return to learn" from a concussion.

Programs or funding in addition to Local Service Plan dollars.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND CONTRACTS: Federal grants, state grants and contracts and contracts with component districts and agencies.

K-12 Special Programs: K-12 Special Programs is a state contracted program that provides special education services to students with low-incidence disabilities in 7 counties. These include students with autism, vision impairments, severe orthopedic impairments, deaf/hard of hearing, deaf/blind and traumatic brain injuries.

Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education: Early Intervention (EI) and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) are specialized direct services for children, birth to Kindergarten with special needs. These services are offered throughout Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler, Harney counties and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

Healthy Families of the High Desert: Healthy Families of the High Desert is modeled after Oregon Healthy Start and funded by Healthy Families America. It is a voluntary home visitation program for families with newborns.

Transition Network: Facilitates capacity building to assist districts and community agencies in developing integrated employment for students with intellectual disabilities (ages 16 to 21 years).

Sagebrush Day Treatment: Sagebrush Day Treatment serves students in the region with behavior/emotional issues who require day treatment services. Students are placed in this program by an outside agency, with HDESD providing the educational services.

Integrated Plan for Aligned Student Success: Statewide Education Service Districts grant providing regional leadership, coaching, professional development, and technical assistance for Central Oregon school districts' Student Investment Account, High School Success, Career and Technical Education Perkins V, Continuous Improvement Planning, Early Literacy, Every Day Matters, Small and Rural Schools Support, and Early Indicator Intervention System implementation focused on improving access and opportunities for all students, especially those students who have been historically underserved in the education system.

Programs or funding in addition to Local Service Plan dollars.

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Assistive Technology K-12: Assistive Technology (AT) refers to any device orpiece of equipment that helps a student with disabilities access his or her education. The AT program provides equipment, evaluation, professional development and technical assistance.

Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy K-12: Children/students ranging in age from birth through 21 years of age with identified orthopedic impairments receive direct instruction and/or consultation services from licensed Occupational Therapists (OTs) and Physical Therapists (PTs). In addition, OTs and PTs consult with parents and district staff to provide any needed adaptive equipment.

Sign Language Interpreters K-12: The Sign Language Interpreter program serves Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) students.

School Improvement Services

DIRECT SERVICES: Services to HDESD component districts funded by the State School Fund.

Alternative Learning Options: Provides an annual evaluation of each alternative education program that is presented to the resident school Board of Directors for approval.

Better Together Central Oregon: Serves as Central Oregon's regional backbone for cross-district collaboration, coordinating community-rooted partnerships that improve student success from cradle to career. By aligning districts, families, and more than 400 cross-sector partners, Better Together strengthens early learning, attendance, and youth voice while reducing fragmentation, building trust, and advancing equitable outcomes.

Career and Technical Education: Consults with local school districts on School-To-Work initiatives, build Career and Technical Education programs in high schools and our community college; and provides state mandated vocational education program evaluations.

Language Access Services: Provides interpretation and translation services for languages other than English to school and district level for family, student and staff needs upon request and interpretation for non-special education purposes.

Regional School Safety/Safe School Alliance/Student Threat Assessment Team (STAS): Links school districts with public agencies to discuss and enhance policies and procedures that promote and ensure safety for students, teachers and staff. Provides direct student threat assessment services.

School Response Team: Provides the management and deployment of a cooperative, volunteer support team in response to a crisis such as the death of a student or staff person or some other traumatic incident. The team is made up of specially trained teachers, counselors, educational assistants, administrators, human service agency staff and community members who are willing to aid schools' agencies or communities.

Programs or funding in addition to Local Service Plan dollars.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND CONTRACTS: Federal grants, state grants and contracts and contracts with component districts and agencies.

Career and Technical Education (CTE): CTE provides support to districts with funding from a Carl Perkins grant.

Family Access Network (FAN): Through family advocates in public schools, the Family Access Network improves lives by ensuring all children in Crook and Deschutes County have access to basic-need services.

Juntos Aprendemos: Is a full-family, culturally specific early literacy program designed to increase the literacy and engagement outcomes of Latinx, Spanish speaking children 3-5 years and their families.

Regional Education Network: The Central Oregon Regional Educator Network (COREN), through the establishment of the Educator Advancement Council and SB 182, is tasked with bringing equitable access to professional learning opportunities within Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson County and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

STEM Hub: HDESD is the fiscal agent for the regional STEM hub grant, which provides direction, implementation support and all fiscal support to help create a hub for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math in our region.

Title 1-C Migrant Education Program: The Migrant Education Program identifies migrant families and helps migrant students with academic needs. All migrant students are eligible for free nutritional services through the schools and free 24-hour accident insurance. Region 11 serves the following school districts: Bend La Pine, Redmond, Sisters, Crook County, Jefferson County, 509J and Culver.

Integrated Plan for Aligned Student Success: Statewide Education Service Districts grant providing regional leadership, coaching, professional development, and technical assistance for Central Oregon school districts' Student Investment Account, High School Success, Career and Technical Education Perkins V, Continuous Improvement Planning, Early Literacy, Every Day Matters, Small and Rural Schools Support, and Early Indicator Intervention System implementation focused on improving access and opportunities for all students, especially those students who have been historically underserved in the education system.

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Culture of Care: Offers content-specific professional development and coaching services on items such as equity, restorative practices, and trauma-informed practices. This regional team builds tailored tools and resources for districts, schools, and individual educators.

Driver Education: Provides quality driver education and training that meets or exceeds the requirements set by the Oregon Department of Transportation.

School Social Work Coordination: Provides professional direction, support and supervision of existing and future (intern) school social workers.

Technology Services

DIRECT SERVICES: Services to HDESD component districts funded by the State School Fund.

Broadband Connection: Provides connection to regional broadband access to support bandwidth and technology infrastructure needs for learning and operations.

Information Security, including Cyber Security: Provides information security support and direct services to school districts, including policy frameworks, business continuity and disaster recovery planning, network and information security systems, user awareness training services, incident response planning services, and support to ensure the security of district dataand individual personally identifiable information (PII).

Information Services: Provides services and software that support districts' instructional and operational efficiency, including student information systems, data warehouses and analysis systems, database applications, operational data stores, programming and business analysis services, systems integrations services, workflow and automation services.

Network Services: Provides services and software that increase the interconnectivity, safety, and security of districts and schools, including internet access, network security, firewall, wireless networks, web filtering, endpoint security systems, building access hardware and software, security camera and related software systems.

Software and Systems Services: Provides services and software that increase the districts' operational efficiency and resilience, including enterprise software, student data privacy software, database applications, operational data stores, productivity tools, asset management systems, endpoint security systems, archiving and retention systems, backup and recovery systems.

Telecommunications Services: Provides services and software for regional and districts' communications infrastructure, including Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) hardware and software, physical and virtual phone hardware and software, E-Rate planning and consultation, and emergency response systems and services.

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