

Harney ESD and the Local Community

Education Service Districts originated in Oregon's first laws establishing a general system of common schools - a system that has maintained but changed the responsibilities of ESD's over the years. Today, each ESD provides regional services to its component school districts, primarily in areas that the school districts alone would not be able to adequately and equitably provide. The purpose of Oregon's Education Service Districts is defined in Oregon law (Oregon Revised Statute [ORS 334.005](#)): "Education Service Districts assist school districts and the State of Oregon in achieving Oregon's education goals by providing equitable educational opportunities for all of Oregon's public school students." Throughout the history of Oregon's regional services system, local governance and state statutes concerning the mission of ESDs has remained somewhat constant.

Harney Education Service District partners with Harney County educators to enhance the classroom learning experience for all students. Harney ESD provides education related services to Double O , Suntex, Drewsey, Pine Creek, Fields (South Harney S.D.), Diamond, Frenchglen, Crane Elementary, Crane Union High School and Burns/Hines School Districts. Harney ESD provides services to pre-school children through Harney County Head Start, Healthy Start, Great Start, Early intervention, and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE). Harney ESD also participates with other agency programs to strengthen family structures for a healthy community. Harney ESD provides Speech and Language services to children and students countywide.

Harney ESD provides technology to all Harney County School Districts through internet access, email, network services video conferencing and technology purchasing. Harney ESD also provides technology services to the community through Eastern Oregon Technology (EOT). EOT provides internet access as well as technology purchasing and support. This services provides revenue that the ESD uses to enhance technology support for schools and students. The Entrepreneurial Services of Eastern Oregon Technology is allowed and encouraged by the Oregon Legislature to provide additional revenue to the ESD to provide increased support for our students.

Today, there are 19 ESDs serving Oregon's 36 counties. Locally, Harney ESD employs 38 Educators, Technicians, Speech and Language Pathologists, Office Support Personnel and Para-professionals. The ESD contributes to the economy in Harney County by purchasing goods and services, providing wages and helping create a positive environment for children and students that attracts new residents to our communities.