



Jason Bowling, CEO
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Back to school: A season of learning and growth at SSVEC

As the new school year begins, the back-to-school season holds special significance for us at Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative (SSVEC). Here are the top three ways this season resonates with our mission and values:

1. Commitment to Education, Training, and Information

At SSVEC, one of our core guiding principles is the support of education, training, and information. We believe that educating and training our members, elected representatives, CEOs, and employees is crucial for the development and success of our cooperative. By fostering a well-informed community, we enhance cooperative understanding and engagement. This ongoing commitment helps everyone—from our members to our employees—contribute effectively to the cooperative's growth and service excellence.

2. Dedication to Youth and Community Education

Our foundation is deeply invested in the education of our youth and community. Programs like the Washington Youth Tour, Youth Engineering and Science Fair, and scholarships for college and trade schools are just a few ways we support education. This year, our new grant program, now in its third and final phase, has been a game-changer. It has enabled schools and teachers in our community to fund critical educational initiatives, such as equipping a science class with proper lab tables, creating an educational garden for elementary students, and supporting summer programs for local kids. We are currently accepting applications for Phase 3, the earliest of which are due by October 1.

3. Continuous Learning and Development in Our Industry

Our industry is complex and constantly evolving, which is why we place a high value on continuous learning for our employees. Fall is a particularly special time for our line workers, who participate in the Arizona Cooperative Line Worker Rodeo and the international rodeo in Kansas City. These events are not only competitive but also rich learning experiences, allowing our line workers to enhance their skills and knowledge. Additionally, many of our employees are engaged in leadership development projects focused on community service. Our democratically elected directors are also dedicating time this September to thoroughly studying the cooperative's performance and strategic plans, ensuring we stay on the path of progress and improvement.

For these and many other reasons, the back-to-school season is a time of renewal and growth for us at SSVEC. We are proud to celebrate this season by reinforcing our commitment to education, community support, and continuous improvement. Thank you for being a part of our cooperative family, and here's to a successful and inspiring school year ahead!

Cooperatively,
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