

Dr. Lake Visits Yoncalla

Dr. Johnny Lake visited the leadership classes at the elementary and high school. He is a nationally certified and internationally recognized speaker and trainer in programs focused on leadership, diversity, community-building, cross-cultural interactions skills, promoting equity and ethics. This is Dr. Lake's third visit to Yoncalla this year. In his two previous visits, he spent time with the Yoncalla staff talking about the many complex questions in talking about equity in small rural communities. The Yoncalla School District has been consulting with Dr. Lake over the past few years.

The leadership students at both schools were mesmerized with Dr. Lakes leadership abilities. "I am often referred to as a paradigm shifter," he wrote on his <u>website at www.drjohnnylake.org</u>. "While this is true, I view myself more as a story sharer because, once we share a story, we'll never be strangers again." Students at both schools share this message. Riley Templeton said, "Dr. Lake all of your lessons were amazing." While Aaliyah Singler stated, "I felt the presentations was super good." Finally, Kim Holtz said, "I love the way Dr. Lake views the world."

After such a successful visit, the students at Yoncalla are asking for Dr. Lake to visit more often. It is the Districts goal to provide students access to his unique leadership skills and ability to have open

conversations about leadership, equity and community building. As YHS student Gino Martinez-Gray said, "Dr. Lake truly is an amazing speaker. He is an amazing mind and makes his points and challenges us to think outside the box."

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UCC Collaboration

Yoncalla High School and UCC are collaborating on a work based integration into rural education (WIRE) grant. This grant is designed to help high school graduation rates and college enrollment rates, as well as improve employment and apprenticeship opportunities for our students.

In the classroom, the Yoncalla School District will have staff coordinate with UCC to increase postsecondary and career awareness and planning into classroom activities. The YHS senior success class and career class will integrate information on the WIRE program and encourage students to seek out information relevant to their career interests. In addition, the YHS AVID program will incorporate information from and about WIRE to serve our middle school population. We expect this partnership with Umpqua Community College to increase awareness of postsecondary opportunities and careers for our students and their families.



Mathew Slocum Yoncalla Middle School January



Aeryn Browning Yoncalla High School January

Middle/High School Students of the Month

Yoncalla School District Priorities

- 1. Each student will enjoy positive, engaging learning environments.
- Each child will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to be successful in post secondary education and careers, and the self-reliance to be a productive citizen.
- A strong sense of community is recognized and nurtured among all stakeholders
- Facilities and finances are managed effectively and efficiently for the benefit of each child.

YSD Awarded Educator Well Being Grant

COVID has wreaked havoc with the world as we know it. Staff, students, and administration have all felt the impact in one way or another. Throughout this school year the Yoncalla School District has been looking for ways to ease the stress that COVID has brought upon us.

With this in mind, the YSD has been awarded a grant of \$7000 that focuses on educator health and well-being. OEA Choice Trust is making available three million dollars for school districts, education service districts and community colleges to support the health and well-being of Oregon public school employees.

This funding is in response to the emotional toll caused by the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19 and rising racial and political tensions. Now that the funding has been acquired, the YSD administrative staff will be brainstorming ideas on mental health and well -being for its employees. A healthy staff will help to strengthen the educational process and meet the priorities set by the Yoncalla School Board for our students moving forward.



Math Game of the Month – January Jenga

Jenga is an awesome game! When playing it, students/kids get the chance to problem solve, think critically, and work together, which is why it is our Math Game of the Month for January. In this month's game, we focusing on number identification (prime vs. composite), factors and multiples.

To play this game, in groups of no more than four, kids will select cards with numbers on them and choose a color to move. Based on the color of the Jenga piece they choose to mover, the students will answer a question related to factors and multiples, using the number on the card they selected. They will track their answers and work on a piece of paper. To get all of the resources for this game, google "Jennifer Findley, Jenga" or use the QR code in this article.



Directions: Select a number card (these can be found online by googling "Jennifer Findley, Jenga or by using the QR Code to the right, and printed). Choose a block to remove. Complete the task that matches the color for the block that you want to remove with the number on the card. Repeat with each turn.

Red block: Is 72 a multiple of your number? Explain. Pink block: Create a factor tree for your number. Yellow block: Make a list of the first five multiples of your number.

Green block: Make a list of all the factors of your number. Blue block: Is your number prime or composite? Explain. Purple block: Is 2 a factor of your number? Explain.

You're Not Alone

by Aaliyah Singler

you're not alone. Alone would be if your blood stopped flowing through your beautiful body.

you're not alone. Alone would be if your heart stopped beating, like the beautiful harmony of a drum.

you're not alone. Alone would be if your lungs no longer pulled for the purest air.

you're not alone. How could she even fathom feeling this way? she has a whole community living inside her. Her body lives for her.



That Day by Megan Morrill

The skies are grey, the skies are grey, Why does it have to be that way? The rain will fall, the snow will melt, And so will the feelings I've ever felt.

The sun will shine, the sun will shine, My confidence will grow, tall as a pine, Bright like my future, green as the grass, Letting all of the bad things come to pass.

Children will laugh, and bullies will cry, Just like it was, with you and i. The birds will peck the ground alone, Just like your heart was made of stone.

Never to break, never to crumble, But hope that you stay, sweet and humble, Never to fall, never to break, Just like you did on that certain day.









