

Eagle



Update

Yoncalla, Oregon

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Introducing the Oregon Unified Basketball Champions



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Led by fearless leader, Jerry Fauci, assisted by Matt Sybrant, the North Umpqua Unified Basketball team beat Park Rose High School in a 49-46 nail biter, to finish their undefeated season to take the state championship.

Unified Team Takes State Title

The Unified basketball team of Yoncalla and Elkton, won the state basketball title for Special Olympics Oregon on Saturday. OSAA and Special Olympics Oregon have forged an alliance to help promote the inclusive nature of Special Olympics. As a result of the partnership, Unified Sports has grown steadily in the last dozen years. During this time, Yoncalla has taken part in events such as the Polar Plunge and being part of the Unified basketball team.

This year, Yoncalla High School special education teacher, Jerry Fauci, took over the head coaching reigns. He has always been a proponent of inclusive activities for students in his classroom along with getting regular education students involved as well. Because of this staunch stance towards inclusion of his students, the stigma of special education students being an part of the student body is non-existent. Superintendent Brian Berry said, "We are so fortunate to have a person like Jerry running the program at the high school. He loves his kids and makes sure that all students are treated with respect. What a leader!"

This past weekend, the Unified team from Yoncalla/Elkton traveled to Forest Grove to take on Oregon City and in the championship game Parkrose. While taking on two schools that have more students in their graduating class than Yoncalla has in the entire high school, in true Cinderella fashion, the Unified team fought to the end!



While trailing by 4 at halftime and 3 by the end of the 3rd quarter, the students never gave up. Even trailing with 40 seconds left by 1 point, the athletes came up with two turnovers and went up 3 with seven seconds to go. As Fauci pumped up his team, they came out of the timeout fired up and showed a stifling defense as Parkrose was not able to get up a shot and the celebration began!

Congratulations to the Unified team and for representing Yoncalla and Douglas County with pride.

Soccer Makes an Appearance at YSD

With soccer gaining in popularity especially with younger kids, Yoncalla School District has partnered with Dr. Kanani Dilcher to bring a youth soccer program to Yoncalla.

Dr. Dilcher has been the youth soccer coach at Elkton for a few years and approached the administration at Yoncalla with a similar proposal. After several conversations with Dr. Dilcher and working out all of the logistical issues, Yoncalla youth soccer had its first official practice last week. A total of 12 students showed up and Dr. Dilcher is hoping to field 2 teams from Yoncalla. "It is an exciting start to this new adventure," stated Superintendent Brian Berry. "I have had several elementary students ask me when we were going to have a soccer team. The answer for the Yoncalla students is now!"

Dr. Dilcher has spent a great deal of her time looking over the facilities and working with principal, Erin Helgren, at the elementary school to get things up and going.

As of right now, the soccer team will be using the high school football field for practices, but there is a long-term plan of building a soccer field at the high school along Eagle Valley Road. This field would be part of the sports complex that includes the improvements at the softball field, the renovation of both Elder and Baker fields for baseball, and the upcoming work for revamping the tee ball fields. This is also a continuation of the Yoncalla School Boards practice of working with youth sports to build a better and stronger community.



Yoncalla School

District Priorities

1. Each student will enjoy positive, engaging learning environments.
2. 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.
3. A strong sense of community is recognized and nurtured among all stakeholders
4. Facilities and finances are managed effectively and efficiently for the benefit of each child.



Yoncalla Takes the Plunge

Members of the Yoncalla High School staff and students took part in the annual Polar Plunge that supports athletes in Special Olympics Oregon. The Plunge was held in six different locations throughout Oregon. The team from Yoncalla participated at the Eugene site. At the event, each team was tasked with dressing up in costumes or matching outfits and plunging into the ice cold Willamette River.

Yoncalla's own Jerry Fauci and 12 students from Yoncalla and several others from Elkton made up the Unified Special Olympics team. Each team member was tasked with raising money for the plunge. The Unified team raised a total of \$825.00 for this important event. Fauci said, "Unified Special Olympics and the Polar Plunge bring people together, break down stereotypes, and promote inclusion. Yoncalla students naturally excel in these areas, and we have so much fun at these events!"

The Unified Team from Yoncalla will also be participating in other events that promote the inclusive nature of Special Olympics. Congratulations to Mr. Fauci and the students from Yoncalla for stepping up and understanding the importance of this event and modeling what it is like to represent



State Testing Coming Soon

Each year there are always questions from concerned parents about state testing and how these tests influence decisions on student progress. With state testing at the Yoncalla School District fast approaching, we thought we would provide some of these answers to parents in advance.

Oregon test results are designed to provide an indication of whether students are making progress toward mastery of state content standards. While they do not affect grade promotion or retention, they do help the District implement academic improvement plans for students who are having challenges with these standards. These scores also help the District when planning for summer activities, classes for credit recovery, grants that are written for the district, and possible scholarships for students.

Currently, Oregon's Statewide Assessment System (OSAS) includes summative assessments administered annually by subject matter and grade. These assessments are required per federal and state requirements. Oregon public schools test students in English language arts and math in grades 3 through 8 & 11 and science in grades 5, 8, & 11. In order to meet the state participation requirements for testing, Yoncalla School District must encourage students to take part in these tests.

If you have any questions about the Yoncalla School District upcoming testing schedule, please contact our Dean of Students and testing coordinator Chelsea Ross at 541-849-2175.

Middle/High School Students of the Month - March

Bradley Slocum
Yoncalla Middle School
March 2023



Ezera Gilford
Yoncalla High School
March 2023



New Softball Scoreboard Installed

If you drive by the softball field you will see a new addition. We have a new scoreboard!



The old scoreboard began to have issues last season, so the softball team did some fundraising and the District matched the funds to put up a new scoreboard.

The board itself is much larger and has been installed with metal poles instead of wood, as the district hopes to provide longer life with the new addition. It has also been moved over a bit towards left center field instead of the old position out in left field. The coaches and team are very excited about the new addition. This upgrade goes along with the previous upgrades to the

field and the fencing.

The district continues to invest in our youth and help to build a sports complex that will meet the needs of not only the students but the community at large.



Students showing off their skills in the Oregon Logging Conference competition.

YHS College Spotlight

Linfield University

Located in McMinnville, Oregon, Linfield University (formerly Linfield College) is a private school. Linfield has three different schools - the College of Arts and Science, the School of Business, and the School of Nursing. Some of their majors include: Biology, Applied Physics, Elementary Education, Music, Accounting, Sports Management, and Nursing.

The average class size at Linfield is 14 and there are under 2,000 students who attend, making it a great school for students who want to small college.

While their tuition may be expensive, don't let that prevent you from thinking about it. Linfield has an Endowment of 104.7 million as of June 2022, approx. 77% of students receive financial assistance and the average aid package is almost \$40,000!



Where?
Linfield,
Oregon
~132 miles
from Yoncalla



Tuition and Fees
\$47,345
Housing and Meals
\$16,400

YHS Career Spotlight

Dental Hygienist



Oregon Average
\$37.41 per hour
(as of May 2021)

Dental hygienists examine patients for signs of oral diseases, such as gingivitis, and provide preventive care, including oral hygiene.

How do I become one?

Complete a Dental Hygiene Program at a Community College like Lane or Mt. Hood.

Some of their specific job duties can include:

- remove tartar, stains and plaque from teeth;
- apply sealants and fluorides to help protect teeth;
- take and develop dental x-rays;
- assess a patient's oral health and report their findings to a dentist; and
- help educate patients about how to brush and floss correctly.



Get Educated

High school students interested in becoming dental hygienists should take courses in biology, chemistry, and math.

