



COMMUNITY AND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

www.marshfielddalumni.org

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Class of 2020 Scholarship Recipient Feature: **Yoselin Aguirre-Perez**

Yoselin is in her 3rd year at Portland State University's Honors College majoring in Social Work and minoring in Spanish. She plans to earn her bachelor's degree at the end of this school year. Yoselin intends to earn her master's degree by the end of her 4th year at PSU.

While at MHS, Yoselin made the most of her time. She held the demanding position of coordinator of the MHS Charity Program and was editor in chief of the yearbook for two years. In addition, Yoselin completed 90 college credits to earn her associates degree.

Yoselin gives credit to MHS Activities Coordinator, Jennifer Bunnell, for offering guidance and opportunities to take on positions of responsibility. Jennifer states that Yoselin was always dependable, motivated and caring of other students. These experiences helped her have the organizational skills to take advantage of educational opportunities at PSU related to her career goals. Yoselin also credits ASPIRE Advisor, Cricket Soules, for urging her to be involved in MHS activities.

As she did at MHS, Yoselin makes the most of her waking hours at PSU. She is enrolled in 19 credits. Yoselin has a paid 20 hours/week job as a volunteer coordinator at a student



Yoselin Aguirre-Perez

resource center. She also spends 16 hours/week as an intern at UNICA, which is an organization that assists survivors of domestic and sexual abuse in the Latino community to have full and productive lives. Yoselin is currently working on the crisis hotline. Finally, being in the Honor's College involves writing a thesis during the school year. The topic of her thesis is "Colonialism's Impact on the Concept of 'machismo' and How This Resulted in the Lack of Domestic Violence Shelters in Latin America".

When asked about her career goals, Yoselin states, "I would like to work with refugees and the undocumented community. I was made aware of the lack of resources for these marginalized communities when I was very young, and ever since then I knew that I needed to be the change I want to see."

Yoselin was awarded the following scholarships at MHS: Everett and Maybelle Chamley Memorial, 4 years at \$5000/year; Mary, Kate and Cap Sharples, \$1500; Class of '66, \$1100; Conrad-Grant, \$500; and the Madison Elementary Alumni, \$500. While at PSU, Yoselin has been awarded the prestigious Rosenbaum Scholarship that provided \$2000 in addition to a much sought-after internship.

Yoselin states that scholarships have enabled her to keep her student loans to a minimum and will allow her to complete her master's degree in four years. Without the scholarships she would have to cut back on educational experiences that are so important to her career goal. She also would have to spend an additional year in college and take on a much greater amount of debt. The four-year Chamley Scholarship is especially beneficial because the final year of college is often the most difficult for students to afford.

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS ESTABLISHED

There are currently more than 85 endowed scholarships in the MHS Community & Memorial Scholarship Program and we are proud to announce the most recent group of endowed scholarships to be added to our list:

Wallace E. Johnson & Susan Talley-Johnson Scholarship

Kristle Volin Memorial Scholarship

Patsy Downer DeMent Nursing Scholarship

Linda Clem Scholarship

Vern King Memorial V/T Scholarship

Richard "Mac" MacIntosh & Wally Hazen Scholarship

Thank You Notes:

I'm honored that you are supporting me through the Albert Pranatis Memorial Scholarship to help me attend OSU. I'm very excited to pursue a career in Cyber Security! This is something I have been interested in for a very long time and I will now be able to make it a reality. You have truly changed my life. — LS



Featured Scholarship Committee Member: Arnie Roblan

50 Years of Working for Student Success

Arnie Roblan has been a part of Marshfield High School for over 50 years. In 1972, after graduating from the University of Washington, Arnie was hired to teach math at Marshfield. He and his wife Arlene moved to Coos Bay and, as the years passed, they welcomed Amy, Aaron, and Ali to the family. Arnie was named to the position of Marshfield’s Dean of Students in 1979 and, 10 years later, was selected as Principal of Marshfield High School. Arnie received the prestigious national Milken Educational Award in 1997 and retired from public education in 2004.

After retiring from Coos Bay Schools, Arnie was elected to the Oregon House of Representatives. He held that office from 2005 until 2012 and was elected Co-Speaker of the Oregon House during his final term in the House. Arnie was elected to the Oregon State Senate in 2012 and served in the Oregon Senate until 2020.

Arnie said he ran for the Oregon legislature because of the lack of adequate educational funding in Oregon. “When I left Marshfield, I decided I needed to follow the advice I gave so many students over the years: ‘When you see something is wrong, don’t just complain about it,

do something to change it.’ For the 15 years I served in the Oregon legislature I worked to improve the level of state education funding.” Arnie co-chaired the Joint Student Success Committee which culminated in passage of the Student Success Act in 2019. This legislation provides stable and sustainable funding for Oregon’s K-12 education system at long last.

Arnie credits his time at Marshfield with helping him as a legislator. “At Marshfield I learned how important it is to be a good listener and to look for ways to work together—to find things we can agree on. This helped me build relationships with people of different points of view and be able to work across the aisle.”

After leaving the legislature, Arnie ran a successful campaign for a seat on the Coos Bay School Board. He said, “I saw some troubled school boards around Oregon, and I wanted to help Coos Bay avoid those troubles if I could. I also thought I might be able to help Coos Bay realize the vision of the Student Success Act.”

Arnie is the current School Board Representative to the Marshfield Scholarship Committee but was also a founding member of the Scholarship Committee in the 1990’s. He said,



Arnie Roblan

“Kids need the affirmation that others believe in them to be successful. When you give a student a scholarship you are investing in them, and they feel that. We live in a poor community and so many of our students are the first in their families to go to college, making it especially important for them to have this support.”

We are delighted to have Arnie Roblan back in Coos Bay and returning to service on the Marshfield Scholarship Committee. Arnie lives up to the motto he has quoted so often, “Once a Pirate, always a Pirate!” Welcome home, Arnie!

Thank You Notes:

I am incredibly grateful for the generosity of this committee who have significantly reduced the financial burden of mine and my classmates’ educations. — EC

I will use this money for anything I may need to get ready for my college career. Even more important however, I’m grateful that you have seen my potential and believe in me enough to give me this money. Even if you had only given me \$1.00 I would be incredibly grateful for what it means, not just the amount of money. So thank you again for your kindness, generosity, and compassion. — LJ

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE?

You will find everything you always wanted to know about the MHS Scholarship Program, at www.marshfieldalumni.org From the home page, you can check out the **MHS Class of 2022 Scholarship Awards Slideshow** or see **Funding Sources Explained**. Or, just click on the **Scholarships Tab** to see the long list of **Endowed Scholarships** and their criteria, read through past editions of the **MHS Scholarship Newsletter**, or find out how you can become an important part of this MHS Scholarship Program by clicking on **How to Donate**. Check it out!!

HOW ARE WE DOING? - BY THE NUMBERS:

45 = Members of the MHS Class of 2022 applied for and were awarded scholarships (26 females, 19 males)

27/45 = Number of Applicants with 3.5 GPA, or better

37/45 = Number of Applicants with 3.0 GPA, or better

10 = Applicants awarded multi-year awards totaling \$152,850.00 (5 male/5 female)

\$100,900 = Total awards to Voc/Tech recipients (single & multi-yr awards)

\$337,768.00 = Total of all scholarships awarded to the Class of 2022. This total does not reflect the 3 Ford Foundation Scholarships that were awarded to three of the 45 applicants. Ford Family Scholarships cover 90% of the recipient’s unmet college expenses.



Voc Tech Recipient Success Story: Chase Howerton

Chase Howerton received a two-year \$1500 Johansen Family Voc Tech scholarship prior to his graduation from Marshfield in June, 2019. Chase enrolled in the Fire Science program at Southwestern Oregon Community College (SWOCC) that fall. Chase, a talented athlete, also received a track scholarship from SWOCC, and served as Captain of the SWOCC Track and Field Team for two years. Chase completed his associate's degree in Fire Science in June of 2022 and was hired by the Charleston Rural Fire Protection district as a Fire Fighter Engineer on July 25, 2022.

When explaining why a career fighting fires was the right fit for him, Chase said, "I've always looked up to people who put their life on the line for others and I like the "brotherhood" or "sisterhood" aspect of the fire service. It truly does feel as if you leave one family and go to work to be with your other family for 48 hours. And, as a firefighter, you go into people's homes and see them at their worst moments and so the ability to show empathy is important. That is a strong trait of mine."

The fire fighter training program is rigorous, Chase said. "During my three years of training I earned many public safety certifications in addition to my associate's degree. I also became a licensed EMT in the state of Oregon. I did a full year as a student intern. Being a student intern



requires lots of time. You work 2 days and have 4 days off. You attend trainings and drill nights as well as having to get all your homework done. It can be overwhelming, but it is definitely worth it in the end."

Chase told us about his new job. "As a Firefighter/Engineer you make sure that the truck is in working order and that it has all the needed equipment on it. As an Engineer you are the operator of the fire engine. When the alarm goes off for a call you are responsible for getting the engine and everyone in it to the call safely. It is also your job to supply water to the hose lines when needed during fire operations."

Chase is happy to start his career within a few miles of where he was born. "I have always loved this area and I've always known that I wanted to stay and give back to the community that raised me," Chase said. He also told us that scholarships were a huge help. "The scholarships that you give out really do change people's lives. For me it was one of my biggest stress relievers and allowed me to really focus on my studies and not stress about the money aspect of college. With the help of these scholarships, I came out of SWOCC with an associate's degree and the knowledge that I can start my job debt free. And for that words can't describe how thankful I am."

Meet Coos Bay Schools Superintendent: Charis McGaughy

Dr. Charis McGaughy became Superintendent of Coos Bay Public Schools in July of this year. Prior to assuming this post, she served as Interim Superintendent of the South Coast Education Service District in Coos Bay and as the Assistant Superintendent for Public Instruction in the Eugene School District. Dr. McGaughy has also been a director at the Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC) and worked for state governmental agencies in both Texas and Tennessee. Charis began her career as a teacher, first in Houston, Texas and later in Boston, Massachusetts. Charis earned her master's degree from the University of Texas and her PhD from Vanderbilt University.

Charis said she applied for the superintendent position because she loves the Oregon coast and working as the leader of Coos Bay Schools was a dream job for her. She wanted to be an educator because of a firm belief that everyone deserves a chance to achieve the American Dream and to have a fair shot in life. "And education is the key to making that possible. My passion is finding ways to make every student successful."

Dr. McGaughy said that she will spend much of her first year as Coos Bay Superintendent working to establish trust and build relationships among the students, families, school staff and community members of the school district. She plans to hold a series of listening sessions to receive input on the issues that matter most to people. She will also look for ways to help students recover from some of the damaging

after-effects of the Covid pandemic.

Charis says she feels very fortunate to assume her new position at a time when two new school buildings—East-side and Marshfield Junior High—have opened and a refreshed and remodeled Madison Elementary has just reopened its doors. Charis said the benefit of the new and refurbished school buildings goes well beyond the structures themselves. "The quality of our schools is symbolic of the value this community puts on education. Adults in this community are committed to providing the best education to our students, and the children feel that. The community takes pride in our schools."

Charis said that she was grateful to receive scholarships to help her pay for college. "These scholarships allowed me to get a wonderful education. Scholarships and financial aid grants open doors for students who would otherwise be unable to afford college. The scholarship program at Marshfield High School is a huge help to our students. I am so proud to be part of a school district that so generously supports its students and their goals for the future."





Marshfield Staff Member Feature: Principal Eli Ashton

Eli Ashton traveled a circuitous route to becoming Principal at Marshfield High School. His original career plan was to work in physical therapy or sports medicine and he says, "Education was actually my fallback plan."

Eli graduated from Sutherlin High School in 1997. He enrolled in Pacific University, majoring in Kinesiology. After some struggles, Eli stepped away from college for a time, joined the Army, and spent two years on active duty. He returned to college in 2002, changed his major to Elementary Education, and earned a bachelor's degree from Northwest Christian University in 2005.

Eli knew he was on the right track at last. He said, "I loved my student teaching experiences and I felt this was my calling." He spent 10 years teaching 4th and 5th graders in Phoenix, Arizona while earning a master's degree in Educational Leadership and a second master's degree in Bilingual/Multicultural Education from Northern Arizona University. He also spent many hours officiating soccer, baseball, and basketball games from middle school to the college level.

In March of 2015, Eli accepted a position as an elementary principal with the Coos Bay School District. That summer Eli, his wife Shirly and their



Principal Eli Ashton

children Isabel, Jase, and Will moved to Coos Bay. But, here again, Eli's professional life took an unexpected turn. Although Eli was hired as an elementary school principal his job assignment had changed radically over the intervening five months. "When I was told I would be Dean of Students at Marshfield High School, I was definitely anxious. I had been working in an elementary school and trained to be an elementary administrator. I knew nothing about being a high school administrator."

But Eli found that he worked well with high school students and succeeded in his new role. After three years as Dean, Eli became Principal at Madison Elementary School. Reflecting on these experiences, Eli said, "Being Dean taught me how to handle difficult conversations, and work with individuals on some of their worst days. Being the principal at a K – 2 school reinvigorated my inner goof ball and gave me the chance to help students build essential foundational skills. And both administrative roles taught me the importance of building positive and meaningful relationships with students and families."

Eli returned to Marshfield in the fall of 2021, this time as its principal. He says his goals at Marshfield are, "to lead our school, staff, and students out of the Covid years and back to what school was like before the pandemic. I want to create an environment where students and staff feel comfortable, safe, accepted, and where Marshfield is a place they just enjoy being. During my tenure, I want our students to add to the legacy and traditions of MHS and inspire the community to continue to be involved." Eli concluded by saying, "Being the principal at Marshfield High School has been the most rewarding and enjoyable position I have held in my 18-year career."

SAMPLE COST OF ATTENDANCE

SWOCC Cost of Attendance (COA = total yearly cost) 2022-23

- Full time student living at home is about **\$13,000**
- Full time student living in student housing or on their own is about **\$18,000**

Some Oregon Public 4-Year COA 2022-23

full time students living in student housing:

- University of Oregon **\$33,639**
- Oregon State University **\$30,870**
- Western Oregon University **\$25,158**

Some Private Colleges in Oregon COA 2022-23 (Sticker Prices)

full time students living in student housing:

- Willamette University **\$65,047**
- Pacific University **\$69,330**
- George Fox University **\$55,540**
- Linfield University **\$64,815**

Thank You Notes:

- I would like to say thank you for giving me this large sum of money to further my education. It is not every day you get someone to help you out toward college. Thank you again for believing in me! — BL*
- Thank you for investing your time and consideration in me. The funds you have awarded me with will help me pay my expenses when I attend Western Oregon University and pursue a career in law enforcement. I am thankful and honored in receiving the scholarship. — AH*

Third Generation Junior High Science Teacher and Coach: Rylee Trendell

Rylee was an MHS Class of 2016 graduate. He attended Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, where he majored in biology and graduated in 2020.

After college, Rylee did biological field work performing surveys and stream restorations. However, Rylee was feeling the call to do something different. He always thought his career would involve educating young people although he assumed it would be as part of his career working in the fish and wildlife field.

As Rylee was contemplating a career change, Marshfield Junior High had an opening in the science department and Rylee was asked if he was interested. Rylee was interested so he applied and was offered the position. Rylee began his teaching career last year at Marshfield Junior High as a science teacher and coach. It was a challenging time to be a teacher during the height of the Covid pandemic adaptations all schools had to make. However, Rylee enjoyed his first year, thanks in part to the valuable mentoring he received from fellow science teacher, Sonia McMackin, and chose to return this year.

Rylee is the third generation of his family to teach junior high/middle school science and coach in Coos Bay Schools. Rylee’s grandfather, Oliver



Rylee Trendell

“Bud” Trendell taught science at Marshfield Junior High and coached several sports for many years. Rylee’s father Bryan taught science for several years at Sunset Middle School and coached multiple sports before becoming an administrator in Coos Bay Schools. Bryan held numerous administrative positions before becoming Superintendent of Coos Bay Schools. Now there is Rylee, carrying on the Trendell family legacy of teaching 7th and 8th grade science and coaching.

Rylee says that the idea of following in his father’s and grandfather’s footsteps was a factor in his career choice. Schools were a comfortable and positive place for him growing up because of his father’s and grandfather’s positive experiences in the field. Rylee also credits his

MHS senior interview with being a factor. MHS science teacher, Chelsey Seedborg, was part of the senior class interview team and she told Rylee that if he were to become a science teacher in the Coos Bay Schools he would be a valued addition. That comment stuck with him.

Rylee was awarded the following MHS scholarships: Jason Forrester Memorial, \$3600; F. Willis Smith, \$1000; and Pete and Marcella Susick, \$1000. Rylee says they were a big help in affording college. Rylee also credits the Coos Bay Student Loan Fund with helping him afford college. The low interest rate and ease of application were greatly appreciated.

The students of Coos Bay Schools have been fortunate to have had Bud and Bryan educating them. The students are equally fortunate to have another Trendell following in the family tradition as an educator.



Rylee, Bryan, Oliver “Bud” Trendell

Thank You Notes:

I am beyond grateful that you recognize the efforts that I am putting towards my future. This opportunity you have given me has inspired me and motivated me to keep furthering my education. As I complete my education at OSU, I will be getting my Bachelor’s of Business Administration and management in hopes to make an impact in my community. — IRS

MHS ALUMNI CLASS ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Class of 1962 = **\$64,674.00**

Class of 1963 = **\$63,543.00**

Class of 1966 = **\$30,480.00**

Class of 1954 = **\$21,453.00**

Class of 1956 = **\$17,598.00**

Class of 1969 = **\$6,675.00***

* Not yet endowed, but “Come on Class of ‘69, we’re pulling for you!”

THANKS TO YOU, WE’RE CONTINUING TO GROW!!

As of January 1, 2022, Quarterly reports from the Oregon Community Foundation showed the following balances:

MHS General Endowment = **\$5,613,920.00**

(all non-V/T endowed scholarships)

MHS V/T Endowment = **\$1,571,881.00**

TOTAL MHS Endowed Scholarship Funds = \$7,185,801.00



Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!

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