



# COMMUNITY AND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

## MHS Class of 2015 Scholarship Recipient: Colby Gillette

“What do you want to be when you grow up?” Colby Gillette had a clear vision of his future career from a young age. Inspired by his father, who was a registered nurse, Colby knew he wanted to follow in his footsteps. After moving to Coos Bay and attending Millicoma Middle School and Sunset Jr High School, Colby graduated from Marshfield in 2015. His favorite subjects were math and science, and he says that his science teacher, Chelsey Seedborg, stands out as one of his favorites. During his time at Sunset Junior High and MHS, Colby participated in cross country, dedicating himself to rigorous training with the Marshfield Track Team, running an impressive 70 miles per week. His commitment and hard work as a student paid off, as he was awarded the Joycolyn and Walter Joslin Memorial Scholarship and the Stan Solomon Memorial Scholarship upon graduating from MHS. These scholar-



ships played a crucial role in helping Colby avoid student loans.

By the time Colby graduated, he had already completed most of the prerequisites for the Nursing program at SWOCC. However, he decided to take a year off before enrolling full-

time and pursuing his license as a registered nurse. During this time, he became certified nurse assistant and gained valuable work experience before being accepted into and completing the Nursing Program at SWOCC. In 2020, Colby joined the Bay Area Cancer Center where he now serves as the BACC Infusion Charge Nurse. His professional goals include becoming certified as an Oncology Charge Nurse.

When asked about his influences and heroes, Colby immediately credited his father for shaping his life decisions. In 2020, Colby married his wife Gemma, who is also a healthcare professional as a dental hygienist. Outside of work, Colby enjoys playing frisbee golf. He appreciates living in a community that values education and is grateful for the scholarships that allowed him to pursue his RN program without financial strain on his parents or the need for loans. He plans to further his education and earn a bachelor's degree in the future.

### SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AND AWARDS IN 2023

There are currently 67 General Fund endowed scholarships and 18 Voc/Tech Fund endowed scholarships, that total \$6,775,132, in endowed funds (as of 6/30/23). The MHS Community & Memorial Scholarship Committee also administers pass-through scholarships and grants that offer financial assistance to graduating seniors from MHS who apply for them. Here is a breakdown of the awards given to the MHS Class of 2023:

- \$444,560 = Total Awards from 157 scholarships, not counting the Ford Family Foundation Scholarship
- \$94,160 = Total Awards to those who said they were going to SWOCC
- \$76,300 = Total V/T Awards
- 55 = MHS Recipients (39 Female, 16 male)
- 7 = Multi-Yr Awards
- 4 = Voc/Tech Recipients





## Looking For A Reason To Be a Scholarship Donor?



### Thank You Notes:

*I've tried my hardest to keep pursuing education for my parents and myself but I got stumped when I realized how much of a financial burden it really is. Thanks to your kindness I'm able to pursue my otherwise hopeless dream. Thank you for allowing me to keep going. — MCY*

*I am so honored to have been awarded a Merit Scholarship. I feel so very blessed to have been seen for my hard work put in during my time at Marshfield. This will cover all my book and fee expenses while at SWOCC, making my associates degree completely paid. I am thankful everyday! — SW*

*The Isabel Galloway Memorial Scholarship will aid me in reaching my goal to become a registered nurse. I am beyond grateful for your help. I will be attending SWOCC in honor of your belief in me. — AD*

1. To make education affordable and to encourage a young person to obtain an education that can lead to a productive life
2. To recognize and reward students who have demonstrated academic excellence, creativity, leadership, or community service
3. To let students know that people believe in their ability to be successful
4. To honor the memory or legacy of an individual or organization in perpetuity
5. To encourage philanthropy, give back to society, support future generations and inspire others to do the same
6. To reduce a student's debt load allowing her/him to fully participate in America's economy
7. To create a rewarding experience for both the donor and the recipient

At SWOCC, students who receive scholarships are 9% more likely to complete their program of study.

### Minimum Endowment Amount to Increase in 2024

In 1990, the Coos Bay School District and the Oregon Community Foundation entered into an agreement to create a scholarship endowment fund. Back then, the minimum amount needed to establish an endowed scholarship was \$10,000. This amount would generate a payout of approximately \$500, which was equivalent to 5% of the endowment. Adjusting for inflation, the value of \$500 in 1990 would be \$1,177.00 in 2023.

In 2006, the minimum endowment amount was increased to \$12,500. However, it has become evident that this adjustment has not kept up with inflation and the increasing expenses associated with education over the course of 17 years. Consequently, starting from January 1, 2024, pending School Board approval, the minimum amount necessary to establish an endowment will be increased to \$25,000. This adjustment aims to provide a minimum payout of \$1,000 for scholarships, which will be based on a payout rate ranging from 4.0% to 5.0%.

### 2022-23 MHS COMMUNITY & MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE

- Eli Ashton
- Laurie Brands
- Linda Bufton
- Jennifer Bunnell \*
- Bill Burgher
- Les Engle \*
- Jay Farr
- Mary Jane Hargens
- John Helfrich
- Lou Leberti
- Jay Messerle
- Floyd Montiel \*
- Arnie Roblan \*
- Cap Sharples \*
- Gina Sutherland \*
- Bryan Trendell \*

\*Steering Committee Members

### STUDENT LOAN FACTS

- Average student loan debt in 2023 - \$38,000
- Average monthly payment - \$502
- Average length of time to pay off student loans - 20+ years



## Voc/Tech Scholarship Recipient: Emily Kirk Esthetician-in-Training

2023 Marshfield graduate Emily Kirk started thinking seriously about becoming an esthetician as a freshman. An esthetician is a skin care professional who performs facials, applies makeup, removes facial hair, and provides other skin care services. Emily was always interested in beauty care and cosmetology, but her interest grew during the Covid-19 shutdown. “The second half of freshman year was when Covid-19 hit, and I began thinking about a career. I started experimenting with skin care during my sophomore year to help me cope with the boredom of doing school at home. I practiced facials on my friends and family.”

“I researched careers in skin care and talked to professionals in the field. When I toured the school I currently attend, I was 100% sure this was what I wanted to do.” Emily said being an esthetician will be rewarding work because it “helps people feel better about how they look. I want to be in the business of helping people and this career will give me exactly that.”

Emily attends the Advanced

Esthetics Institute in Eugene, OR. The program to become a basic esthetician is four months long and the advanced esthetician course takes an additional four months. Emily has enrolled for the full 8-months program and will earn both the basic and advanced esthetician’s state licenses.

In the basic program students learn to perform hair removal, facials, LED therapy, electrotherapy, chemical peels, and basic makeup, using other students in the program to practice on. Students in the advanced program learn how to do hair removal with lasers, tattoo removal, body contouring, and cool sculpting. In-person instruction takes place 2 days a week in Eugene and students work at their own pace to complete a series of required online course modules during the rest of the week.

Like many vocational training programs, an esthetician’s certification program is extremely expensive.

At the Advance Esthetics Institute, the basic program tuition is \$10,000 and the advanced program costs \$20,000. \$30,000 is a huge sum for students and their families to be faced with paying. At the Marshfield awards ceremony last spring Emily was awarded \$30,000 in Voc/Tech scholarships, fully paying the cost of her training



**Emily practicing a treatment on a fellow student.**

program. She received the following scholarships:

Carlhom Family V/T	\$20,000
Johannsen Family V/T	\$2000
Chuck-Spud Kysar V/T	\$1775
NB Medical Center V/T	\$600
Jim Rippey Memorial V/T	\$2625
Jim & Shirley Rippey Family Foundation	\$3000

Emily expressed her profound gratitude to Marshfield’s Voc/Tech scholarship donors, “This scholarship award has helped me more than I can say. These scholarships gave me the freedom to make my decisions without worrying about being a burden to my family or making tough choices based on financial considerations. It completely paid my school tuition and will allow me to graduate debt free. I am the youngest of four children and all my older siblings have gone to college. Paying for this program would have been a major financial hardship for my family. I am incredibly grateful.”



**Emily Kirk at the Advanced Esthetics Institute.**



# MHS Staff Feature: Andrew Post Technology and Computer Science Teacher

Andrew Post graduated from Marshfield High School in 2017 and received his college education at Linfield University in McMinnville, Oregon, majoring in Computer Science. Andrew graduated from Linfield in the winter of 2020 and took a temporary position at Bay Area Hospital as an entry-level Information Technology Technician. When that job ended, Andrew started substitute teaching for Coos Bay Schools in January of 2022. Andrew said, "Originally, I went into substitute teaching with the idea that it would be a temporary gig until the next opportunity arose for me. Little did I know that I would come to enjoy the work so much."

While subbing, Andrew learned there was an opening for the Technology Teacher position at Marshfield High School. He applied and was hired to fill the position. Andrew told us, "Here I am in year two of this job having the chance to share my knowledge of technology with my students. I find it very rewarding to see my students grow into capable young adults. And the great thing about teaching in the CTE (Career and Technical Education) department is that my students will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to have an immediate impact in their careers." At Marshfield Andrew teaches Technology and



educator and his dad is a car salesman at Coos Bay Toyota and a past member of the Coos Bay School Board. Andrew's parents also sell houses with Mast Realty. Andrew's younger brother graduated from MHS in 2018 and currently works at Les Schwab in Coos Bay and his sister is a photographer and creates indigenous jewelry.

Andrew says that the best part of teaching at Marshfield is the opportunity to connect with students. "It is immensely rewarding to get to know kids and help them through their journey into becoming adults. I think one of my strongest tools as a teacher is being able to relate to what these students are going through since I am a younger teacher and have just recently gone through that journey myself."

Andrew is working to increase the size and quality of Marshfield's Technology program. He said, "This might involve some trial and error to see what works and what doesn't. However, I believe that if I continue to connect with students and offer interesting classes, more kids will want to be a part of Marshfield Technology." We are delighted to have MHS alum Andrew Post back in Coos Bay and teaching Computer Science and Technology to Marshfield students.

Computer Science. He offers beginning, intermediate, and advanced Information Technology classes as well as one period each of Video Editing, Computer Science, and 8th Grade Technology.

Andrew has strong family ties to the Coos Bay community. His parents both graduated from Marshfield in the Class of 1987. His mother is a teacher in the Coos Bay School District as an online

### COLLEGE COSTS FOR 2023-24

The following are the estimated annual Cost of Attendance (COA) at selected colleges located in Oregon for students attending full time. The COA's include: tuition & fees, books & supplies, food & housing, personal expenses and transportation.

#### Public Colleges

University of Oregon	\$35,721
Oregon State University	\$32,502
Portland State University	\$30,720
Western Oregon University	\$26,741

#### Private Colleges (Sticker price, some students may pay less)

Willamette University	\$67,592
Pacific University	\$72,374
George Fox University	\$60,250
Corban University	\$53,694

#### Local Community College

Southwestern Oregon CC	\$18,975
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### Thank You Notes:

*Thank you for believing in me and helping me on my goal of becoming an electrician. This scholarship will help pay for my program expenses. – LP*

*As the daughter of a single mother in a low income situation, I wasn't sure if a college education was even in my cards. But thanks to your help I'll be able to attend SOCC to earn my associates in chemistry before transferring to Pacific University. I hope my little sisters realize that educational advancement is possible because of people like you. – AB*

*This scholarship will help cover my tuition for my aesthetics*

*program at Spectrum Advanced Aesthetics Institute in Tigard. This scholarship has lifted a huge weight off my back. I will be forever grateful. – MW*

*Receiving this scholarship means very much to me because it shows that my hard work has been recognized. I am excited to pursue my dreams of growing plants and providing people with healthy food. – ZQ*

*This scholarship will be extremely helpful in funding my classes at the University of Oregon to get an art degree and participate in band. You have significantly aided me on my journey to fulfill my dream of becoming an animator. – VC*



## Endowed Scholarship Feature

# Greg Fox Technology Scholarship



**Greg Fox Accepts Technology Council Visionary Mentor Award in 2016**



**Greg Fox with several Boys and Girls Club Science Explorers from NE Maryland**

Greg Fox graduated from Marshfield High School in June of 1965. That fall he took a four-day train ride east to Boston to begin studying aeronautics and astronautics at MIT. Greg graduated from MIT in 1969, married, and then moved to Los Angeles to pursue a master's degree at USC. Prior to earning his MS in electrical engineering in 1971, Greg took an engineering job with Hughes Aircraft.

Greg said, "Digital computers were in their infancy in the 1970's, and I worked on teams that put the first digital computers in radar systems, satellites, and submarines." By this time Greg was married and he and his wife Anne had two children. The family moved east in 1981, where Greg took a job with TRW Information Systems. In subsequent years Greg served as Chief Engineer for the Navy Ocean Surveillance Information System Upgrade, overseeing technology used world-wide by the US Navy and by several allied nations. Also, during this time, Greg and Anne added two more children to their family. TRW

was acquired by Northrop Grumman and Greg held several project management and technology management positions there and had a dozen professional publications. Greg retired from Northrop in 2009 as a corporate Technical Fellow and Director of Technology for a division of 4000 engineers.

After retirement, Greg and Anne moved to a 25-acre farm in northern Maryland to live with their daughter's family and 7 of their 14 grandchildren. He devotes his time to growing different varieties of fruit and to various youth education activities. Greg has served as a mentor for the Big Brothers, Big Sisters program, a reading mentor for 1st graders in the Partners in Reading program, establisher of the weekly Science Explorers at a local Boys and Girls Club, an 8th grade guest science lecturer as a member of the northern Maryland Senior Science Society, and a technical content advisor for a start-up youth science demonstration center.

Last year Greg expanded his com-

mitment to education by establishing an endowed scholarship for Marshfield High School graduates who want to pursue a four-year degree in science and engineering. Greg believes that science and engineering instill logical and rigorous ways of thinking that are applicable to, and helpful in everyday life. He says, "Only law and medicine have similar rigor, and I think science and engineering are more fun. I had a fruitful and fulfilling 40-year career as an engineer. What other career lets you create, interact with, and leverage the latest advances in technology decade after decade? I never tired of new problems, new approaches, and new tools from when I started, right up until retirement." In the coming years the endowed scholarship award will at least be matched by an annual pass-through scholarship. The Greg Fox Technology Scholarship will help generations of Marshfield graduates to achieve their educational goals and we are grateful to Greg for providing this generous assistance to our students.



*Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!*

**Marshfield High School  
Community & Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**

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2023 ■ VOLUME 18

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AND MEMORIAL  
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