



COMMUNITY AND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

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Scholarship Recipient Update: Tyler Yeager

2015 Marshfield graduate Tyler Yeager is training to become a doctor. This is a long and arduous process, and the road for Tyler has been even more challenging than for most pre-med students.

After high school Tyler attended Oregon State University, receiving a bachelor's in bio-health sciences. He then returned home to work and prepared to apply to medical school. While in Coos Bay Tyler took a job as a phlebotomist and lab assistant at Bay Area Hospital. He said, "Laboratory medicine has been a big part of my life. Because pathologists are responsible for so much of what goes on in a lab, this specialty is a perfect fit for me. I've always loved the idea of being a "medical detective" and that's really what a pathologist is."

Tyler was also active in the Coos Bay community, volunteering at Kids Hope Center and joining the Board of South Coast Hospice, where he still serves as Board Vice President. In the spring of 2021 Tyler was accepted to medical school at Oregon Health Sciences University and started classes in August of 2021.

In Tyler's second year of medical school, he suffered a seizure and was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Surgery to remove the tumor was



Tyler Yeager

scheduled and Tyler returned to medical school until the operation could take place. Tyler said, "In an instant, my world was turned upside down. My family and I weren't sure if the tumor was life limiting, or if I'd be able to return to school."

After the surgery Tyler took three months off for treatment and rehabilitation. Thankfully, it was determined that Tyler has an excellent prognosis. He is now doing well and is scheduled to graduate from OHSU Medical School on time this spring.

Tyler said, "My diagnosis had a profound impact on me. Being on the receiving end of a cancer diagnosis is a horrible feeling, and so when I participate in difficult interactions in the hospital, I really try to make sure patients feel cared for and supported."

Tyler's long-term goal is to return to Coos Bay and serve our community as a pathologist. Tyler said, "I think growing up in Coos Bay was the biggest blessing I could have asked for. Growing up in a small town, you know everybody, and I think that background makes me more approachable to patients. It makes me happy that I can represent rural Oregon"

As a senior at MHS, Tyler received the Girt Family scholarship, a Joycelyn & Walter Joslin scholarship, and an F. W. Smith scholarship. Tyler said, "Between medical school and undergrad, the cost of my education really added up. I was fortunate to receive funds from the MHS scholarship committee, OSU, OHSU as well as other scholarships for Oregon students. These scholarships have minimized the amount I have to borrow, for which I am extremely grateful. I want to thank all the MHS donors and their families for the support they give to the high schoolers in the community!"

Empowering Futures: How MHS Scholarships Support Diverse Educational Paths

Students have various reasons for choosing either a traditional college education or a vocational/technical education. Some pursue bachelor's degree programs for a deeper interest in a field of study, the potential for high earnings, career flexibility, and job security (including resilience in economic downturns). Others opt for vocational or technical education, drawn by the appeal of a specific occupation, shorter training time, and lower educational expenses.

Fortunately, the MHS scholarship pro-

gram supports students with either educational path. Some scholarships are specifically for students in traditional college programs, while others are designated for students in shorter-duration programs (vocational/technical). Additionally, some scholarships are open to any field of study.

These scholarships can be the deciding factor for students considering further education. Many students are hesitant about incurring debt, and the cost of even short programs

can seem overwhelming. Scholarships make college more affordable and demonstrate that others believe in their potential to succeed.

According to the Oregon Community Foundation, research shows that each \$1,000 increase in financial aid leads to a 2.5% increase in graduation rates. Scholarships make a real difference in students' futures, and donations to the scholarship program empower young people to become productive, contributing members of society.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AND AWARDS IN 2024

The Marshfield Community & Memorial Scholarship Program continues to support graduates who apply for scholarships, thanks to the ongoing generosity of our community through contributions and the establishment of new endowments. Currently, there are over 70 endowed scholarships available, including those for vocational/technical fields and general studies.

\$7,483,176 = Total Endowed Funds (as of March 2024)
\$1,679,160 = V/T Endowed Funds of Total (as of March 2024)
\$479,975 = MHS Class of 2024 Awards Total
\$151,500 = Eight Awards are Multi-Yr, Total (Non-V/T)
\$105,500 = 2024 V/T Recipients Award Totals (5 Multi-Yr)
\$7,000 = 60 MHS Recipients, Avg Award
(Not including Ford Foundation or Richter Scholarship)



Coos Bay School Superintendent: Justin Ainsworth

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

We're excited to introduce a
"ONE-STOP EXPERIENCE"

where you can find everything
you need to know about the
MHS Scholarship Program!

Discover all available scholarships
and their criteria for graduating MHS
seniors, and check out last spring's
scholarship awards assembly video.

Curious about past issues of the MHS
Scholarship Newsletters?

Wondering about the total
awards given to the Class of 2024?

Interested in establishing a new
scholarship or contributing to an
existing endowment?

You'll find it all here! Scan QR CODE:



OR VISIT US AT:

www.marshfieldscholarshipfund.org

COLLEGE COSTS FOR 2024

Here is some information to illustrate the costs of post-high school education, whether students choose traditional college or vocational/technical programs. While costs vary widely, here are a few examples.

Vocational/Technical School Costs

(room and board not included)

ADVANCED ESTHETICS INSTITUTE:

Esthetics 500hrs.	\$9,750
Advanced Esthetics 500 hrs.	\$18,750

WYOTECH:

Auto Tech 9 months	\$34,750
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PHAGANS SCHOOL OF BEAUTY:

Hair Design 1,168 hrs.	\$15,169
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AISSLING TRUCK ACADEMY:

3-4 weeks	\$5,130
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SWOCC - Welding Associate Degree:

2yrs. see traditional college costs below

Traditional College Costs

(Annual costs of attendance include tuition, fees, books, room and board on campus and attending full time)

University of Oregon	\$35,721
Western Oregon University	\$27,921
SWOCC	

living at home	\$17,827,
on campus	\$19,903

George Fox University	\$56,810
Willamette University	\$67,456

Justin Ainsworth grew up in Coos Bay and is a Marshfield High School graduate. After eleven years in Alaska, Ainsworth returned home this summer to begin his new job as Superintendent of the Coos Bay School District. Dr. Ainsworth said, "Coos Bay is home, and I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to give back to the community that shaped me."

Ainsworth earned a bachelor's degree at Southern Oregon University, a master's from Pacific University, his educational administrative certification from Concordia, and a PhD from William Howard Taft University. Justin began his career as an educator in 2001, teaching social studies at South Umpqua High School. In 2003, Justin was hired to teach and coach at Marshfield High School and remained at MHS for the next 10 years.

Justin's wife was from Alaska, and the Ainsworth family now included three young children. Justin and his wife felt the need to be closer to her family and have their support. Justin found a job as a high school assistant principal with the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District (MSBSD), about 30 miles north of Anchorage, and the Ainsworth family moved north.

The Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District is huge, with 50 schools (including 8 high schools) and over 20,000 students. Justin was an Assistant Principal at two MSBSD high schools before becoming Principal of Colony High School in 2015. The following year Justin was promoted to be Executive Director of Secondary Schools for the district and, three years later, he was again promoted to become Associate Superintendent of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District.

The Ainsworth children were now in grades 6, 8 and 10 and the needs of the family had changed. There were good reasons for them to consider returning to Coos Bay.

It would locate the family near the extended Ainsworth clan and make it easier if the children went to colleges in the lower 48. Justin learned the Coos Bay district was seeking a

new superintendent and applied for the job. He saw many things that made him excited about the possibility of leading the Coos Bay School District. Justin appreciated the "Yes, you CAN go to college" spirit evident throughout Coos Bay schools and was also attracted by the wonderful new school buildings and some exciting new curriculum innovations.

Justin was selected to fill the position and began his new job as Superintendent of Coos Bay Public Schools in July. He has already set some goals for our schools. He said, "Too many of our students going on to college have to take remedial classes—for no credit. We need to improve that." Another issue he has his eye on is the pace of change. "We have many new staff and new programs—and that's good—but it takes time for all these changes to begin to work together well and become sustainable." Finally, Justin commented, "Change is hard and there has been a lot of change for Coos Bay school staff in recent years."

One very positive change for those of us connected to Coos Bay Schools is the return of Coos Bay native and MHS graduate Justin Ainsworth. Welcome home, Justin!



Justin Ainsworth

Thank You Notes:

I am incredibly honored and thankful to have received the John & Hazel Southam Memorial Scholarship. As the first in my family to go to college I hope to make you all proud. — RW

Thank you to Joycolynn & Walter Joslin for giving me an incredible opportunity. Without the help of the Joslin Memorial Scholarship, I would be second guessing my financial situation with continuing school. I will always be thankful. — MR



Voc/Tech Scholarship Recipient Feature: Ryan Liggett

MHS Class of 2022 graduate Ryan Liggett knew he wanted to become a welder after taking Glen Crook's introductory manufacturing class as an 8th grader. Throughout high school, Ryan enrolled in manufacturing classes, working diligently to improve his welding skills and deepen his understanding of metals fabrication. Even during the COVID pandemic, when in-person instruction was limited, he continued to



Ryan Liggett

come into the manufacturing shop. During his time at Marshfield, Ryan completed projects ranging from a simple metal hook in 8th grade to the sculptural "running legs" bicycle racks now installed at the Coos Bay Visitors Center.

Ryan has high praise for Glen Crook's instruction: "Mr. Crook taught us by having us work on projects. We learned every stage of each project, from blueprint reading to different welding techniques and machining. He taught us all kinds of welding, including stick, TIG, MIG, and oxyacetylene. I learned so much from Mr. Crook."

Before he turned 16, Ryan walked into Koontz Machine and Welding and asked for a job. He was hired as a shop assistant and worked there for two years, gaining valuable experience and, as his skills improved, taking on larger responsibilities.

As a senior at Marshfield, Ryan also took classes at Southwestern Oregon Com-

munity College (SWOCC), completing his first year of an associate degree in welding. After graduating from high school, he completed a second year at SWOCC, earning his associate degree in welding while continuing to work part-time.

Ryan received a \$3,000 James & Shirley Rippey Voc/Tech scholarship to help with college expenses, allowing him to graduate from SWOCC debt-free, thanks to the scholarship, his part-time

job, and the savings account his mom encouraged him to maintain. Taking college courses for credit during high school also helped by covering his first year of college tuition.

After two years at Koontz Machine, Ryan decided to expand his skills and accepted an offer to work with his dad at Quality Built Construction. This job has allowed him to become more proficient in carpentry and general construction. At Quality Built, Ryan occasionally takes on welding projects, but most of his work involves carpentry. Currently, he and his dad are remodeling and repairing the Coos County History Museum in Coquille and have also worked on maintenance projects at SWOCC's student housing.

Ryan's long-term goal is to work in welding and fabrication, whether for another company or possibly on his own. We wish Ryan all the best as he begins his vocational and technical career and are proud to have supported him on his journey.

Thank You Notes:

I would like to give a big thank you for choosing me to receive the MHS Merit Scholarship. College tuition is a big struggle for most people and being able to have a program like this available to students in our school is such a blessing.
— MH

I am deeply grateful for your generous scholarship support. Thank you so much for believing in me and investing in my future. Your generosity has inspired me to work hard and strive for excellence. — KK

Thank you for awarding me a scholarship. With the help of your generosity, I feel much more confident heading into college and working towards my goal.
— JS

Thank you so much for the scholarship money and for believing in me. It will take me so far into my educational journey. I am honored to be part of Albert Pranatis' legacy. He was a great and generous man and I am so happy to represent Albert's character.
— DW

Thank you. I plan on attending Aisland Trucking School to receive a Commercial Drivers License. I plan on using this CDL to help me achieve my goal of becoming a heavy equipment operator. Thank you for helping me reach for my goals and dreams. — GF

Thank you for selecting me for the scholarship. This money will not go to waste as I plan to do my very best academically at Bushnell University. I am so lucky and grateful for this amazing opportunity that most schools aren't able to provide. — KE

Minimum Endowment Amount Has Increased

(In case you missed the earlier announcement)

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, as of January 1, 2024, the School Board has approved the minimum amount necessary to establish an endowment, at \$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%.



Once a Pirate, Always a Pirate!

**Marshfield High School
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Contact information:

Les Engle

PH 541-297-4242

Email: lesengle@charter.net

— or —

Cap Sharples

PH 541-404-7829

Email: csharples@charter.net

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(Please complete and return this form)

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