







A newsletter brought to you by the Oregon Administrator Scholars Program

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OEA SUMMER CONFERENCE RESTORING OUR PRACTICE, PROFESSI & PURPOSE ESSION



COSA SUMMER CONFERENCE: AUGUST 3 - 5, 2022



DEBRA TAVARES

OASP UPDATE

Through generous support from the Educator Advancement Council (EAC), Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) has awarded \$10,000 scholarships to 228 diverse educators pursuing their administrative licensure. Recipients of this award represent over 50 different school districts and ESDs across the state of Oregon, including both urban and rural communities. Supported by the six educator preparation programs; Portland State University, COSA/Concordia University, University of Portland, Southern Oregon University, George Fox University, and Lewis and Clark College, each recipient is enrolled in an administrative licensure program and on the path towards becoming an educational leader in Oregon. The date for the next round of scholarship applications for teachers, counselors, school psychologists, and school social workers is July 5th through July 29th, 2022. Secondary scholarships are also available for recipients who have remaining educational expenses. For more information email Kirsten.plumeau@tspc.oregon.gov

OEA SUMMER CONFERENCE

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Join OEA for a Summer Conference Day of virtual learning and networking on July 14, 2022 from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. The virtual day will consist of two content sessions with four offerings in each session to select from. You will also be provided with opportunities for networking. We value your time and encourage you to register for the courses that best meet your learning needs and your personal schedule in the virtual space.

This event will be hosted in the OEA Events app. Through the OEA Events app you will attend live sessions, download course documents, and complete the course evaluations. You will even be able to access content from other courses that you are unable to attend. We will send you download instructions and an access code the week before the event. For more information visit the OEA website. OEA will also hold a more traditional in-person conference July 19 to July 21, 2022 in Bend, Oregon. Attendees can choose to attend both the virtual and in-person events or choose to attend only one of the events.

COSA 2022 SUMMER CONFERENCE: AUGUST 3, 2022

Sustaining Hope in Uncertain Times



CENTERING EQUITY AND INCLUSION IN OUR PRACTICE

Three days of engaging presentations to assist schools and district teams in planning for the 2022-2023 School year and beyond."

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS: DEBRA TAVARES

In her 11th year of teaching language arts, Debra Tavares is refining her practice at Wilson River School, a small alternative school in rural Tillamook, Oregon. Debra also has extensive experience at a large suburban school teaching English Language Learners and mentoring students through after school programs. She uses story exchanges as a tool to foster empathy; and combines it with other scaffolded social emotional learning as a way to build stronger relationships with students and staff. Debra centers student voice in the planning and application of equitable practices within the curriculum and beyond the school building, integrating writing with gardening and culinary programs. She combines project-based learning with mentoring in her yearly collaboration with Professor Michelle Swinehart and her capstone course Mentored



Storytelling.

Debra has been collaborating with Michelle for over five years and this project is dear to her heart in that it brought mentorship and the power of story full circle: From university to high school and then to preschool students. Through authentic, engaging and inclusive lessons, alternative students gradually grew more empowered to realize their potential and to gain confidence in their writing skills and contribution to lifelong learning. University students learned how to manage projects with students who were houseless or who had been exposed to trauma. Flexibility, patience, compassion and empathy were exercised and resilience was fostered as they learned how to build trusting relationships to complete the projects.

On a field exchange to PSU, their last in-person contact was for WRHS students to participate in the presentation of the University student projects. Along the way, students who never saw themselves as college material were intrigued by the tour of a live dorm room and were given an opportunity to eat lunch in the university dining hall. They also experienced diversity by eating at the ethnic food carts down the street from campus and talking with university students from

other countries.



Seen here is a culmination of twelve weeks of Wednesday Zoom meetings; two PSU visits; and one field exchange at Wilson River School. The project consisted of a menu of eight PSU student designed writing projects from which Wilson River HS students could collaborate with their PSU mentor. Two elective courses were integrated into the project: Surf & Culture and Culinary.

Read & Plant Literacy Event with WRHS and On-Campus Preschool



One of these projects resulted in a coloring book and a story about Kindergarten and the Kindness of a Gecko from which WRHS read aloud; and preschoolers colored a page from the story. In a literacy event in the Wilson River School Garden, high school students mentored preschoolers through a "Read and Plant." The Gecko was drawn by a WRHS student.

Debra co-wrote "Shared Acts of Vulnerability (The Significance of Stories)" about the impact of story exchanges and service learning in a chapter from the Journal of General Education entitled, "Begin it Now: Critical Service Learning in the First Year of College" and "Transforming Ordinary Spaces into Hopeful Spaces" from Global South Scholars in the Western Academy: Harnessing Unique Experiences, Knowledges, and Positionality in the Third Space.



