

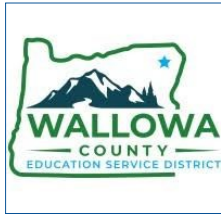
A newsletter brought to you by the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC)

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**Brett Baxter**  
Asst. Superintendent,  
Wallowa CESD



**Wallowa County ESD**  
Training Agent (TA)



**Dr. Rae Ette Newman**  
Dean, EOU College of  
Education



**Related Training  
Provider (RTP):**  
EOU

## A Word from JATC Member Brett Baxter—Wallowa County ESD



Anyone who has been to Wallowa County knows what a treasure it is to Oregon and the Pacific Northwest. What people might not know is there are four thriving school districts spread throughout the county, and these districts and their schools struggle just like many others to have highly qualified applicants for each of their teaching and support position openings. The grow your own approach has been a mainstay for many small schools for many years, and the opportunity to pilot a more robust, industry-recognized and supported apprenticeship program made sense for us and our partners at Eastern Oregon University's College of Education. Their teacher preparation program and our apprenticeship structure link in meaningful ways and will provide a number of qualified staff for our schools for years to come by helping these candidates to work and learn in their schools as they earn appropriate credentials.

This program and the members of the JATC have done the heavy lifting of approval and partnership with BOLI and TSPC, and thus far have been very supportive in recognizing the challenges of each Training Agent, school, and apprentice candidate. EOU has been an excellent, agile, solutions-oriented partner, and Dr. Rae Ette Newman, Dean of the College of Education, continues to work closely with WCESD as we collaborate to support three apprentices. We have already seen some expansion of the apprenticeship program, including the addition of Advanced Mathematics (includes Foundational Mathematics) Endorsement for our teacher preparation. It's important to recognize, too, the potential over time for a far more robust and common option for aspiring teachers in all areas of certification and endorsement.

## Registered Teacher Apprentice— Josie Krieger



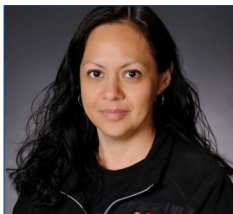
Hello, my name is Josie Krieger. I have spent the last two years working as an Instructional Assistant at Wallowa Elementary. One year prior I was a substitute for the Instructional Assistants in all of Wallowa County where I had the pleasure to work with ages K-12. Although I have had the chance to work with all ages, I have really loved being in the Kindergarten classroom this past year, and have also considered SPED. When the time comes I hope to have my first teaching job in Wallowa. I am very grateful for the opportunity to be a part of such an incredible program!

## Registered Teacher Apprentice—Randall Eschler

Hello, my name is Randall Eschler and I have made a round-about way into teaching. I went to college for many years pursuing Agriculture as a major, but not really knowing what I wanted to do. After a stop at University of Idaho where I was a coach's assistant on the football team, I came to the conclusion that I was done going to college. At the time in the summers I would shoe horses and was a bull fighter at rodeos. I moved to Homedale, Idaho and worked for the city there. When I moved home to Joseph I started working for Joseph Charter School as a Bus Driver/Maintenance/Athletic Director. Somewhere along the way I thought it was a good idea to use my Ranch Management degree and went to work for a ranch. That lifestyle didn't work out for me. I missed being around students and other faculty. I became a Paraprofessional at Enterprise Elementary. I was there for 2.5 years. My wife and I were expecting our first child in the winter and I thought it was best if I would be around to help, so I went back to working for myself as a horse shoer. Right before my wife was due with our child an opportunity to work with preschoolers for InterMountain ESD came to me and I took it. I am currently still working with preschoolers, but now for my home county Wallowa County ESD. When I was younger I had worked in the schools as a Paraprofessional and always enjoyed it. For the longest time not getting a degree in education was my biggest regret. But, with working, starting a family and working it just didn't seem possible. With the Apprenticeship program it has allowed me to achieve a goal I was blind to as a young adult. My road to becoming a teacher has been a twisted one; horse shoer, radio personality, hardware store attendant, city worker, bus driver, athletic director, school maintenance, paraprofessional and now Professional Rodeo Cowboy's Association Announcer and apprentice preschool teacher where I am working toward an Oregon SPED Generalist Endorsement.



## Registered Teacher Apprentice— Monica Nunez de Guillory



Hello, my name is Monica and for the last four years I have been serving the Wallowa school district in various positions. I have worked as a teacher's assistant and as a Kindergarten transition teacher. I am currently serving SPED students in a pre-school classroom. I would like to stay in Wallowa; however, I would be happy to serve any school in the county. I am grateful for this opportunity that I get to continue my education and keep working at the school. I am grateful for programs like this that allow us to expand our knowledge and help serve kids around the community.

To Learn More, See the [TSPC Website](https://www.tspc.org)

**Administrator:** Susan Boe, Ed.D.  
Susan.boe@tspc.oregon.gov  
The Oregon Teaching Apprenticeship JATC  
250 Division Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301