

## Fire District selects safety manager

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District has hired Doug Green as a part-time Community Risk and Fire Safety Manager.

Green is a long-time Sisters resident and has worked for the City of Bend Fire Department for the past 20 years. He has degrees in land-use planning from Oregon State University and has also completed a degree in fire science.

His responsibilities will include plan review and the district's fire marshal duties.

Green currently works as an inspector for the City of Bend and processes all plan reviews and inspections of projects and construction within the Bend Fire Department's jurisdiction. In addition, he filled the role of the wildfire mitigation manager for Bend Fire and DCRFPD #2.

Doug and his wife, Karla, have two children, both of whom attend Sisters High School. During his free time, he enjoys skiing, whitewater rafting, backpacking, surfing and traveling with his family to warm and sandy locations.

Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District Fire Chief Roger Johnson said, "We are very fortunate to have someone with Doug's experience and connection to Sisters Country in this important position."

Green will primarily work Wednesdays in Sisters and will be available other days and times on an appointment basis.



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Doug Green will provide plan review services.

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## BAGLIEN: Principal worked previously in Chicago

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the abundance of interest in the schools by the community, nor the kind and friendly ways people are here. It's been pretty awesome. I'm super-impressed by everyone who is involved with the schools."

The school year started off in a new way, with a full month of homeroom. According to Baglien, intensive homeroom enables educators to build relationships, establish expectations, and gather data on where the students are academically. It also helps incorporate student choice and interests into their education.

**"Safety is of the utmost importance to me — mental wellbeing and actual, physical safety. — Alison Baglien**

A top priority for Baglien is safety. "A school should be a safe place for all kids," she stated. "Safety is of the utmost importance to me — mental wellbeing and actual, physical safety." The homeroom

approach allowed educators to lay the groundwork for PBIS, a Positive Behavior Intervention Support system that will continue throughout the year.

"The high school has all of their students complete a health and wellness survey," Baglien elaborated. "One of the things that really stood out was 50 percent of the students indicating that they've experienced depression or anxiety prior to or during their freshman year, which tells me there's a lot of work for us to start doing at the middle-school level."

Baglien hopes SMS faculty and staff can help students navigate these issues, "to make them better prepared for what the world is throwing at them now, so we can see that number go down." Baglien noted that it's "real hard to teach a kid who is thinking about something that happened at home or a peer conflict, so until we better address some of those root causes, we can't get to the teaching piece."

Social-emotional learning and character development have been brought back into the school's weekly teachings. "Working with wellness and how we treat one another? We have to make them more intentional," Baglien said. In addition to preparing students to learn, Baglien considers these to be "21st-century

learning skills, 'soft skills' that students will need no matter where they go in life."

Baglien hopes all students feel welcomed and cared for at Sisters Middle School. "What type of learner you are, what your beliefs are, what your academic levels are like, who your friends are—regardless of any of that, we are here to provide a well-rounded education for all students in all developmental areas."

Providing special education, behavior intervention services, and enrichment opportunities for advanced students in a small district can "prove to be really difficult with funding," said Baglien, who is still new to how education is paid for in Oregon. "I hate bringing the money piece into it because it's *only* one part."

Baglien identified the most essential part as "the wonderful, dedicated, knowledgeable faculty that we have, that does an incredible job with pretty limited means." Another part is the Sisters

schools' unique relationship with community, including the celebrated Americana Project, a music and arts collaboration with Sisters Folk Festival and Creative Educational Resources.

"One of the things I'm really looking at for the year is: where is the reciprocity between the schools and the community partnerships?" Baglien said. "There is so much done for the schools. What are the students doing in return, for the community? I want us to be returning that same level of investment."

Baglien hopes to bring stability to the middle school. "I'm so thankful that parents continue—after three years of three different principals—to want to be involved," she said. "I plan on staying longer than a year. I'm about a slow build. I'd rather things be done really well than with rash reactions and putting on Band-Aids. I think we've put on Band-Aids for far too long. It's time to rip a lot of them off and to really address underlying issues."

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