

# DAN SCHMIDT

## Sisters High School September 2019 Student of the Month

Dan Schmidt has spent his high school years on a mission: "What I'm trying to do in high school is to be able to make anything if I can envision it," he says.

To that end, he is working with shop teacher Tony Cosby to create a ski-building program at Sisters High School. He also has his own digital media company (danschmidtmedia.co), doing adventure photography, weddings and real estate work.

"I like it a lot, because it gives a real sense of what running a business is like," he says. "I think creating digital content is the biggest way to make a change in our world today."

Dan serves as service communicator for ASG and is an IEE intern, which fits well with his enthusiasm for outdoor activities like skiing and

mountain-biking.

He may take a gap year after high school, but ultimately plans to attend either Western Washington or the University of Oregon to major in industrial design.

*"I cannot say enough about Dan. He came to me about a year ago interested in building a pair of skis. He has turned this into a major project; he not only built a pair of skis but has set up the tooling so that we can offer a class in ski building. I will actually be the teacher of record, but Dan will be teaching the class. Some students look at a project like this and are interested but don't follow through — not Dan. He is always coming up with innovative ways of making guitar building/engineering more efficient. He has created a YouTube channel for me that shows the steps of building our*

*guitars. It has been very helpful. Wish he could graduate and just start team teaching with me; we would make a world-class program."* — Tony Cosby

*"Daniel is not only a pleasure to have in class, but a shining star in our school. He approaches every assignment, event or opportunity with a positive attitude, a smile, and a willingness to give his best. In addition, he has a heart to serve and is an excellent leader. I think this young man is a positive role model for many reasons."* — Samra Spear

*"Congratulations Daniel for this well earned honor! Daniel approaches tasks with humility and grace. He is kind to his fellow students and holds very high expectations for himself. He embraces challenges and does not hold himself within perceived limits. On top of that his eye for photography*



*and commitment to completing high quality products is inspirational. We are lucky to have Daniel as a school leader!"* — Rima Givot

*"It has been really awesome to watch how much thought and work Dan is putting into his Studio Art portfolio! He is really getting after it, and continues to be someone that inspires both staff and students alike."* — Andrew Scheele

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*"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have."* — Maya Angelou

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