

Eighth graders celebrate graduation with ‘Olympics’

By Kale Gardner
Correspondent

Students at Sisters Middle School can go through a lot of emotions, adversity, and hardship leaving the eighth grade, especially this past year with the Class of 2025.

Having to deal with COVID-19 was beyond challenging. When you create a lot of great friends and memories at the school, it can be hard to leave.

One big thing to look forward to being an eighth-grade student and graduating is the Eighth Grade Olympics — a one-day getaway for all of the students. It consists of challenges such as running and kayaking across a lake, an outdoor scavenger hunt, a Frisbee disk challenge, and a competition where each cohort splits into two groups to create a song that the teachers vote on to choose the winner.

Each group has to make their own song with lyrics, and music equipment.

Student Jack Turpen told *The Nugget*, “It can be quite challenging at the Olympics, but it is a great experience for so many kids like myself.”

Once all of the competitions are over, the teaching staff adds up points to see who wins the competition.

The Eighth Grade Olympics is an opportunity



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

The Eighth Grade Olympics included a canoe-and-foot race and other activities that celebrate the end of middle school for young students.

to get one more great middle school experience before heading off to high school. It is a time to bond one more time with classmates. It is

“Doing a final activity for the eighth grade allows for a kind of a culmination of the students’ four years at the middle school.” — Michelle Hammer

a very special moment for many eighth graders.

U.S. history teacher Michelle Hammer said, “Doing a final activity for the eighth grade allows for a kind of a culmination of the students’ four years at the middle school. In a normal school year, we’ve done retreats and trips that build up to the Olympics, so it was somewhat strange this year since this was the first

outing/retreat for the class and we still had to compete in cohorts; but it allowed students to show how close the cohorts they have been with all year have become.

“The best thing that I observed was watching students who were reluctant to come and participate, came and had a great time,” she said. “When I asked them about their experience, they all commented, ‘It was

so much more fun than I thought it would be.’ While the Eighth Grade Olympics is a competition, it’s all about working together to achieve a common goal and have fun doing it. Watching groups learn how to steer a canoe as a team or creating their team chant I hope is a memory that they will have for many years. It’s all about creating lasting memories and realizing what you can achieve.”



LOCALLY-OWNED

Local is what we are.
Local is who we love.

Food 4 Less

Located in the Cascade Village Shopping Center, Bend
Open every day, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Isolated shopping hour: 6 to 7 a.m.

- Large organic produce selection
- Huge organic & natural selection storewide
- Meat cut & ground fresh daily
- Huge bulk-foods department
- All your favorite local brands & items
- Only 20 minutes from Sisters
- Proud to be 100% locally owned & operated

YEAR-ROUND FIREWOOD SALES
KINDLING

SISTERS FOREST PRODUCTS
541-410-4509
SistersForestProducts.com

Quality Truck-mounted CARPET CLEANING
Quality Cleaning 16 years in Sisters!
Reasonable Prices — Credit Cards Accepted —

ENVIROTECH
541-771-5048
Licensed • Bonded • Insured • CCB#181062
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL

CORK CELLARS WINE & BISTRO

LIVE MUSIC SATURDAY NIGHT!
Please call for details.
Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 3 to 8 p.m.
391 W. Cascade Ave. | 541-549-2675
corkcellarswinebistro.com

CORNHOLE LEAGUE RETURNS!



Wednesdays 6-8 p.m. • Ages 18+
June 30-Aug. 4 AND Aug. 11-Sept. 15

SISTERS Park & Recreation DISTRICT

For full details or to register call 541-549-2091 or visit SistersRecreation.com

household hazardous waste collection event

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO GET RID OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FOR FREE. WE'LL ACCEPT:

household hazardous waste products such as lawn and gardening materials, photo and pool/spa chemicals, paint, cleaning solutions, motor oil and used batteries, fluorescent bulbs and tubes and small propane tanks (5-gallon BBQ size and smaller).

PLEASE NO BUSINESS-GENERATED WASTE, MEDICAL WASTE, EXPLOSIVES OR BARRELS

Deschutes County

Saturday, June 19
Sisters Recycling Center
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

(541) 317-3163
call for more information

To request this information in an alternate format, please call (541) 317-3163 or email accessibility@deschutes.org