

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

## Ethan Sabin

Youth Education is honored to recognize Ethan Sabin as this month's Student Spotlight for middle school.

Ethan has worked hard over the past several months to improve his grades. This determination and work ethic are why we want to highlight Ethan.

Ethan credits his current success to support from his parents, completing his homework and asking questions. He is a valuable part of the Grand Ronde community and participates in numerous activities, such as football, basketball, track and powwow.

His future plans include running for Youth Council and ultimately attending Oregon State University to study writing and poetry.

6-12 Tutor Advisor Sam Thornsberry says that over the last several months Ethan has pushed himself to succeed by seeking help from Youth Education staff and his teachers.

Ethan would like to share this with his classmates and underclassmen: "Don't put off tomorrow what you could do today."

– *Jerald Harris, Middle School Lead Tutor*



Ethan Sabin

## Franklin Norwest

Youth Education is honored to recognize Franklin Norwest as this month's Student Spotlight.

Franklin is a senior at Willamina High School and a Grand Ronde Tribal member. He has spent the past four years involved in a variety of activities in the community and school: Native Club, Canoe Journey, Youth Education activities and Summer Youth Employment. He has spent his last three summers working in the Community Garden.

After high school, Franklin plans to take a few months off to relax and then get started on either working or figuring out what to do next. He credits his academic success to really starting to try and put in effort during his junior year and the help and support he receives in the Guided Study class at the high school.

As a senior, Franklin's advice to younger classmates would be, "Do your work, it's easier to stay caught up instead of trying to catch up. Don't fall asleep in class, that way you will learn something."

Youth Education 6-12 Tutor Isaiah Sherwood said, "Franklin is proof that you can succeed when you put your mind to something. He has worked hard the past two years to get caught up, pass his core classes and work samples to graduate. We are extremely proud."

– *Kaylee Oakes, Lead High School Tutor/Guided Student Teacher*



Franklin Norwest

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## Jack Mercier

The Youth Education Elementary K-5 Programs would like to recognize Tribal member Jack Mercier for his growth in academics and his outstanding acts of leadership at school. He is a second-grader at Willamina Elementary School in Sara Floyd's classroom.

"Jack is a joy to have in class. He is hard working and has a great attitude about learning. When something is hard, he perseveres through it. He takes pride in his completed work and always gives his best effort. His great work ethic is helping him to find success in school and it will help him to find success in life." Floyd said.

Jack enjoys everything about school. His favorite subjects are math, technology and, of course, physical education. He not only excels in these areas, but has also accomplished being a PAX Master in his home room. With his title as a PAX Master, he is considered a leader to his peers and given opportunities to display positive student role modeling. Jack is a joy to tutor and is always on task when working in small groups with the Tribal tutorial staff. He works with many different people throughout the school to better himself as a student and leader.

"Jack is a very sweet, kind-hearted and creative young man. He has been working super hard during speech class and has made amazing gains. Way to go Jack!!" said Deena Arnold.

Jack enjoys many things outside of school and loves sports. He is a very family oriented youth and enjoys all the things kids do like playing Fortnite, swimming, BMX biking and learning about history, to name a few. Jack's favorite sports are baseball, basketball, soccer, wrestling and football. He currently wrestles for the Willamina Mat Club and will play baseball this spring for Tri-Cities Little League. He enjoys baseball the most because he has very strong talents in the sport, and wrestling next because he gets to play "ankle tag."

Jack comes from a large blended family and enjoys spending lots of time playing outside with all his siblings. His family is very proud of the gains he has made academically and the leadership he displays to his peers.

Here at Youth Ed, staff is excited to see this young man grow through academics and can't wait to see the positive role he will play in our community in Grand Ronde.

– *Santi Atanacio, Elementary K5 Tutor/Advisor*



Jack Mercier

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