

Community News



Local ASPIRE program calls for volunteer mentors

January is National Mentoring Month, and the Oregon ASPIRE Program invites Oregonians to volunteer to mentor middle and high school students in communities across the state in achieving their college and career goals beyond high school.

The call for action is part of a national initiative lead by MENTOR, the National Mentoring Partnership, encouraging people from all over the nation to get involved in their own communities by volunteering and mentoring with youth.

Administered by the Office of Student Access and Completion within the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, ASPIRE offers training and opportunities for adult Oregonians to become youth mentors.

Beginning with just four

pilot schools in 1998, ASPIRE has expanded to more than 150 sites across Oregon since June 2015, with tremendous volunteer support.

"This program is fundamentally run on the sheer power of community member volunteers. There are so many students who really benefit from having one-on-one conversations about what they want to do after high school," said Lori Ellis the ASPIRE Outreach Administrator. "It helps them put their future paths into perspective for them, so that they can see what it will take to get them to where they want to go."

"ASPIRE is a key cornerstone to these students having those kinds of conversations."

Today's students may not have the good fortune to have someone to help them figure out what to do after high school, let alone the myriad of education and training options.

If you have a desire to help students explore career or college options, admissions, and

financial aid, ASPIRE is for you. Become a trained and supportive adult volunteer mentor and work one-on-one with students throughout the year.

Siuslaw High School needs more people to work with our students. It takes three sessions (about an hour each) to train volunteers.

First is an overview followed by learning about and applying the resources and materials, and finally, shadowing veteran volunteers as they work with students.

Once a mentor is assigned students, they continue to work with them through graduation.

All local seniors enrolled in ASPIRE have mentors, but half of area juniors, most its sophomores and all area freshmen need mentors.

Contact Steve Moser, ASPIRE coordinator, and Bou Kilgore, ASPIRE Team Leader, at aspire@siuslaw.k12.or.us, or call Siuslaw High School at 541-997-3448.

Do your part and volunteer today to help support these local non-profit organizations in our community!



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Library Friends to host two-day book sale

A large selection of books will be available during the Friends of the Library two-day book sale Saturday, Feb. 6, and Sunday, Feb. 7, in the Bromley Room of the Siuslaw Public Library on Ninth Street.

The sale will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. A pre-sale for FOL members only will be held Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Many books of all kinds will be on sale. Hardback and trade paperbacks will be \$1 and pocket paperbacks 50 cents.

A large accumulation of books withdrawn from the library will be included at half price.


Non-fiction books will include biographies, cookbooks, computer books and more.

Fiction books include mystery, horror, adventure, and romance.

Cash, checks, credit and debit cards are accepted.

All proceeds of the sale are used to support the Siuslaw Public Library and its programs.

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