

GRADUATION GUIDE FOR SOUTH LANE SCHOOLS

CGHS:
Saturday, June 10
2 p.m. Cottage
Grove High School
Kennedy: Satur-
day, June 10, 10
a.m. Delight Valley
Ace: Friday, June
9th 9:30

Graduation ceremonies and other events that mark the end of a school year are rife with tradition. Students know it is important to receive their diplomas but may not have a full understanding of why that piece of paper can help open so many doors.

Diplomas date back to some of the earliest schools, but were also conferred upon land owners in ancient times by kings and other authority figures. Some military personnel were also given diplomas to signal land grants that were not subject to taxes. Nowadays diplomas take on a different meaning and vary depending on where one lives in the world.

Graduates who complete a specific course of study are issued diplomas. Diplomas were once written on Italian sheepskin. Although "diploma" translates to "folded papers," paper was not always an economically viable medium for diplomas. In

Why it pays to graduate

fact, animal skins were used as recently as the 1950s.

Receiving a degree or diploma can be a point of pride in families where older members may not have had the same educational opportunities as younger members. Many people move to North America for the educational opportunities, and a diploma can symbolize taking advantage of those opportunities.

According to the organization Do Something, roughly 20 percent of first-time college students come from parents who have a high school diploma or less. The United States Department of Education says high school graduation rates have increased since the 2006-2007 school year. Around 80 percent of student who enter high school now earn a regular or advanced diploma. Dropout rates are on the decline, and a growing number of high school students continue on to two- or four-year degrees.

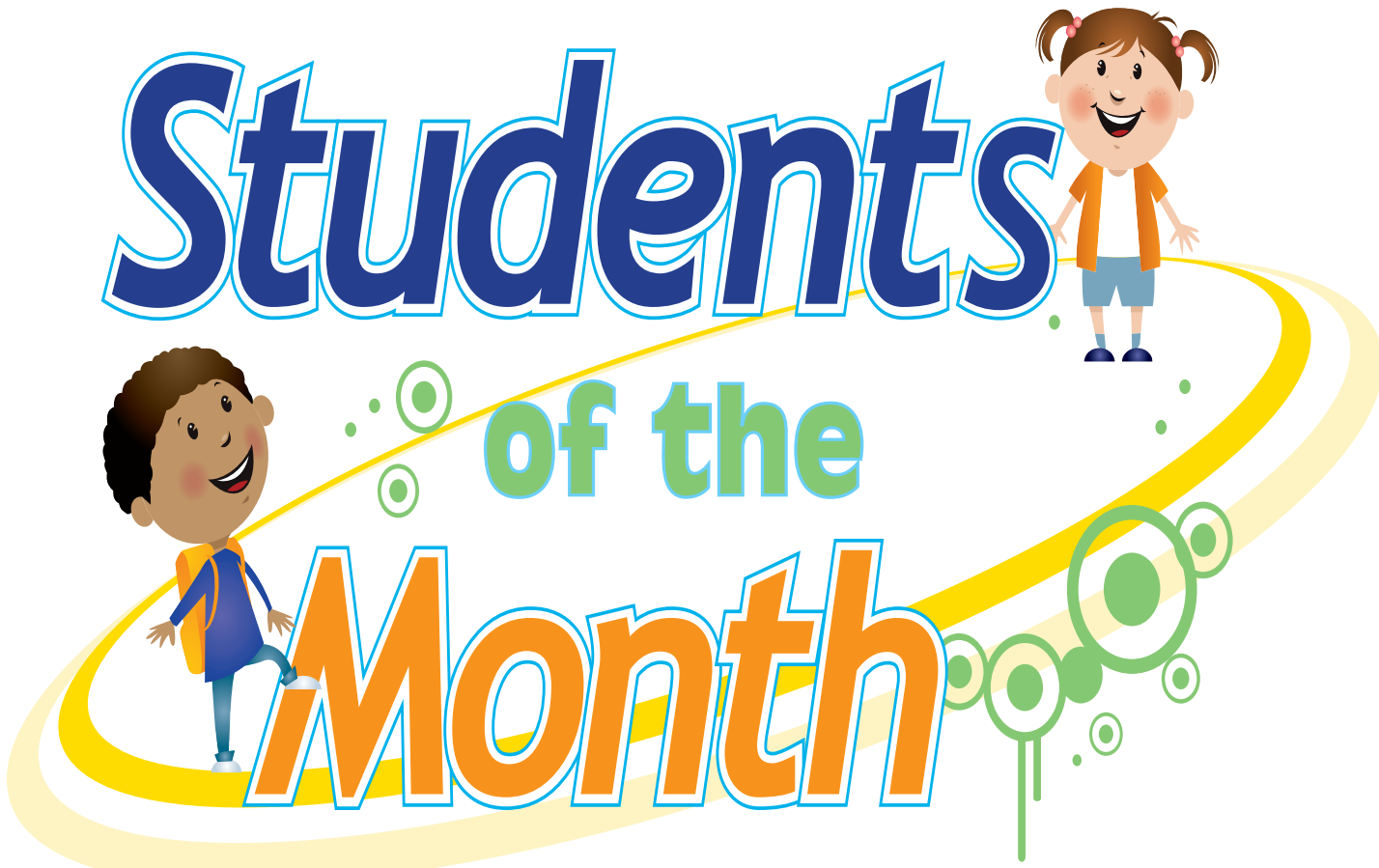
Community colleges are benefiting from this influx of students. Various statistics from the 2010-2011 year point to more than eight million American students enrolled in community colleges at that time. Community colleges enable students to take core curriculum credits at a less expensive institution and then move on to a four-year school later on to expand on their coursework. This presents a viable option to students who are looking to keep education costs manageable.

The reason so many students continue to apply themselves and come out after four or more years with diplomas and degrees is that they realize how competitive the job market can be. Graduates have a distinct advantage over other candidates. Some companies will not even consider a job candidate who does not possess some college education. Other employers pay more depending on the

level of education the job candidates completed. According to the United States Department of Labor, employees with a bachelor's degree earn about 54 percent more on average than those who attended college but didn't finish. Workers with advanced degrees (master's, doctoral, etc.) can average \$20,000 to \$30,000 more per year than those with bachelor's degrees, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Some students, however, will insist that failure to have a diploma isn't a barrier to success. For example, Richard Branson, the billionaire entrepreneur who owns Virgin Group, did not graduate high school. But such people are an aberration. Typically, earning a high school diploma and a bachelor's degree is a key ingredient to landing a good job and enjoying professional success.

Students of the Month



LINCOLN MIDDLE SCHOOL



Michelle is a model student: she's always on-task, is incredibly responsible, and is kind to others around her. When it comes to her schoolwork, she is diligent and the amount of effort she puts in is inspiring; she strives to go above and beyond!

MICHELLE JIMENEZ

Brad's Chevy
 COTTAGE GROVE CHEVROLET, INC.
 2775 Row River Rd • 541-942-4415
 bradschevy.com

KENNEDY HIGH-SCHOOL



Amanda has a positive outlook and always does her work. She's nice to everyone and is super helpful.

AMANDA MULLEN

Little Caesars
 24 N. Ninth St. • 541-942-2551

YONCALLA MIDDLE SCHOOL



Lexi likes to draw and listen to music. She also likes to dance. At Lakeview she played volleyball and was a cheerleader. Next year she would like to participate in these activities at Yoncalla High School. She likes all of her teachers and likes all of her classes. She has always been good at math!

LEXI

ANNETTE SIMARD
 Chiropractic M DC
 1011 E Main St.
 541-942-9031

COTTAGE GROVE HIGH SCHOOL



Savannah is a Junior and has been very active at CGHS. She has done a wonderful job volunteering in the community, while working part time. Savannah is also involved in athletics, band and theater and has Hosted an exchange student this year. All around terrific student!

SAVANNAH DAVIS

South Lane County Fire & Rescue
 233 Harrison Ave • 541-942-4439
 southlanefire.org

NORTH DOUGLAS HIGH SCHOOL



Tim Claiborne is involved in FBLA, National Honor Society, plays basketball and is the Student Council Treasurer.

TIM CLAIBORNE

DRAIN SAW SHOP, INC.
 541-836-2423

YONCALLA HIGH SCHOOL



his freshman and was the class treasurer also. During his sophomore year he has played football, been a member of the track team, been a member of Future Leaders of America and is the secretary/treasurer for the sophomore class. Trevor went to state in FBLA this year. Trevor's hobbies include hiking and collecting knives. His favorite classes are wood shop and history and his favorite teacher is Mr. Agee. Trevor is a very helpful young man around school. He is able to see when someone needs help without having to be asked to help. The teachers at Y.H.S. appreciate Trevor's great attitude and effort. Keep up the great work Trevor and congratulations for being Student of the Month.

TREVOR WEINHOLD

Trevor has been a very active student. He participated in band and baseball

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