

# What does it take to graduate in CG?

By Zach Silva  
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## Graduation rates are rising but what do you need to do to earn a diploma?

While Cottage Grove High School boasts one of the top graduation rates in the state at 94%, at the Cottage Grove Sentinel we wanted to take a look at what it takes to graduate.

What is the journey that a student takes to get to the height of high school education?

What does a student have to do to get from freshman year to senior year and what does that look like.

It all starts with freshman year and the supports that are in place for students.

A key element of school is the act of attending.

Two key statistics are that students that are chronically absent are 16 times more likely to not graduate and students that are not on track are 10 times more likely to not graduate. And when a student is both off track and absent, they become 36 times more likely to not graduate.

"We really want to make sure that we are providing intervention supports for our freshman. That we are working with them and educating them about how credits are important and how attendance is key and important."

The journey to graduation day starts with freshman year.

According to the Schools Superintendent Association, a big challenge facing freshmen is what they deem the "ninth grade bottleneck." The combination of a new school and heavier work load creates challenges for these first year students. To cope with that, CGHS assistant principal and freshman counselor Kim Scrima works to help get these students to where they need to be.

"Students by the end of their freshmen year should have 25 percent of their credits. And what they find is if they don't, those students are far more likely to not graduate.

And if on top of that they are chronically absent, we're looking at kids who are 36 times more likely not to graduate," said Scrima.

To get students to that point, CGHS has been creating additional ways to support their freshmen. At the beginning of this year, staff and faculty knocked on the door of each freshman to inform their parents of parent night. Additionally, parents will soon be able to stay connected through an app that will show their students' attendance and grades.

While parents can play a big role, the student is still the one who, ultimately, makes the decisions. So Scrima works with students so that they understand what they need to do to be successful.

"The critical message for us right now to them is that your credits do matter. It's about education and training and what a transcript looks like," said Scrima. "Do you have to

worry about everything you need to do to graduate? No, not now. But you do have to worry about passing the classes that you have."

As students progress through school, their attendance and grades are being watched to make sure that they can get to graduation.

"I have a book of transcripts, I go through them every trimester just to see who needs what because I don't want to miss something that could have been avoided and taken care of a long time ago," said junior and senior counselor Rex Basting.

These ways of taking care of classes include summer school, night school and online courses that can get students back on track.

## Grad checklist

Students must complete the following requirements before graduating from the South Lane School District and earning a high school diploma. The standards are set by the State of Oregon and the district may add requirements as well.

### 75 credits:

- 12 credits in English Language Arts
- 9 credits in Social Studies
- 9 credits in Math (Algebra I and higher)
- 9 credits in Science with lab experience
- 9 credits in CTE, applied arts and/or second language
- 3 credits in Physical Education
- 3 credits in Health Education
- 21 credits in Elective

### Essential Skills (must show proficiency in):

- Read and comprehend a variety of text
- Write clearly and accurately
- Apply mathematics in a variety of settings

### Senior Boards:

- All seniors must complete a 10-minute presentation based on a research paper. Students are given multiple chances to pass the assignment.

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## CA FIRES

### Continued from A1

fast moving, dynamic fires. We are all doing well and everyone is safe. It looks like we may be here a while." The message was posted on October 14.

The Oregon Fire Marshall has also released a statement after issuing the order to send more strike teams, saying "The

OSFM is extremely grateful to Oregon's fire chiefs and their agencies for again stepping up to the plate to help our neighbors to the south as they continue to struggle with an unprecedented amount of fires on their landscape."

## LORANE NEWS

CAL School Board meeting is tomorrow, Thursday, October 19 at 7 p.m. at Lorane Grange. Executive session is conducted prior to open meeting.

This Friday, October 20, the "Canning, Preservation, and Sharing Clinic" weekend begins at Lorane Grange with dinner at 6 p.m. A delicious spaghetti, pasta dinner with french bread will be served. This will be by donation as a Community fundraiser for the Lorane Community Association and their many projects in our community. Misty will be there at noon to received any jars for everyone to use.

Saturday, October 21, will begin the morning with coffee and muffins at 8 a.m. followed by stations on canning and preservation of foods. On Sunday, there will be distribution of goods to families and the food bank. A big "Thank You" to the Lorane Community Association for this informative weekend. Come to any it all of this event.

Lorane Grange will have a baked potato bar dinner with just about any trimmings you might think of and bingo on Friday, October 27. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. and bingo at 6:30 p.m. For those only coming to bingo, there will still be desserts and beverages for \$3. Progressive blackout has continued to grow and the 50/50 raffle is always fun.

Plan on the FREE Fall Festival from 6 - 8:30 pm at Applegate Elementary on October 28. All kids welcome!

Our school district is extremely blessed to have Dr. Michael Herb and the amazing staff at Absolute Wellness Center attending the athletic games and volunteering their time to our students as needed. If you see their table at a game, please stop and Thank them. Also, it is great to see the elementary students attending and cheering at the home football games.

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### We Have a new Doctor! Dr. Chad Faaborg D.C.



**ASPEN**  
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& HEALTH CENTER P.C.

We are excited to announce the start of our new chiropractic physician, Dr. Chad Faaborg D.C. Dr. Chad is excited to be a long term addition to the Aspen Chiropractic team! Come meet him at our open house, we will have snacks and door prizes Wednesday October 25th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.

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### 28th Annual Cottage Grove Emblem Club #269

## Craft Fair & Flea Market

November 4th • 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

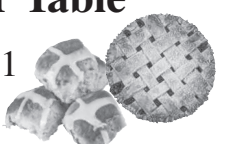
November 5th • Noon to 4:00 PM

Cottage Grove Elks Lodge, 755 N. River Rd

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Bake Sale!

To reserve tables call Alair at 541-942-2871  
Set up Fri. 4-6 PM & Sat. 7-9AM



Lunch Will Be Available Saturday 11am-1pm

Emblem Club #269 is a Nonprofit Organization Dedicated to helping the Elks and Our Community.

# ALL SEASONS BAZAAR



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church

1025 N. 19th Cottage Grove, OR

October 20 ~~~ 10 am to 3 pm

October 21 ~~~ 10 am to 3 pm

Raffle, Baked Goods, Books, Crafts, Harvest, Jams, Jellies, etc.

Homemade soups, lunch, & desserts

(We also serve to go!)



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