

## Myers named athletic director at CGHS

After 14 years in 4J, Myers heads to South Lane

By Zach Silva  
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While working at Churchill High School, Matt Myers did a little bit of everything. He managed online, AP and state testing; he made sure students were on track to graduate; he assisted the administration; he helped with scholarships.

"It was kind of a mish-mash. It was licensed position, but it was a very unique one," said Myers reflecting on his last two years at CHS. "I didn't do a lot of one thing, but I did a variety of stuff."

Myers has worked in the 4J District for the last 14 years. In that time he was also a middle school math teacher for eight years, a teacher on special assignment, which put him at schools around the district, and also coached track and cross country. That variety of both interest and skills has all led to Myers being named assistant principal/athletic director at Cottage Grove High School.

"I think we have someone that really more than has the potential to be not only the assistant principal looking at that side of that but also being fair and consistent with the athletic department," said South Lane School District superintendent Larry Sullivan about Myers at the June 17 school board meeting. "So I'm pleased with Matt doing that. He comes across with a lot of integrity and an exceptional background, that's who he is."

Myers, who first came to know the district as a substitute teacher at Lincoln Middle School and CGHS around 2004, has been interested in getting into an administrative role. When the position came open at CGHS, he knew it was the right fit. He was drawn in by everything from the convenience of the commute while still living in Eugene to high graduation rates in the district to community support for athletics.

"I was ready for a challenge, this job got posted and I was just like, I have to apply for this job," said Myers. "I couldn't pass it up."

The position of assistant principal/athletic director became available after Gary Roberts announced he would be heading Marshfield High School to be the assistant principal. While Myers got a chance to see Roberts before he is leaving SLSD, he was last with him as Roberts was heading to SLSD.

"We taught summer school together a couple years. When he was back at Sheldon and ac-

# Coaching search continues for CGHS



Former Cottage Grove High School football head coach Gary Roberts talks with his team after a practice last fall. The Lions are looking to hire a new football coach within the next few weeks. PHOTO BY ZACH SILVA/CGSENTINEL

### Hiring a head football coach is a top priority for the new administration

By Zach Silva  
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The Cottage Grove High School head football coaching search took an important next step in the process: the hiring of a principal and athletic director/assistant principal at the school.

Last week, the two positions were filled by Kevin Herington as principal and Matt Myers as athletic director/assistant principal, which means the Lions are now on track to hire a new coach.

With the departure of current principal Mike Ingman and assistant principal/athletic director Gary Roberts from CGHS, combined with Jordan Johnson stepping down as head coach after being hired in February, the administration wanted to let the new administration make their own call on the head coaching position - with some assistance.

"We posted the job, we've done interviews and now we've forwarded that on - it's sitting in a packet waiting to be handed to a new principal for him or her to look at the recommendations of the committee and make a decision from there," said Roberts. "Whether he or she wants to do the first choice, the second choice, open it back up, that's up to him or her and Matt Myers, the new athletic director."

Myers, who was present during the interviews, stressed the importance of making the right decision.

"When we hire the new principal, that's going to be one of the first conversations I have with them. Here are some folks, we need to make a decision because I know the community is feeling anxious, understandably anxious because it's a big one," said Myers last Thursday, before Herington was announced as principal.

The hiring committee included an assistant football coach, a parent, a current football player, an administrator and a building employ-

ee. And in that group, Myers was keen on deferring to the judgement of those who have been around the program.

"Whatever I recommend is going to be what you guys want. That's going to drive most of my decisions. I haven't been here for three, five, seven, 10 years and so when a parent or player or staff member says, 'I like this candidate,' I'm going to go with that," said Myers.

The decision on the new head coach is expected to be made in the two weeks which, Roberts notes, will keep the Lions on track.

"I think if you can get somebody on board by the beginning of July when the summer weight stuff starts happening after July 4, that's probably pretty good," he said "Probably the biggest challenge for whoever comes in, the immediate challenge is, the two things that jump out to me are building a staff and getting the kids rallied back. 'Hey, alright, we've got new coaches, let's get together, let's get going.'"

Roberts coached the Lions for

the last 11 seasons and announced he was stepping down from the head coaching position last January. In April he announced his departure from the school at the end of the year and he is heading to Coos Bay to be assistant principal at his alma mater, Marshfield.

In February, Johnson, who has been a key part of the CGHS coaching staff for the last three seasons, was brought on to be head coach. In early June, the head coaching position was posted on the district website as Johnson is now heading to Eugene to be an assistant coach at Sheldon and, according to Roberts, he will also be teaching math at the school.

"There's a lot of knowns (at Sheldon) and with the administration shakeup here, there's a lot of unknowns. I'd say there are a variety of things that played into it," said Roberts. "Jordan went through the process, they offered him a job and he just felt like it was a better fit for him and his family moving forward. These things happen."

# Low water levels at Dorena Reservoir prompt early removal of boats



Boats in Dorena Reservoir must be removed by July 17.

As the water level drops in Dorena Reservoir, Lane County Parks is informing moorage holders and boaters who use the Baker Bay Marina that they must remove their boats from the water by July 17.

"As the water level continues to decline we want boaters to be aware that unfortunately it will be a short boating season, and we don't want people with

larger boats to be stranded or have difficulty pulling them out of the water," said Parks Manager Brett Henry.

Water levels are decreasing as the Army Corps of Engineers, which regulates water levels at Dorena Reservoir, releases water to meet downstream requirements for threatened and endangered fish.

Baker Bay Marina Moor-

age holders will be offered an opportunity to transfer their boats to Orchard Point Marina on Fern Ridge Reservoir or receive vouchers for 50 percent of the seasonal moorage cost that can be used in 2020.

Baker Bay will remain open for other recreational uses. The boat ramp will remain open to smaller craft; boaters will need to consider conditions before use.

### An update on fishing information in local bodies of water

**Cottage Grove Pond (Row River Nature Park Pond):** trout, warmwater species

Was last stocked the week of April 8 with 1,500 legal-size

rainbow trout. Cottage Grove Ponds are open to year-round fishing via an asphalt pathway behind the truck scales on Row River Road. In

addition to fishing, these ponds also offer wildlife viewing opportunities and a fishing dock is available on-site.

**Cottage Grove Res-**

**FISH** see B3

## Athletes of the Week



This week's athletes of the week are the South Valley Little League All-Stars. The 9-10-11 team won districts and is heading to state.



The 9-10-11 All-Stars celebrate winning districts and heading to state.

PHOTO C/O SOUTH VALLEY LITTLE LEAGUE

CGHS see B3