

Cloudburst flooding Ione area

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Flood water creeps across the dining area floor at Cardinal Café in Ione. -Contributed photo



The water that covered Ione's 2nd Street also crept into Ione City Hall, causing city staff to relocate for the time being. -Contributed photo



Port of Morrow employees work with a vacuum truck to get water off Ione's streets Monday. -Contributed photo

Johnson takes over as Ione superintendent

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Competition for jobs was a little stiffer than it is now, though, and Johnson says she subbed for a year while waiting for a teaching position to open. She says the experience was valuable, though.

"It's a great experience, because you learn how different teachers handle different things," she says, adding that she picked up several tips—and maybe a few things not to do.

In 2006, Welches Elementary School hired her as a kindergarten teacher. She went from there to Sandy Grade school, where she taught a fourth- and fifth-grade blended class.

Both schools are in what's now the Oregon Trail School District—the same school district in which her mother had taught.

It was during this time frame that she took advantage of a cohort program for school administration offered through the school and Lewis and Clark Community College. She obtained her administrator license, and later finished up with additional licensing offered by LCCC at Intermountain Education Service District.

The family moved to the east side of the state, and she took her first job in administration with Morrow County School District, serving as the principal at A.C. Houghton Elementary in Irrigon for five years. With their children now grown and married, She and

Doug moved to Lexington, where they still live with their dog, Piper. They also have two grandchildren who, she says, rule the roost when they visit.

When the job of elementary school principal opened in Ione in 2020, it seemed like a perfect opportunity, as well as a much shorter commute. She spent three years in that role before being promoted to ISD Superintendent when Kevin Dinning resigned last spring.

Johnson says she knows the coming school year will hold some challenges. It's been difficult to fill teaching positions because of a lack of applicants, though she says they have hired two locals to teach, and the school is excited about that.

Top of mind for her are also safety concerns and logistics, as the school hopes to begin construction on the school bond project later this fall. Preventing traffic jams and keeping students safe during construction are her biggest concerns.

At the same time, she says she looks forward to the months ahead.

"I'm excited for it. I love doing curriculum and professional development," she says. A couple of priorities she and the school board share are increased collaboration for kindergarten through 12th grade, as well as a focus on better communication with students, staff and the community.

"I'm excited to carry on and just build from where we're at," she says.

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PENDING!

\$285,000

This classic split level 2 bed, 2 bath home overlooks Heppner with a relaxing back deck and beautiful backyard. 1 car garage leads into the lower game room/office with bathroom. New furnace in 2020 with ac and air purifier, new roof in the last 5 years, new carpet in 2021. Cozy living room, dining room and bedrooms. Upper and lower Sqft is approximate. 140 S Gilmore St. MLS#:23505395

PENDING!

\$140,000

This house is ready to go. Recently updated windows, kitchen and bathroom. Heat on demand water heater, new paint, fridge, washer, dryer and dishwasher. Large back yard. Within walking distance of the Heppner pool, high school and softball field. 485 W Morgan St. MLS#: 23328135

\$195,500

Three bedroom, one bath home on quiet street in Heppner. Real wood floors and knotty pine walls give a warm and comfortable feeling when you walk inside. Large fenced backyard with excellent soil will give you a great garden, and there is an access gate off the back street (Riverside) for additional parking. A full walk-in basement is waiting for you to finish out and add lots of additional living space. New pellet stove. 335 W Union Ave, Heppner MLS#: 23220466