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Rebecca Nordtvedt Named School Superintendent

Grant School District 3 recently announced Rebecca Nordtvedt will be taking over as school superintendent effective July 1, 2026. In case you have not had the opportunity to meet Rebecca (Beccy) Nordtvedt, we would like to introduce you to her and take the time to get to know her better.

Nordtvedt has many family ties to Grant County. Her father, Mike Knadler, worked as a custodian at Humbolt Elementary for many years, and her mother, Sandy (Hehn) Knadler, graduated from Mount Vernon High School. Her grandmother, Elise Wright, worked at the John Day Post Office for many years. Nordtvedt grew up in Grant County, spending a couple years in Long Creek but the majority of her childhood in John Day and Canyon City.

She attended Humbolt Elementary, John Day Junior High, and graduated from Grant Union High School in 1993. She had many favorite teachers, including Mrs. Gingrich at Humbolt Elementary, Mrs. Nodine and Mr. Houk at John Day Junior High, and Mr. Ediger and Mrs. Reynolds from her time at Grant Union High School. Mr. Houk and Mr. Labhart coached her in track and she credits them with playing a big part in her success throughout high school and as an adult, with a track scholarship opening doors for her to attend Linfield College.

Nordtvedt was involved in many different areas during

high school, including FBLA, Student Council, and the track team. “Most of my favorite memories were from track,” she said, thankful for her opportunity to run anchor with the 4x400 team who won multiple state championships together. “I also have very fond memories of homecoming activities—the hall decorating, dress up days, noise parade, pep assemblies and bonfire”, Nordtvedt said, “We spent so many hours decorating the hall and endless phone calls with friends coordinating dress up day outfits.”

Following graduation, Nordtvedt attended college at Linfield and enjoyed running for the track and field team. She graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Health and Physical Education (again inspired by Mrs. Nodine from John Day Junior High), then earned a Masters in Teaching from Oregon State University. She taught for multiple years at Central High School in Independence, Oregon, where she met her husband, Tom, who is a History/Social Studies teacher.

The couple moved to his hometown of Ketchikan, Alaska, where Beccy earned her Masters in Education-School Counseling from University of Alaska-Anchorage. After five years in Alaska, they moved their family back to Independence, Oregon, to be closer to her family and she worked as a school counselor. She later earned her Administrative Certificate from Portland State University.

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Left: 1993 Grant Union graduate Rebecca Nordtvedt.
Right: Rebecca Nordtvedt returns to Grant School District 3 as Superintendent. Welcome Home, Beccy!