

Humbolt Child Care Center

The halls of Humbolt Elementary School echo with the happy voices and laughter of children. In 2024, the Humbolt Child Care Center was established with children ages six weeks through five years joining the Kindergarten through sixth-grade students already on campus. The childcare program originally included a daycare and a combined preschool class for three and four-year-olds. One of the biggest changes to the program this year was the division between a three-year-old preschool class and a four-year-old pre-Kindergarten class. The teachers are excited about each student's progress and the ability to focus on age-appropriate activities within each class. The three-year-old class is learning through song and fun hands-on activities. The pre-kindergarten students learn much of the same curriculum, but with the addition of early math and reading skills. Both groups use a Teaching Strategies curriculum that focuses their learning on a specific topic. For example, the groups are about to begin a tree unit so

each underlying learning activity will focus on trees. So while students may believe they are busy at play, the adults understand social and emotional skills, educational skills, and even life skills like working together as a group are being introduced and established.

With the opening of Grant County's newest childcare center, The Village, Grant School District 3 has recently announced they will refer children younger than three years to The Village while focusing school staff on the two preschool classes. This partnership will allow the Humbolt preschool and pre-kindergarten classes to keep the same schedule as Humbolt Elementary School while focusing on Kindergarten readiness. Grant School District 3 has committed to helping families with bus transportation between The Village and Humbolt Elementary School before and after school. The staff is enthusiastic about the future of the preschool program and excited to see the early learning opportunities that will come from a more focused approach. Go Little Pros!



Left: Preschool class at recess, Center and Right: Pre-Kinder class learning through hands-on activities.

Nordtvedt Named Superintendent (continued)

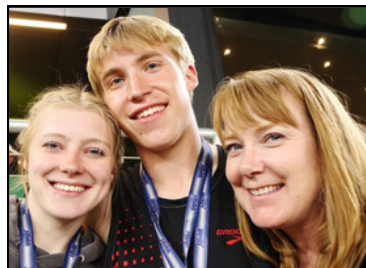
With goals of returning to their small town roots and providing their children with a rural upbringing, the family moved to Wallowa County in 2014, where Becca started as the principal of Wallowa High School, then moved to Wallowa ESD as Assistant Superintendent and later Superintendent. When she found she missed working with the students, she accepted the position of Superintendent/Elementary Principal at Enterprise School District.

The Nordtvedt's are returning to Grant County with work experience, education, and amazing memories from each place they have traveled. They are thankful for the opportunities available to their own kids along the way. "Some of my most cherished memories were watching my own children run both Cross Country and Track," Becca said. "They both were on state championship 4 X 400 teams as well as state champion Cross Country teams."

Their daughter Madelyn is now 21-years-old and a junior at University of Idaho, where she is pursuing her goal to be a Math and Social Studies teacher. Their son, Andrew, is 18-years-old and also attending University of Idaho. He has a National Scholarship from Army ROTC

and is an International Studies major with plans to enter the Army as an officer upon graduation.

With both of their kids firmly established in their own educational goals, the Nordtvedts return to Grant County to be close to her parents and give back to the community where her own education began. Tom and Becca are looking forward to spending time with her family and reconnecting with old friends. She still enjoys running, and is looking forward to "introducing my husband to all the great things in Grant County!" Nordtvedt said. "I look forward to serving and giving back to the community that shaped who I am today."



Left: Nordtvedt with Madelyn and Andrew at their own State Track Meet. Right: The Nordtvedt family.