

### rachel.whetzel@dayscreek.k12.or.us

- Educational Assistant
- High School Mixed Media Art Teacher
- Elementary Artist in



# Introducing... Mrs. Whetzel

### Why are you working at Days Creek?

I fell in love with Days Creek when my husband convinced me to move "way out to the boonies" where he grew up. I fell in love with the way this community supports each other and shows up for our kids. My goal as an educator is to foster that feeling of belonging and community in the kids at Days Creek.

# Where did you go to college? What was your major? Why did you choose that major?

I went to UCC. My major changed a lot of times, but through all of that, I was actively involved in theater there. I have become a jack-of-a-lot-of-trades. I am a self taught artist and have been published in several art magazines. I was an assistant director of a local preschool when my youngest was little, and I've been in education in one form or another for over 21 years now. I am certified with a Charter School Teacher's license in those areas.

# What is the funniest thing that happened while teaching Distance Learning?

I made the unfortunate mistake of having my high school mixed media art class work on a blind contour drawing of a canning jar with spoons in it. Blind Contour drawings mean you look at the object you are drawing, and NOT at the page you are drawing on. Then you draw the basic outline of the object, never looking at the paper until you are done. Turns out you should look at the page when you are drawing upside down spoons. #iknowthatNOW

# What is your greatest advice to Students? Parents?

Do your best. Give yourself permission to make mistakes, and the grace you would give a friend.

# What is your hidden talent?

I'm not sure it's a talent, but I have a TON of "useless" information in my head. Useless unless you want to know that the name for a baby seal is a pup, or that turkeys like dog food, or elephants can eat pixie stix with their nose...