



Introducing... Mrs. Michaels

Why do you work at Days Creek?

I love the community and all three of my daughters have attended school in the district. I like the size of the school because it allows me to get to know my students individually, as well as collectively. My husband's great-aunt was the very first graduate of DCHS in the 1920's.

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

I graduated from Oregon State University with a BA in Spanish, with emphasis on Latin American Affairs. I attended one term at the Pontificia Catolica University in Quito, Ecuador. I earned my master's degree in Social Studies Education from Southern Oregon University. I currently hold certifications in Spanish, English, and Social Studies. I had originally planned for a career in Foreign Service as I wanted to return to South America and live there. I had been accepted for an internship with the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs with the US State Department. However, soon after, I met and became engaged to my husband, a rancher in Days Creek. I then turned down the State Department internship and instead interned with Senator Bob Packwood in Washington, DC, as it became apparent I would not be leaving the country!

What is your greatest advice to Students? Parents?

Students: Don't be afraid to make mistakes. We tend to learn a lot from our mistakes. Be aware of the world around you, and be willing to try new things. Parents: Encourage your children to explore their interests. Encourage them to learn new skills and increase their knowledge. This will help them to find those things that they are passionate about and will help them decide on a career path.

What is your hidden talent?

Rowing boats! I began rowing my dad's Woodie Hindman (McKenzie River) drift boat on the Rogue River as a very young child. I became a competitive rower on the Oregon State University Crew Team in college. My Novice 8 team won a Bronze Medal at the Pac-10 Championships in 1988. When the opportunity arises, I sometimes still row my dad's boat so that he can do a little fishing!

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■ MS/HS Teacher

