

## Albany Options School

Mark Hannan, Principal 701 19th Avenue SE Albany, OR 97322

Hello AOS Students and Families.

Phone: 541-967-4563 FAX: 541-924-3780

My name is John Hunter and I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and explain my newly created job at Albany Options High School.

Who is this John Hunter? I retired from education in 2024 after 35 years of being a teacher and administrator. I served the Albany School District for 27 of those 35 years. My last two jobs included the Principal of South Albany High School and prior to that the Principal of Albany Options School. My family raised our four kids in Albany and we also all grew up in this community. My grandkids will all attend school in the Albany School District as well. This community and its families are incredibly important to me. I am excited that AOS Principal and my friend Mark Hannan asked me to come work at AOS and serve the fantastic students who attend AOS. AOS is a special place with an outstanding staff.

What is my Job? Well the official title is "Attendance Coordinator & Family Attendance Liaison". In a nutshell, I am here to work with students and families to break down barriers that create roadblocks for students to regularly and successfully attend school on a daily basis. I AM NOT a truant officer, my interactions will be positive and come from a heart of caring. We will work together to plan, brainstorm, find resources, and pathways for attendance success for your student. Part of this pathway to success will include home visits by our team. These visits will be short, positive, and hoping to create trust, communication and connection. I know that life can be hard and unfair often and this makes coming to school more challenging. But, together, we can work one school day at a time to improve your students' school attendance. The AOS staff cares deeply about our families, but they cannot help if your student is not at school or in their classes each and every day. We understand excused attendance is better than unexcused; but it still equates to a loss of instructional time, therefore, all absences excused or unexcused can be roadblocks to optimal academic, social, and emotional success.

This work will not be done alone as the entire AOS school community is my team. The smaller team you will interact and communicate with most regularly will be Libby Wyatt (Counselor), Ahzha McFadden (Dean of Students), Debra Fewless (Attendance Secretary), and of course yours truly. I am so thankful for this opportunity and please contact any of us by email or phone.

Phone #: 541-967-4563

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