

# CEDAR RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

NICOLE JOHNSTON  
*Principal*

KRIS SCHARFENBERG  
*Principal's Secretary*

DOUG LEWIS  
*TOSA Dean of Students*

BECKY CURRY  
*School Counselor*

MICHAELA FRICK  
*Attendance Secretary*



2/13/18

To Whom it May Concern:

The Todos Juntos Program and Michelle Emery, Site Manager, have become an integral part of Cedar Ridge Middle School and have been instrumental in promoting the success of our students. Michelle's collaboration with the staff has opened up opportunities for students during the school day as well as in extended day programs. In addition, her personal connection and support for at risk students is a resource that I have utilized on a regular basis for students that do not have adequate support outside of school.

Cedar Ridge MS is located in Sandy, Oregon where after school opportunities to engage students in enrichment activities is difficult. Todos Juntos offers classes and clubs after school that engage students in the school community, provide academic support, enrichment activities and adult mentors. The clubs such as Homework Club, Oregon Battle of the Books Club, Sewing Club, Diversity Club, Soccer Club and Robotics have academic benefits as well as social benefits for students. Michelle has been able to engage with the Cedar Ridge teaching staff to provide advisors for the clubs and give students another way to relate to positive adult role models.

Michelle is also available during the school day and integrates into the school seamlessly. She runs a program during lunch to support and assist students with school work. Some of our students are unable to attend after school programs due to transportation difficulties. Also, many of our students do not have the technology available at home to complete some of their school work and she provides this opportunity for them.

She also can meet with students one on one. I have a student that I recently referred to her due to concerns about lack of engagement, missing assignments and failing grades. We are working on an individualized program to motivate and support in order to let this student experience success in school and develop the skills needed to be more intrinsic in her motivation.

Middle school is a challenging time for students as they transition from elementary children to the expectations of young adults at high school. During this challenging time, the connection and support from Todos Juntos and Michelle have provided a crucial link for at risk students to help them find their way in a confusing world.

Sincerely,

Sarah Hagestedt  
Learning Specialist