

Paraprofessional Shelley Jederberg

By Avery Halverson and Brielle Tewes

Paraprofessionals help K-12 students during and after school. Their responsibilities include assisting teachers, working with students one-on-one and in small groups to complete work, and supporting students as needed. The South O'Brien High School has four paras who have a huge impact on the school day by helping students, keeping things organized, and aiding teachers.

Para Shelley Jederberg has worked at South O'Brien for almost 10 years. She is a mother of 5 children and has 16 grandchildren. She lives by Sheldon, Iowa. Shelley enjoys reading, traveling, and spending time with her dogs, Yuckamo (a St. Bernard) and Peanut (a Chihuahua).

Q: What made you decide to be a para?

A: I enjoy working in an educational environment. While working with students, I expand on my own knowledge and learn with the students.

Q: What other jobs have you had before being a para?

A: Prior to becoming a para, I worked as a CNA, a head cook, and at a day-

care.

Q: What roles do you have here as a para?

A: As a para I work with students one on one or in groups to help them understand the assignments given to them. I also assist students while they take tests.

Q: What are some challenges you face being a para?

A: When students have



Para Shelly Jerderberg

trouble focusing on academics, I have to find ways to keep them motivated and focused.

Q: What are some things you enjoy about being a para?

A: I enjoy seeing the students be successful. I also like it when a student is able to understand classwork and succeed on their own.

Dance Team Competes in 3 Categories at State

By Salma Younes and Avery Halverson

The South O'Brien High School Dance Team, coached by Jessica Watkins, competed on Thursday, November 30, in the 2024 Iowa State Dance Team Championships in Des Moines. The 12-member team competed in the pom, lights, and hip-hop categories.

Since the team first learned their pom routine last summer, the group has been practicing to prepare for the competition. The team earned Division II ratings for all 3 routines. They placed 11th in pom and hip hop and 7th in lights.



The dance team competed on Thursday, November 30, 2023, in Des Moines at the ISDTA Championships. Members of the team include (front) Ella Friedrichsen, Chloe Gergen, Kelsee Warnke (middle) Addison Hedberg, Addyson Harper, Avery Halverson, Chloe Cox, Tawni Wulf (back) Grace Keen, Iverson Harms, Maeci Stevens, Ryleigh Gimer.

Letters to Santa

Dear Santa,  
Please move me to somewhere with warmer weather, and good money to go along with a nice house.

Sincerely,  
Kelsee Warnke

Dear Santa,  
I would like the Denver Broncos to make the playoffs. I know it's a lot to ask, and I know you gave me a new coach last year, but if you could make this happen, I promise to be good.

Thanks, Big Guy,  
Austin Negus

Dear Santa,  
I would love it if you would give me the gift of optimism and perseverance throughout this holiday season; not only for myself, but for my family and friends as well.

Sincerely,  
Iverson Harms

Dear Santa,  
I would like tickets to the College World Series!

The biggest believer,  
Will Stout

Dear Santa,  
I've been wondering if I could please have a chef to make meals, a housekeeper, and last but not least a hired hand for outdoor chores. There is plenty of hay in the barn for your reindeer. I hope you fulfill my wishlist.

Your friend,  
Lynn Burmakow

I wish for lower prices and a raise so that I can build my race car and maybe a fifty-five-gallon drum of race fuel.

Drive fast, be safe,  
Andrew Odenbrett

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas, I would like stressless life and free college.

Thank you,  
Elodie Wilson

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas, I want a new car. Preferably one that doesn't rumble and shake. My brights are broken, my steering wheel shakes, my car creaks, my trunk is cracked open, and I have no AC. My parents think I'm too expensive, so you'll have to buy this one. A 2023 Chevy Blazer, please.

Merry Christmas,  
Abby Nelson

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas, I would like to have an unlimited supply of coffee so I can wake up on time. That would be very nice. I would also like to have some more socks because they always get lost.

Happy Holidays,  
Alexandra Grimm

Dear Santa,  
Grant my students the ability to properly capitalize and end a thought with a period.

A desperate grammarian,  
Mrs. Roskamp

Dear Santa,  
I wish to have a successful basketball season. I hope everyone stays healthy.

Stay Jolly,  
Gabe Moermond

Dear Santa,  
Please help all those who are struggling to pull through. I would love it if you helped the homeless people so they are happy. For me, I'd like it if you would get me a motor for my truck and subs.

Thank you so much,  
Lilliana Corbin

Dear Santa,  
I want a John Deere combine and a John Deere tractor.

Drive safely,  
Logan Dau

Dear Santa,  
I would like a book deal and publishing agent.

Stay merry!  
Edie Oliver

Dear Santa,  
I would like a thermal scope for Christmas. It might be a little expensive, but I promise to use it for coyote management. Also, I will not take a shot at any of your reindeer... unless they're within 200 yards.

Sincerely,  
Justice Frerk

Dear Santa,  
The one thing I really want for Christmas is for all homeless animals to find a forever home with loving, responsible families. Thank you!

Merry Christmas,  
Mrs. Yates

Dear Santa,  
I would appreciate being able to visit my grandma and grandpa for Christmas with my cousins.

Merry Christmas,  
Amelie Wilson

Dear Santa,  
For Christmas, I want world peace. I know it's too big to ask for, but I just want something positive to happen in the world. If you could spread love with your presents and gifts. Thank you, Santa!

Sincerely,  
Chloe Gergen

I would like a Ninja Creami for Christmas, so I can have ice cream year long.

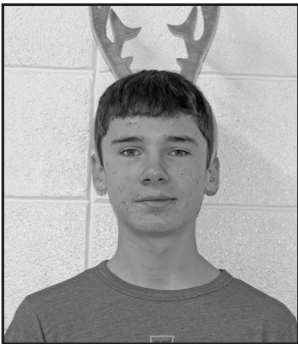
Stay jolly,  
Reese Farquhar

What is your favorite Christmas movie and why?



Freshman  
Grace Keen

"The 2018 animated *Grinch* movie because the real Grinch is scary."



Sophomore  
Alex Griebel

"*Elf* because it makes me laugh."



Junior  
Maddie Friedrichsen

"The first *Santa Clause* because I like the snowglobe Santa gets from the elves."



Senior  
Cole Tjossem

"*Arthur Christmas* because I like the funny reindeer slippers he wears."



Staff  
Mr. Kiley Yates

"*Christmas Vacation* because it's a good American classic, and it's hilarious."