



June 5, 2021

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Melanie Schuler, Spanish Teacher

Melanie Schuler began teaching Spanish at Treynor Community School in 2019.



Melanie is a 2013 Treynor graduate and has her BS degree from the University of Iowa as a history major, Spanish minor. She served as a paraeducator at Treynor Elementary and then went to Buena Vista University to get her degree in education, graduating in 2019.

She stated her first year of teaching was rocky, but since then, it is going much better because of the introduction of the SOMOS Curriculum at Treynor. SOMOS is one of the best curriculums for comprehensible input. Previously the teaching of a foreign language was mostly taught by memorization.

With SOMOS, a unit layout introduces and establishes meaning with vocabulary, a unit song, daily work/warm-ups, a class story, work with the story for several days, and includes a cultural element. Some examples of Spanish cultural elements would be running of the bulls, bullfighting, urban legends, Quinceanera (similar to a sweet 16 birthday festival), historical locations, soccer, baseball, literature.

There are 304 words/phrases introduced per unit and repetition is key. Cognates, which are words that are similar in English and Spanish, are helpful. They are words that move to long term after using 60-75 times in context. Examples would be "creativa", "intelligente", and "positiva".

Melanie loves teaching this curriculum and watching the kids grow. She has seen progress in students in two months compared to the old method taking a whole year. She stated that she fell in love with Spanish under her HS teacher, Mrs. Palmquist.

A lot of colleges still require two years of a foreign language before graduation; however, some colleges have dropped that requirement. Other colleges offer the option of a placement test instead. She stated that Spanish can increase employability. If you speak

Spanish and English, you can communicate with 80% of the people in the world.

Next week's speaker will be Gary Spooner speaking about his experiences working in Romania.

"Let your dreams be bigger than your fears, your actions louder than your words, and your faith stronger than your feelings." - Unknown

Meeting Minutes

Jordan Campbell, club Vice President, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Present were 15 members and five guests: Melanie Schuler, Martha Schuler, Blake Sadr, Anna Halverson, and Hailee Poland. Jordan Campbell led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dee Gutttau gave the opening prayer.

Dennis White won the 50/50 drawing. Matt Saar won the attendance drawing, but was not in attendance.

Jokes were shared by Jordan Campbell, Gary Funkhouser, Gary Gutttau, and Keith Denton.

Jordan stated that on this day in 1968, Robert Kennedy was shot.

There were no birthdays to observe, but Steve Irvin announced his 45th wedding anniversary for him and his wife Debra. Ask Steve what they did to celebrate!

Bragging Rights: (\$ are used for youth activities)

- Gary Funkhouser donated \$1 for the girls' soccer team qualifying for state, beating St. Alberts. Kevin and Marsha Underwood also contributed.
- Ken Graham contributed to comment that his favorite music group, the Brits, will play this Wed. evening at Bayliss Park between 6:30-8 PM. They play British Invasion Music and frequently play at Anthony's.
- Jim Clausen stated his youngest son has announced the new grandchild's gender was revealed as a girl.
- Keith Denton paid to announce that his granddaughter who is a 7th grader at St. Alberts runs the mile and lost by .04 of a second.

- Keith's son also works at Dallas Greenhouse and after working for 4 months solid, he will have a break.
- Gary Guttau announced he is walking better again. An x-ray indicated nothing serious.



L-R: Hailee Poland, Blake Sadr, Anna Halverson

This threesome attended today to receive their \$500 Scholarships awarded by the Treynor Optimists.

Hailee Poland plans to attend NW Missouri State and major in early childhood education to be a preschool teacher.

Blake Sadr will attend North Dakota University to play football and study business.

Anna Halverson is enrolled at University of Nebraska at Lincoln and will study biochemistry and be on the Equestrian Team. She hopes to go to Med School.

BUSINESS:

Can Kennel Sorting: Plan to help St. Paul Youth this coming Wednesday at 12 PM. (Bill Vorthmann asked me to report this change. Denise Wilson is planning a lunch at Silos afterwards for helpers).

Gary Guttau stated that \$18,000 has been given out to youth organizations since October.

Flags: 161 flags have been paid for. The new flags and poles arrived.

Flags will be put up next Saturday, June 12, for Flag Day and taken down on June 15. They will then be put up Fri., June 25 for Treynor Days and the 4th of July and taken down July 5. It was suggested that the Board confirm the other remaining holidays for flag display.

Westfair: Our club has been asked to help with gates at Westfair on Thursday, July 29 from 12 -6 PM with a minimum of 2 people.

COMMUNITY:

The local Farmers Market began its season Friday night in the Treynor Community Building parking lot. There were lots of booths and it was reported that there was a good crowd and the event continues to grow. Food is available for purchase too.

The meeting was closed with the Optimist Creed.

HUMOR

I'm a multitasker. I can listen, ignore, and forget all at the same time!

Never laugh at your spouse's choices. You are one them!

Calendar

- June 7 Optimist Zone Meeting Potluck
Hoy Kilnowski, CB
- June 9 Can Kennel Sorting – 12 PM
- June 12 Flags will be put up for Flag Day
- June 15 Flags will be taken down

Birthdays

- June 16 Dale Willenborg
- June 20 Jeff Jorgensen

Anniversaries

- June 15 Steve and Jeannie Chambers
- June 28 Mick and Judy Guttau
- June 29 Dave and Linda Danker

Programs

- June Dale Willenborg & Judy Guttau
- July Kirk Vorthmann (first one)
Judy Guttau (second one)
Doug Dillivan (last two)

Speakers

- June 12 Gary Spooner, Experiences in Romania
- June 19 Lori McGoldrick, humorous, inspirational speaker
- June 26 Aaron Terry, Ass't FB Coach IWCC
- July 10 Alisha Hess, new Treynor business owner

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575