

School named after former Wapato woman

By John Livingston

The evacuation of Japanese-Americans during World War II prevented Alyce Yoshikai from graduating from Wapato High School—but it didn't stop her from finishing college and starting a distinguished career in education.

Last week, an elementary school in Salem, Ore. was named in honor of Alyce Yoshikai, sister of Mas Wada. She began her education career in 1951 as a second-grade teacher and served as teacher, principal and administrator for 39 years.

She held the position of Director of Elementary Operations for the Salem-Keizer School District for six years.

Alyce Yoshikai was a student at Wapato High School when

World War II broke out. After evacuation orders were issued, she was sent off with her family to a internment camp in Heart Mountain, Wyo. for Americans of Japanese descent.

She completed her high school education at Nyssa, Ore, and graduated as valedictorian. She went on to attend Eastern Oregon College. After graduating and starting her teaching career in 1951, she became a principal in 1960 and held the administrative position from 1984 until 1990.

Local History

She served as a teaching principal at Roberts, Mountain View and Baker elementary schools and as principle of Richmond, Candalaria, Hayesville and Schirle schools.

JAPANESE - AMERICANS

WAPATO INDEPENDENT

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