FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 19, 2018

Media Contact:
Mark Witty, Baker School District 5J, 541-620-2109, mark.witty@bakersd.org

Daisy Walden named coordinator
for Friday Experience

Daisy Walden has been selected to coordinate Baker 5J’s Friday Experience program. Initiated in 2016-17, Friday Experience is a means of providing extra-curricular enrichment opportunities during the regular school year for students in Gr. K-12.

Friday Experience events are often the result of collaborative efforts, involving community partners, volunteers and/or staff in creating opportunities in high interest topics, such as STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) activities, literature, cooking, career exploration, outdoor experiences and more.

Walden, who holds a teaching license and is an active volunteer at Haines School, plans to build the program as the year progresses, working with teachers and community partners to provide a variety of experiences.

“My goal would be to have one Friday Experience per age group happening each month. I’d love to see the program that big,” she said.

Ideas for programs can be submitted through the website, www.bakerfridayexperience.org, or by emailing daisy.walden@bakersd.org. It is also accessible here: https://form.jotform.com/72433232098151. Both staff and community organizations are welcome to write a proposal, which is then reviewed for approval.

“This platform allows us to coordinate multiple opportunities for students,” said Mark Witty, superintendent. “Daisy Walden will help make Friday Experience more seamless, thus being the conduit for organizations and teachers alike that would like to offer expanded programming for our students’ grades K-12.”
Walden hopes to offer several Friday Experiences before Christmas break. An alert about new programs will be sent through ParentSquare. Opportunities will be posted on the website www.bakerfridayexperience.org or through the district's site, www.baker5j.org (click on For Families).

About Baker School District 5J
Nationally recognized Baker School District 5J (BSD) in Baker City, OR, is the largest of three rural school districts in Baker County, serving 1,700 students and employing over 235 educators and staff. District elementary schools include Brooklyn Primary School, Haines Elementary, Keating Elementary School, and South Baker Intermediate. Baker Middle School and two high schools, Baker High School and Eagle Cap Innovative High School, are also part of BSD. Additionally, BSD sponsors two charter schools, Baker Web Academy and Baker Early College, each offering teacher-supported online education. BSD provides next generation education for the future of Eastern Oregonians and launched Baker Technical Institute (BTI), a career and technical program that partners with regional employers and industry experts to provide an innovative education in hands-on fields. BSD believes strong schools are the foundation of strong and vibrant communities and is committed to prepare students to become successful life-long learner.

###

The Baker 5J schools exist to be the center of community vitality eliminating the barriers for gratifying individual educational experiences in order to have capable contributing citizens with character.