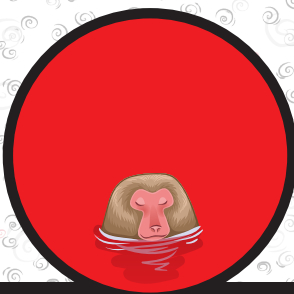


# NIHONGO



MARYSVILLE EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

MARYSVILLE, OH

SPRING 2017

VISIT  
**JAPAN**  
2018 EFTOUR



NEVER  
TOO EARLY  
**ELEMENTARY**  
**AFTER-SCHOOL**  
JAPANESE PROGRAM



THE ONLY  
**AP** JAPANESE  
PROGRAM  
IN OHIO!

NIGHT TO REMEMBER  
AN EVENING OF  
JAPANESE CULTURE  
WITH  
OVER **350**  
ATTENDEES





## KAYLYNN BORROR

SENIOR, MHS

This is the third, and final, time I'll be writing for the newsletter. I've written for every Spring newsletter since it began, so I might as well continue the tradition until I graduate. Hello, everyone! My name is Kaylynn Borrer, and I've changed a lot in the last two years.

I was one of the students that had the ability to go to Japan last summer. Madi Bushong wrote about that in the autumn newsletter earlier this year. At the beginning of the school year, I hosted one of the Japanese students that came here from Yorii-machi for almost a week. Garrett Brown wrote about his experience with his host brother last newsletter as well. So what does that leave for me to talk about?

Well, in my Japanese 3 class, my friends and I refer to ourselves as the 「ゴミコーナー」, which translates to 'Trash Corner' since we sit in the corner of the room. We're actually pretty good at Japanese, though. Every time there's a group project or we're doing speaking exercises, the ゴミコーナー works together. It's a great learning environment for all of us.

Another thing that happened recently was the second annual induction for Japanese National Honor Society. I was inducted last year, and then invited to speak at this year's induction with a few other members of JNHS. I ended up planning a speech about my own Japanese learning experience in Japanese. Most people are nervous about speaking in front of a crowd, but speaking in front of a crowd not in your native language? Sounds horrifying. But, I personally am not too nervous about making mistakes. Iya Sensei has taught us that mistakes happen, and that the effort put into fixing them is what really matters. Being in this Japanese program was one of the best decisions of my life; if I had the chance to go back and try again, I wouldn't change a thing.



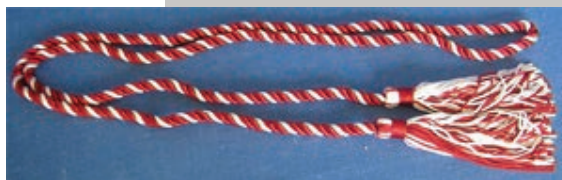
## KACIE PATTERSON

FRESHMAN, MHS

Hello, my name is Kacie Patterson. I am in Japanese I, and I am a freshman at Marysville High School. My experience as a Japanese I student has been quite a memorable one. I walked into class on the first day of school expecting to have an introduction in English and get to know each other... Well I was quite wrong. I walked into class and Iya Sensei did not stop talking in Japanese for the entire class period. I remember going home that night thinking that I was going to fail and I should drop the class, but I knew I shouldn't quit. About 2 weeks after school started I was going on vacation at Disney World. It was very stressful to miss class, I knew I was going to fall behind with how fast paced the class was. While in Disney I insisted on going to the Japanese pavilion in Epcot. While in the pavilion I found many cool things and learned a lot about the Japanese culture. While checking out I got the courage to speak to the lady at the cash register in Japanese. We had a full conversation in Japanese with all the basics. I've never been more proud of myself, as I didn't stutter, I didn't forget what I was saying, it was such an amazing feeling. The kind lady then went on to compliment me on how well I was speaking a foreign language after so little time in class. All my fears of failure are gone and I look forward to continuing Japanese!

## JAPANESE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY PRE-COLLEGE CHAPTER

In order to qualify, students must complete the first term of their second-year Japanese language course. Students must also maintain a 3.5 GPA in Japanese courses and an overall 3.0 GPA. Inducted students will receive red and white cords in recognition of their achievements.



If you are interested in joining JNHS, please pick up your application in Iya Sensei's classroom.





# EVENING OF JAPANESE CULTURE EVENT







**ZACH  
SHAFFER**  
SOPHOMORE, MHS

I'm Zach Shafer, a sophomore at MHS, and I am currently in my third year of Japanese. This year, I was fortunate enough to be able to participate in the Jasco Japanese Speech Contest. The entire process pushed me to work harder than normal in Japanese, but I feel that it was all worth it in the end. I entered a speech about my experiences with singing, which I had worked hard to write and revise. My speech was selected as a finalist along with four other Marysville students and four students from other schools. I quickly became nervous, hoping that I would be able to memorize my speech and answer the judges' questions, which would be asked in Japanese. Thankfully, Iya Sensei had us practice delivering our speeches and answering questions repeatedly. She even brought in native speakers to give us a sense of what the actual contest would feel like. At first, I struggled a bit, but soon I became comfortable with both my speech and answering questions. On the day of the speech contest, I was very nervous. I wanted to do well and be able to say that my hard work paid off. The other speeches were very interesting, and it was fun to hear Japanese students from other schools. When it was my turn, I was able to give my speech and understand and respond to the questions thanks to all of our preparation. Listening to more advanced speeches throughout the day from college students got me excited to continue Japanese after high school and made me say to myself, "I can't wait to be able to speak like they do." When awards came, I received the Consul General Award, and I couldn't have been happier. I felt a large sense of achievement and gratefulness for Sensei's help. Throughout the entire experience, I felt myself grow as a Japanese student, learning new vocabulary and even teaching myself a few new Kanji. I will never forget this amazing experience, and I hope that I can continue to grow as a student of Japanese.

**JAPANESE CLUB 2017-2018**  
Room C202  
ALL ARE WELCOME!



**MADI  
BUSHONG**  
SENIOR, MHS

I am extremely lucky to have been apart of the Marysville Japanese program. I have been taking Japanese since the start of the program and have had the opportunity to be a part of its growth over the past three years. The feelings that I am experiencing about leaving the program, as I prepare to graduate, are beyond describable. I couldn't have asked for a better teacher to learn a foreign language from. I honestly believe that I will never have another foreign language teacher like Iya Sensei. She knows how to create a comfortable environment and how to connect to students on their own levels. I say to anyone reading this: if you or someone you know is questioning whether or not they should take Japanese, just try it! If the class doesn't suit you in the end, you don't have to continue taking it. But if it does match your interests, you'll never have the feeling of regret for not even trying it out. Signing up for this class on a whim and testing it out for myself has been one of the best decisions of my high school career. I plan to continue studying Japanese in college and will certainly miss studying under Iya Sensei's instruction. I wish all of my classmates continuing on into Japanese 4 all of the luck and success possible. And thank you Sensei, for the many extra hours that you have put into this program in order for it to be where it is today.

先生、教えてくれてありがとうございました。

#### **CULTURE**

Pop Music  
Folk Tales  
Games  
Hobbies & Traditions  
Karaoke

#### **TRIPS**

Japanese Restaurant  
Company Tours

#### **ART**

Calligraphy  
Origami

#### **COOKING**

Onigiri

#### **HOLIDAYS**

Christmas KFC  
Valentine's Day  
White Day Chocolate  
Boy's Day & Girl's Day

#### **SPECIAL GUESTS**

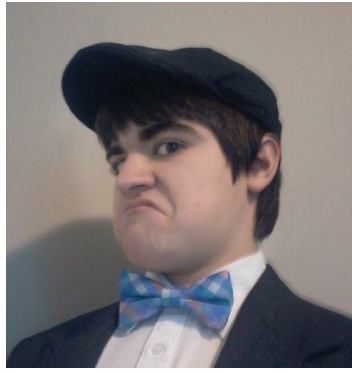
#### **CLUB T-SHIRTS**

#### **END OF YEAR PARTY**



## MATT BUTTON

FRESHMAN, ECHS



My name is Matt Button and I am ecstatic to be in Iya Sensei's Japanese class.

Japanese class is an amazing class for me to be in because of all the skills I am learning to use in my everyday life, along with the wonderful language of Japanese. I put Japanese above all of my other classes and get excited every class period I draw closer to Japanese. Class is so fun and interactive with me and the other classmates.

The Japanese room has no desks, which allows everyone to be interactive with each other and have the room more engaging. This is good because everyone at some point will get up in front of people and speak in Japanese to each other. This was scary at first but the method works so well and is very on point of what I need to do to thrive in this class. I love the way Sensei teaches us in the class. It is the best possible method for teaching us. I always thought learning a language would be very hard, but it is very simple using Sensei's methods.

I am very satisfied with my choice and will always respect the class. The class is not just a boring class

where people can just goof off and get no work done along with flying through the year. People have to stay on top of their work and keep at it. Learning a language takes a lot of memorization and practice. The work needed in this class is essential because it helps learn the language better and develop social skills in students. Learning a language brings out personality in people. The culture aspect helps make relating certain things to another a wonderful way to see the world. The class is a safe and great environment to be in. It is not some class full of monotone voices and lectures; it has many inside jokes and humor to it as well. For example, some words sound funny like "carrot," which is "ninjin" or other things like our unhealthy obsession over the word "sweet corn." Some days other students or I will yell out "Sweet Corn!" as Sensei walks into the room and soon after, everyone can see the disbelief in her eyes. Sensei is very fun and energetic and has a great sense of sarcastic humor.

The class is overall very engaging and is my favorite class out of my whole school day. I am not planning on making a career out of the language or using it in my everyday life but I still look forward to its learning aspects and fun activities every day. The class is very fun and I plan on staying in it for all four years of my high school experience along with taking it as my language class in college. I believe if anyone decides to participate in a language class they should sign up for none other than Japanese class with Iya Sensei.

## AIDAN JOHANTGES

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, BMS



こんにちは! 私の名前は  
エイダンです。

I just said Hello, my name is Aidan. I have been taking Japanese for about 2 years now and it has been one of the best experiences of my life. You may think that to be a stretch but it's true. When I first started in 7th grade I had the opportunity to take exploratory Japanese and that's when I first started loving it. I liked how Japanese was complicated but at the same time allowed me to express how I felt in a way I could not in English. After exploratory had ended I decided that, that was the

language I wanted to study. Of course, the language was not the only thing that kept me in the class. The teacher, Schubert Sensei, was one of my favorite in 7th grade and still is now. She is really funny and super nice, but is still able to teach the language in a way that helps make sure you learn it. She allows us to play games, and watch videos that we can interpret. Everything we do is aimed to enhance our knowledge of the language or the culture. This is different from other classes where all you do is sit and do worksheets because in Japanese I in Marysville you really get a taste of the culture and the language. All these things lead to Japanese being the language I want to continue learning and studying for years to come.





# ELEMENTARY AFTER-SCHOOL JAPANESE PROGRAM







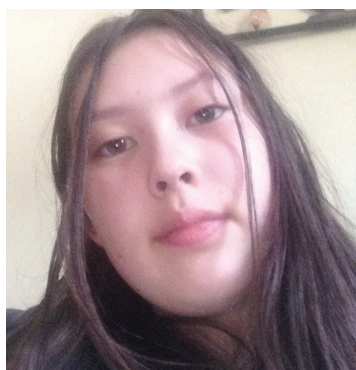
## LAN Do

FRESHMAN, ECHS

Hi, my name is Lan Do. I'm a student at MECHS and I've been taking Japanese

for almost two years now. When I first heard that I could take Japanese, I was so excited. I thought that it would be cool to learn another Asian language, since my family is Vietnamese and I currently speak this language. A piece of advice I have for all Japanese students is, do not put off your Kanji. This is something I'm trying to work on, I've procrastinated on my Kanji ever since we started learning them. Let me tell you, it is such a bad idea. I've struggled and struggled through our kanji and I wish I didn't. Listen to Sensei when she tells you to spread out learning your Kanji.

I've had many memories with both Iya and Schubert Sensei. Some of my favorite memories, was when Schubert Sensei threw markers at one of my classmates



## MEGAN FLANAGAN

8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE, BMS

It all started when I was very young, when I went to Japan for the first time,

I liked the culture and how everything was so beautiful and healthy out there. Before my 7th grade year started, I heard that there was a Japanese class at BMS. This got me excited, since I wanted to know how to speak, write, and read in Japanese, and hopefully understand my family who lives in Japan (since they barely speak/understand in English). That's when I knew I had to be part of the Japanese class. Now I'm in 8th grade and taking Japanese I.

My Japanese I teacher, Schubert Sensei has taught me more than I could imagine! To tell you the truth, I thought I wouldn't learn anything from what Schubert Sensei taught me and everyone in the class when I was

because he was messing around during class and didn't pay attention, or when my whole period was obsessed with sweet corn. It got to the point where they would bring in a big can of sweet corn and sweet corn soda to give to Iya Sensei. These were the times that I loved, these memories were our breaks from our meticulous learning. Also when I hosted Rina, a Japanese exchange student. We had so much fun and I would love to do it again.

Taking Japanese was one of the best decisions I have ever made. It was such a unique experience, like the exchange or the culture for example. I would pick Japanese again any day. I love both Iya and Schubert Sensei so much and I wish Schubert Sensei the best of luck.

ありがとうございます。



younger. One of the examples was writing; hiragana, katakana, and kanji. There are so many characters in one language! I want to stay determined in this Japanese I class and for the future when I'm taking higher levels of Japanese too.

Another thing I learned in Japanese I is that it's okay to make mistakes. I'm the type of person who doesn't really like making mistakes, because when I make a mistake everything starts to crumble around me. I'm also very shy and quiet around others, so it can feel overwhelming. In Japanese I I don't have to worry about making mistakes. Everyone always makes several mistakes when taking on a new language, and it also helps me to not be so quiet and shy around others.

Japanese I is going great so far. It also feels like I can show my true colors in this class, which makes me very happy, since how shy I can be in other classes. Also thanks to Schubert Sensei, I learned so many more than I expected. I'll learn even more when I'm going to take Japanese 2 next year.



## ZACH ALTMAN JUNIOR, ECHS



Hi! My name is Zach. Or spelled as ザック for my class name. I am a junior at the Marysville Early College High School. This year, 2016-2017, was my first year of taking Japanese. One of my main reasons for taking Japanese was so that I could understand what it meant. When Marysville first got offered Japanese Education before my freshman year, I was so excited to take it, but I could not since I was already placed in a Spanish class. It was fine, but it everyone seemed to be doing it back then and even today. I wanted to take a class that wasn't normally

offered, so when the chance came to schedule it last year, I took that opportunity. I didn't initially expect Japanese to be an easy class, but I did get more of a challenge than anticipated. The first two alphabets, Hiragana and Katakana, proved to be a difficult challenge for me. Over time, each symbol became easier to memorize and form into the basic sentence structures that we use in class to this day. Our teacher, Iya Sensei, is what really makes the class fun and stand out from other classes. She brings such a feeling of happiness to the class and tries her best to teach us and help us understand any subject that we may be doing at the time. She has a great sense of humor, and makes fun of the lessons instead of the normal paper or presentation project one would be assigned. Overall, Japanese is really fun, and I hope to continue on to a possible Asian Studies minor in college because of how this class introduced me to such a wonderful culture.

## AUDREY SPAETH SOPHOMORE, MHS



Hi! My name is Audrey Spaeth and this is my first year taking Japanese. I was never planning on learning Japanese, but when I moved here last summer I realized that my high school only offered Japanese or Spanish. I have a friend who is Japanese, and I thought it would be more unique than Spanish so I decided to take Japanese. I was very excited my first day of school, but my class didn't go at all how I expected. There were no desks, only chairs, and my teacher spoke in Japanese. I had no idea what she was saying, and it really scared me. In fact, when I told my mom how it went later that day, I cried. I was afraid that I would never be able to understand or learn something that was so different. I really wanted to quit.

nowhere near being fluent, but I have learned so much more than I even thought was possible.

A big part of my success is Iya Sensei and our classroom setup. I feel very safe in my class; I have friends and feel comfortable asking questions, speaking in Japanese, and making mistakes. Iya Sensei speaks to us in Japanese for most of the class, and we respond in Japanese. Because of that, I have learned very fast and the words have "stuck" more than I think they would if we weren't actively speaking every day. I am so grateful for this wonderful experience that I have had taking Japanese I at MHS this year, and I am so excited to start Japanese 2 next year!

Now, as I am finishing up my first year, I am so glad that I didn't. I have learned so much this year. I remember when I was trying to memorize how to write "a" in Hiragana. Now, I know Hiragana, Katakana, and about 100 Kanji! I feel comfortable introducing myself, talking about my family, my daily habits, what I like to do, ask questions, give directions, and so much more. I am







# June, 2018

## Educational Tours

Watch videos, read  
reviews and enroll on your  
**teacher's Tour Website;**

[eftours.com/](http://eftours.com/)

**1810854PD**

This is also your tour number

# JAPAN: LAND OF THE RISING SUN

9 or 11 days | Japan

Japan has had many identities through the centuries; its story is a fascinating one. Tokyo is the modern-day center of pop culture and business, while Kyoto remains the most traditional of the big cities. The country has unsurpassed natural beauty—see it from the window of the high-speed shinkansen train and in the majestic lakes and mountains of Hakone National Park.

### EVERYTHING YOU GET:



**Full-time Tour Director**



**Sightseeing:** 2 sightseeing tours led by expert, licensed local guides; 1 walking tour



**Entrances:** Meiji Shrine; Asakusa Kannon Temple; Hachimangu Shrine; Lake Hakone cruise; Mount Komagatake cable car; Nijo Castle; Gold Pavilion; Kimono Show; Fushimi Inari Shrine; *With extension:* Itsukushima Shrine; Peace Memorial Museum; Himeji Castle



**Experiential Learning:** Cultural activity with local students or origami lesson



**weShare,** our online platform that taps into each student's interests for a more engaging learning experience



**All of the details are covered:** Round-trip flights on major carriers; comfortable motorcoach; bullet train; 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (9 with extension); breakfast and dinner daily



Asakusa Kannon Temple



Heian Shrine

All MHS and ECHS students welcome!  
English tours. No prior knowledge of Japanese needed.

Email Iya Sensei for more information:  
[inemasti@mevsd.us](mailto:inemasti@mevsd.us)



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## NATIONAL JAPANESE EXAM

On March 3, 2017, 85 Japanese 1, 2, & 3 students took the National Japanese Exam sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Japanese. This was a computerized multiple-choice assessment focusing on listening and reading skills. I am very proud to announce that 4 MHS students scored in the Bronze Level, which is 70-79 percentile nationally. Mahala Baumbarger, Kaitlin Burnes, Matthew Curie, and Zach Shafer received the Bronze Level Award. Jordan Ellington, junior, received the Silver Level Award, scoring in the 80-89 percentile nationally and first place in Ohio for Japanese 1. Zach Shafer scored first place in Ohio in the Japanese 3 test category.

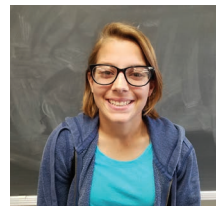
銀賞 Silver  
(80-89th percentiles):



Jordan  
Ellington



Mahala  
Baumbarger



Kaitlin  
Burns



Matthew  
Curie



Zach  
Shafer

銅賞 Bronze  
(70-79th percentiles):

## JASCO JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST

Every year the Japan America Society of Central Ohio, or JASCO holds the Annual Japanese Speech Contest for high school and university students studying Japanese. In the high school category students submit a written essay and a recording of themselves reading it, after which it is judged by a group of native speakers and the best essays are narrowed down. This year I am so proud to say that 5 of the top 9 essays were written by MHS & ECHS Japanese 3 students, and they had the opportunity to perform these from memory as well as endure a question-answer session from a panel of judges on March 4, 2017 in Dublin, Ohio. This was a great way to represent Marysville as well as get a chance to show off our Japanese skills!

I couldn't be more proud of Garrett Brown, Meghan Bradley, Eve Hawley, Zack Dumbauld, and Zach Shafer for all of the time and effort that they committed in order to prepare for this event.

All five of them performed their speeches so well and answered all of the judges' questions with confidence! Zack Dumbauld was awarded 2nd place in the contest, and Zach Shafer was awarded the Consul General Award! Garrett Brown is attending University of Findlay and plans to study Japanese. Meghan Bradley will be attending OSU Marion and plans to continue her Japanese studies as well!





# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

## JAPANESE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Mary Calvert  
Harrison Carvour  
Aaron Curie  
Eve Hawley  
Lan Do  
Emma Klaus  
Colin Kovinchick  
Eden Murowsky  
Maddie Murphy  
George Penney  
Garrett Seger  
Sarah Tappendorf  
Micah Tuazon

This year Schubert Sensei and I had the distinct pleasure of inducting 13 new students into the Japanese National Honor Society on April 29, 2017. Eligible students had to be in their second year of Japanese with a 3.0 cumulative GPA and a 3.5 in Japanese classes.

The event included guest speeches by JR Rausch of Marysville, Sue Devine of MEVSD, Keith Conroy of Union County Community Improvement Corporation, Benjamin Pachter of Japan America Society of Central Ohio, Jun Kawabe of Ohio Wesleyan University, Noriko Mills of Honda R&D Americas, Inc., and Hiroaki Kawamura of the University of Findlay.

Our students got to hear firsthand the wide range of benefits and experiences that studying Japanese can bring, as well as say a few words on their own about their experience studying Japanese at Marysville. Two of our students presented their comments in Japanese!

This past year JNHS members were involved in the community by volunteering their time to teach Japanese to 3rd and 4th grade students for a period of 5 weeks in January. They also tutored Japanese individually and put in a great amount of time into helping us with the Evening of Japanese Culture Event.



## SENIOR CHORDS

Kaylynn Borrer 2016 Inductee	Michael Hockman 2016 Inductee
Meghan Bradley 2016 Inductee	Shelbie Lyle 2016 Inductee
Garrett Brown 2016 Inductee	Emi Penney 2016 Inductee
Madison Bushong 2016 Inductee	Jacob Read 2016 Inductee

## AATJ NENGAJO CONTEST



HONORABLE MENTION  
Micah Tuazon



## TAIKO EXPERIENCE

On April 27, 2017 Japanese 3 students had a great surprise and got a chance to work with Eric Paton from Capital University. The following is his bio from the Ohio Alliance For Arts Education:

“Eric Paton is a musician, performer, and educator specializing in percussion from around the world.

Paton grew up in Tokyo, Japan where he attended a Nishigahara elementary school and the Nishimachi International School representing thirty-four nationalities. He attended Capital University, Bexley, OH, and graduated with a music performance degree in 1989. Paton has been a member of the Capital University faculty since 1990, where he has taught percussion, conducted the Concert Percussion Ensemble, and founded the Ethnic Percussion Ensemble, a student performance ensemble that features the music of Cuba, Haiti, and Japan.”

I kept the taiko workshop as a surprise from my level 3 students for all week. I just wrote on the board that we had a “良い サブライズ” scheduled for Thursday and they were on edge the whole week! They thought it was a test! :) You should have seen their reactions when they walked into the gym with all the drums set up. Their faces lit up like it was Christmas! Eric taught them some brief history of Taiko, as well as talked a little about his background, but mostly he had them drumming the entire period! I am very grateful for Eric’s time and the amazing learning opportunity he presented to my students.



## JAPANESE CLUB

Japanese club has had an eventful year. We were invited to visit Morioku Technology North America, a Japanese company in Marysville, Ohio in the fall. We got to tour the facility as well as have a one-on-one session with the Japanese workers. Our students took turns asking questions in both Japanese and English, and it was fun to put them on the spot!

As a club, we also made onigiri, curry, and udon noodles. For Valentine’s Day, we made our annual chocolate masterpieces for friends and family. We also had our end of the year party with Japanese food from Karen Market.







## TANYA SCHUBERT SENSEI, MHS/BMS

今年も1年間を疲れ様でした！

Congratulations on finishing another year! You should be proud of everything you have accomplished this school year. I

know that studying a language has its challenges, but you pushed through.

In February I had the honor of having two Japanese teachers from Tokyo come and observe my Japanese I class. I remember before the class we spoke, and I told them about how Iya Sensei and I teach Japanese by using Japanese. They seemed skeptical, but were excited to watch my lesson. After the lesson, I'll never forget what they said. They both walked over, smiling and said, "Wow, your students can actually speak Japanese". I was glad to hear them say that. They wanted to know why it was so important to me to teach the way that I did. So, I explained it to them. I took Japanese when I was in high school. I loved my teacher, she inspired me to become a teacher. However, even though I loved my teacher, she never spoke Japanese in the classroom. I never learned Chinese characters, and went into University being able to only read and write simple hiragana and katakana. Freshman year of college for the most part was the same. No Japanese was spoken. We did study Chinese characters, but we were never forced to use them. I never looked at anything that wasn't from the textbook or the workbook.

Then, the summer of 2006 I went to Japan for the first time. I remember being nervous, but told myself that I had studied for three years. So, I would be able to speak and read basic things. Sadly, it was the opposite. I couldn't speak Japanese, I couldn't understand what was being said in Japanese and I remember looking up and seeing all of the kanji and thinking, wow, I can't understand anything. I never even learned about Japanese money, so I had no clue on how yen worked, and was often flustered even buying something as small as a rice ball. The program in Marysville is rigorous compared to other high school programs. It's considered so because

Iya and I don't believe in hiding the difficult components of the language. From the minute our students walk through the door we start exposing them to real spoken and written language. We show our students how to break the language down, and how to use context to figure out meaning. Throughout the whole process, we encourage our students to make mistakes. That might seem counterproductive, but actually without making mistakes, we know that our students will not learn. So we foster an environment where students feel safe making mistakes.

Then, when our students go to Japan for the first time, we know that they have the tools to be successful. They are going to get off the plane, look around and instead of thinking, wow I can't understand anything. They will think, look how much I can understand. I don't know what that means, or that means but looking at this, I think it probably means this. That is why Iya Sensei and I teach the way that we teach.

Studying Japanese, even if only for a year makes you unique. I honestly believe that studying a language such as Japanese shows that you have what it takes to be successful in life. You possess determination, patience, and absolutely no fear of challenging yourself whether it is a resume for a job or an application for a University, having studied a less commonly taught language will make you a memorable candidate. It will show that you are up to any task that may be put before you.

You can do it. I believe in all of you. Don't give up, and keep pushing towards your goal. It might not always be easy, but just take it one step at a time. It has been a privilege being able to teach you the past two years.

また会える日まで。さようなら！







## IYA NEMASTIL SENSEI, ECHS/MHS

Brace yourselves, as this is going to be a sappy one. Where to begin? This year was a whirlwind of emotions for me. I had my baby girl on March 5, 2017. I sent five of my students to the JASCO Speech Contest on March 4, 2017. All I wanted to do was to make it to see them compete, and my baby managed to listen and waited until the following day to greet us with her presence!

I am so proud of the work that our students have done to make it to this point. Their performance at the Speech Contest was an example of their dedication and perseverance, as well as a solid example of what teaching in the target language can do for your students. Watching them on stage, as they performed their speeches brought tears to my eyes. I'm sure it was partially the hormones, but it was breathtaking. They were so confident, they spoke with ease, and they all completed the question-answer session flawlessly.

I remember when I was in high school, I didn't have much communicative ability in the language. I learned a lot about culture through stories and tried a lot of Japanese food, but when it came to speaking the language I was lost. I remember my first trip to Japan in high school, and how I could barely ask someone where something is located. Now seeing my students, I can't believe the tasks they are able to do in the language, and with such confidence! A Japanese professor colleague of mine taught me this word a couple of years ago: 天職 or *tenshoku*. It means one's lifework or calling. This is what I feel teaching Japanese is to me. Seeing my students communicate and share messages with other people through a language once so foreign to them makes my job worthwhile.

I feel as though my students graduating this year will be remarkable. So many seniors are leaving me for college and though I am sad, I can't wait to hear what life has in store for them. A couple of my students plan to continue studying Japanese in college, and one will go

to Miami University, where I studied, and one will study at University of Findlay, where Schubert Sensei studied. How cool is that? Seeing our professors who taught us Japanese teach our students is a strange but cool feeling. I will definitely keep asking them to write for this newsletter as they continue their Japanese learning journey.

We were also able to pull off another successful Evening of Japanese Culture event on April 8, 2017, in order to raise funds for our students going on the Yoroi-Marysville Exchange trip in July. There were some pretty cool new performers and booths in attendance, and I am forever grateful for everyone's efforts in making this event possible. This event gets bigger and better every year, and I am very proud of what it has become. I loved that this year we were able to include colleges in our booths so students and parents both could start thinking about Japanese at the college level. I can't wait to see what next year has in store for us.

Along with the culture event, we had our second annual induction into the Japanese National Honor Society on April 29, 2017. Thirteen students were inducted and this year our graduating seniors received their chords. They were able to reflect on their experience being in the JNHS, as well as share with the audience how studying Japanese at MHS has changed their lives. I am very thankful for these students and all of the countless hours spent on helping tutor other students, and designing our first ever elementary after-school Japanese program. Shout out to Emi Penney!

The students graduating this year have spent the past three years learning Japanese from me in my classroom. They started all the way from hiragana あ and have grown to be able to discuss poverty issues in the US and Japan. Along with the Japanese program



at Marysville, I have grown as a teacher as well. I have gone out of my comfort zone and have taken risks with these students and they have cheered me on the entire way. Their willingness to participate and to try out the crazy ideas I have are what makes teaching Japanese my 天職.





JAPANESE  
NATIONAL  
HONOR  
SOCIETY





# 埼玉県 大里郡(寄居町)の『ゆるキャラ図鑑』面白カワイイご当地マスコットキャラクター 一覧リスト

埼玉県大里郡(寄居町)の『ゆるキャラ』を調べまとめました。  
寄居町商工会のキャラクター「乙姫ちゃん」、埼玉県立 川の博物館(かわはく)の「カワシロウ」。楽しく可愛いキャラクター達をぜひチェックしましょう!!  
また、大里郡(寄居町)の指定の花は「片栗(かたくり)」、木は「山桜(やまざくら)」、鳥は「雉(きじ)」です。  
キャラクターの中に要素として盛り込まれているかもしれませんね。



※本ページで使用している「市区町村章(シンボルマーク)」「キャラクター」の著作権は、該当の市区町村管理部または企業、制作者に帰属します。  
「キャラクター」の認知が広がり、街がさらに盛り上がれば幸いです。

## 乙姫ちゃん

### 寄居町商工会のキャラクター

寄居町には「日本名城百選」に選ばれた戦国時代に北條氏が居城とした『鉢形城』があります。その鉢形城の内堀であった深沢川にあったとされる四十八釜(すがま)にまつわる民話。いわゆる「竜宮伝説」から商工会青年部が創り出したキャラクターが“乙姫ちゃん”です。

(引用:Web「寄居町商工会マスコット乙姫ちゃん」)

所属団体: 寄居町商工会

※カワイ子ちゃんですね♪

