

# Astoria, Warrenton earn high marks in state report cards

## Seaside boasts high grad rate

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian

Astoria and Warrenton-Hammond outperformed similar school districts for students graduating on time and continuing their education beyond high school, according to recent district report cards issued by the state Department of Education.

The yearly report cards review the academic performance of students on assessments, along with their rates of four-year graduation, completion of a General Educational Development tests or modified diploma and dropouts from the past year. The report card also tells the percentage of the graduating students from two years ago who continuing education

Item	Astoria	Warrenton-Hammond	Knappa	Seaside	Jewell	Statewide
<b>Four-year graduation rate</b>						
2013-14	65.6%	66.7%	65.9%	76.3%	100%	72%
2014-15	74.8	69.1	66.7	74.8	64.3	73.8
Similar*	71.6	62.7	79.1	74.8	71.2	—
<b>Completion rate</b>						
2013-14	76	85.3	87	85.1	100	82.1
2014-15	74.4	77.3	75.6	82.2	100	81.6
Similar*	80.6	76.1	85.2	82.8	78.9	—
<b>Dropout rate</b>						
2013-14	5.1	2.9	0.7	3.7	2.3	4
2014-15	6.2	4.6	2.2	5.7	2.3	4.3
Similar*	4.8	6.2	2.9	4.2	4.3	—
<b>Freshmen on track to graduate</b>						
2014-15	79.6	68.8	94.9	82	>95	79.9
2015-16	76.9	71.6	83.8	85.9	76.9	83.5
Similar*	82.9	79.8	81.8	81	75.7	—
<b>Continuing education</b>						
2012-13	69.4	57.7	70	54.6	13.3	60.5
2013-14	59.6	61.2	35.7	50.5	27.3	59.4
Similar*	49.3	46.1	54.3	50	48.8	—

Source: Oregon Dept. of Education

\*Comparison to a similar Oregon school district in 2014-15.

Edward Stratton and Alan Kenaga/EO Media Group

after high school.

Three-quarters of the seniors in Astoria High School's Class of 2015 grad-

uated in four years, up nearly 10 percent from the previous year and higher than the state (73.8 percent) and similar-dis-

trict (71.6 percent) averages. Nearly 60 percent of seniors from two years ago had gone on to continue their educa-

tion beyond high school, 10 percent more than at similar districts.

At Warrenton High School, 69 percent of the Class of 2015 graduated in four years, up slightly from the previous years and more than 6 percent higher than at similar districts. More than 61 percent of seniors from two years ago had continued their education, 15 percent more than at similar districts.

Nearly three-quarters of the class of 2015 at Seaside High School graduated in four years. But only half of the class of 2014 and 2013 have gone on to further education.

### Rural Districts

Knappa and Jewell continued to struggle in both graduation and getting students to further their education after high school. With significantly smaller enrollment than most, both districts are subject to massive shifts in their performance indicators

based on the outcomes of only a few students.

Only about two-thirds of seniors from the class of 2015 at Jewell School graduated in four years, compared to 100 percent the year prior. All of its students completed GED exams and modified or extended diplomas. Only 27 percent of the Class of 2014 continued their education after high school, still an improvement over the 13 percent over the Class of 2013.

In Knappa, two-thirds of the Class of 2015 graduated in four years, similar to the previous year. Three-quarters of students completed high school some other way, down 12 percent from the prior year. Less than 36 percent of the seniors in the Class of 2014 have continued their education after high school, about half the rate of the class of 2013.

For a more in-depth look, view the district report cards at <http://tinyurl.com/zagaoxd>

# Power company plans rate increase to cover Measure 97

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian

Executives from Pacific Power say the gross receipts tax created by Measure 97, if it passes in November, will lead to electric rates increasing by 2.5 to 4 percent in Oregon.

Stefan Byrd, the new CEO of Pacific Power as of March, visited The Daily Astorian's offices last week, along with Vice President of External Affairs Scott Bolton and Regional Manager Alisa Dunlap.

"In some ways, we're one of the most efficient pass-

throughs of a gross receipts tax," Bolton said.

As a regulated utility, Pacific Power has the ability to raise rates to cover tax increases. The utility goes before the state's Public Utility Commission to seek rate increases. Mark Brown, an administrative assistant with the commission, said the state is anticipating similar rate increases by other utilities.

"A tax is something they



Stefan Byrd

recover in rates," Brown said of Pacific Power's situation. "Between the utilities we cover, we're being told anywhere from a 2 to 4 percent increase in rates."

Measure 97 would only affect the rates of Pacific Power's approximately 550,000 customers in Oregon. The utility also provides power in parts of Washington, Northern California, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. Byrd said the additional taxes in Oregon will also make Pacific Power take a rational look at where to make future investments in infrastructure.

# Measure 97 campaigns raise record \$33.4 million

By PARIS ACHEN  
Capital Bureau

Measure 97 has shattered the state's record for the most money contributed to a battle over a ballot measure.

The campaign to defeat the corporate sales tax measure has reached \$22.5 million in contributions, more than double what proponents of the corporate sale tax have raised, according to campaign finance records. The Yes on 97 campaign has raised \$10.9 million.

The record previously resided with the fight over GMO labeling in 2014, when opponents and proponents raised a combined \$29 million.

In the past several days, three major grocery chains

have contributed a combined \$2.7 million in a final push against Measure 97, as voters received ballots in the mail this week. Costco, Albertsons/Safeway and Kroger/Fred Meyer each donated \$900,000 to the campaign.

The Yes on 97 campaign also continued to receive donations, largely from public employee unions.

The measure would levy a 2.5 percent tax on the Oregon sales of "C" corporations exceeding \$25 million, while "S" corporations — some with similar business structures and sales — would pay no additional tax.

Unlike S corporations, there are no limitations on the number of shareholders in a C corporation, and C corporations generally pay a cor-

porate tax on the company's income, while shareholders also have to pay taxes on any income or dividends they receive from the company.

The tax would yield about \$3 billion per year in additional revenue for the state and provide a stable funding stream for state services such as education, health care and senior services. The tax targets mostly big corporations such as Costco and Walmart, but some homegrown Oregon businesses also would be affected.

However, the nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office has estimated that the tax would likely cost the typical household about \$600 more per year in the form of higher prices and slowed job growth.

# Business owners replace idealists in marijuana legalization movement

By KRISTEN WYATT  
Associated Press

DENVER — Business owners are replacing idealists in the pot-legalization movement as the nascent marijuana industry creates a broad base of new donors, many of them entrepreneurs willing to spend to change drug policy.

Unlike in the past, these supporters are not limited to a few wealthy people seeking change for personal reasons. They constitute a bigger coalition of business interests. And their support provides a significant financial advantage for pro-legalization campaigns.

"It's mainly a social-justice movement. But undoubtedly there are business interests at work, which is new in this movement," said Kayvan Khalatbari, a one-time pot-shop owner and now head of a Denver marijuana consulting firm.

The donors offer a wider foundation of support for the marijuana-related measures



AP Photo/Kristen Wyatt

**Business owners in the new marijuana industry mingle at a political fundraiser in Denver. Business owners are replacing idealists in the pot-legalization movement as the nascent marijuana industry creates a donor base of entrepreneurs willing to spend to change drug policy.**

on the ballot next month in nine states. The campaigns are still largely funded by national advocacy organizations such as the Drug Policy Alliance, the Marijuana Policy Project and the New Approach PAC.

But those groups are less reliant on billionaire activists.

On the other side, legalization opponents are attracting new support from businesses as diverse as trucking, pharmaceuticals, even gambling.

# Crew member arrested for onboard sexual assault

The Daily Astorian

Colombian foreign national Jose Joaquin Martinez-Doria, 49, was arrested Friday by the Astoria Police Department for an alleged sexual assault that occurred aboard a vessel moored along Pier 2.

Detectives were assisted by the U.S. Coast Guard Investigative Service. Mar-

tinez-Doria was arrested on one charge each of first-degree sodomy, first-degree unlawful sexual penetration with a foreign object, first-de-

gree sexual abuse and first-degree burglary. The adult victim and Martinez-Doria were both crew members aboard the same vessel.

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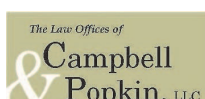
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## Dawn McIntosh rejoins Campbell & Popkin



Dawn McIntosh

Judge-elect Dawn McIntosh has rejoined Campbell & Popkin to work closely with Chris Palmer, in whom she has great confidence. Dawn and Chris are both well-known for skillfully representing clients in divorce, separation, custody and other family law matters. Campbell & Popkin also provides services in business law, litigation, real estate, estate planning and probate. Dawn and Chris are both taking new clients.



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Chris Palmer

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# “OK/HELP” SIGN CAMPAIGN



Signs are available at the following locations:

- **County offices** – County Manager's Office, Child Support Office, Public Health, Clerk & Elections, Assessment & Taxation, Animal Shelter
- **Astoria** – City Hall, Astoria Public Library, Fire/Police Station, Astoria Coffee House, Coffee Girl, KMUN radio, Peter Pan Market, Rusty Cup, Salon Verve, Safeway, Street 14 Café and Hauer's Lawn Care
- **Warrenton/Hammond** – City Hall, Hammond Library, Costco, Medix, Les Schwab, Northwest Senior & Disability Services, Sentry Market
- **Gearhart** – City Hall, Gearhart Grocery
- **Seaside** – City Hall, Police Department, Seaside Library, Visitor Center, and Safeway
- **Cannon Beach/Arch Cape** – City Hall, Police Station, Cannon Beach Library, Cannon Beach Fire Station, Mariner Market
- **Knappa/Svensen** – Knappa Fire Station

For Information:

Clatsop County Emergency Management  
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