



BRENNA VISSER/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Kindergartners from the Cannon Beach Academy get ready to take a photo with a flag giving Cannon Beach the distinction of "Tree City USA" at old Cannon Beach Elementary School as a part of the 12 Days of Earth Day event.

# Academy kids make gains

School's first year shows numbers above national average

By Brenna Visser  
Cannon Beach Gazette

In its first full school year, new test results that measure student progress have come in for Cannon Beach Academy significantly above the national average.

Progress was measured with AIMSwebPlus, a national reporting tool used by Seaside School District to measure growth in subject staples like math and reading for kindergartners to eighth-graders. Twenty-seven students were graded with points upon completion of different skills. An average point count across the grade level was then used to measure progress.

In literacy, kindergartners improved by 40 points on

STUDENT DATA CONTINUED	
<b>Growth Rates</b>	
Kindergarten Reading	Average gain from winter to spring was 40 points, compared to the national average of 19 points.
Kindergarten Math	Average gain from winter to spring was 29 points, compared to the national average of 8 points.
1st grade Literacy	Average gain from winter to spring was 72 points, compared to the national average of 39 points.
1st grade Math	Average gain from winter to spring was 29 points, compared to the national average of 17 points.
2nd grade Literacy	Average gain from winter to spring was 33 points, compared to the national average of 17 points.
2nd grade Math	Average gain from winter to spring was 3 points, compared to the national average of 14 points.

CANNON BEACH ACADEMY

**The Cannon Beach Academy released its literacy and math test scores in its annual report.**

average compared with the national of 19 points from winter to spring. In math, 26 points of growth in comparison to nine points across the country. First-graders gained 72 points on average in the same time period — 33 points above the national average — and in math improved by 32 points in comparison with the national average of 17 points.

There was also growth list-

ed for one student enrolled in second grade.

Operating as a new school, executive director Amy Moore said she didn't know what to expect, especially with the majority of incoming kindergartners placed in the lowest percentile for literacy.

"In my 13 years of education, I've never really seen anything like this," Moore said. "This is huge."

The scores show a mark of progress for a school that has been saddled with financial and logistical obstacles. Early denials of their charter by Seaside School District, low fund balances and difficulties securing a location left many in the community — including some members of the City Council — skeptical about the feasibility and longevity of the charter school.

But these scores tell Moore they are doing something right.

"As a first year administrator, it just feels like all of our hard work has finally paid

off," she said.

Moore attributes high test scores to the work of her teachers, small class sizes encouraging more one-on-one attention and the curriculum, Direct Instruction.

Lessons are designed so that only 10 percent of the material is new each time its taught, which in turn leads to students being able to practice skills more frequently and consistently. Small classes also allow teachers to identify students who need extra help sooner, Moore said.

"There's instant feedback," she said. "If your biggest group is eight kids, you can see if the kid is making a mistake instead of getting lost in the crowd."

The academy will continue to have to evolve as class sizes grows and the number of grades expand. But for now, she hopes the scores will show the community the academy is on the right track.

"I hope it knocks their socks off," Moore said.

# Seaside School District celebrates kickoff of construction project

The \$100 million school project underway

By R.J. Marx  
Cannon Beach Gazette

The school bus headed up the logging trails Monday, July 2, beyond Beerman Creek Road and onto the rocky and rutted hills to the Seaside School District's new middle and high school campus.

"I used to play out here when I was a child," Steve Phillips, chairman of the school district's board of directors, said as excavators nudged and shuttled soil not far away.

A state Department of Environmental Quality permit, received last week, triggered a site permit from the city for grading, excavation, utility work and erosion control, project manager Jim Henry said.

The campus will bring students from three schools located in the tsunami inundation zone to the new location on 89 acres just southeast of Seaside Heights Elementary School.

Gearhart Elementary School students will attend a renovated and expanded Seaside Heights.

A new two-story building will house middle and high school students.



R.J. MARX

**Breaking ground at the new campus are school board members Sheila Roley, Hugh Stelson, Steve Phillips, Mark Truax, Doug Dougherty, Lori Lum, Michelle Wunderlich and Lynn Ulbricht.**

Superintendent Sheila Roley directed groups of school board members, administrators, city staff and the construction team for the groundbreaking, what she described as a "soft opening," with a more formal event planned for later in the year.

A foundation package was submitted to the city for permit on Monday, he added.

Construction manager Phil Broome of Hoffman Construction said stumps will be pulled and broken into pieces before being fed to a tub-grinder and used for landscaping or taken away.

the top and working their way down, before moving and transferring the dirt into fill areas, about a three-month job. Any earth-moving before rains hit in October.

Up the hill, visitors could hear the grinding of gears and the sounds of metal against rock and ground as excavators lifted and moved stumps and logs.

To the west, officials contemplated the \$100 million views, a panoramic swing along the distant hubbub of downtown and a sparkling Pacific.

Teams of officials from the school district, city and construction team posed in hard-hats and vests as "gold" shovels hit the dirt.

Former Superintendent Doug Dougherty was among those attending the event. Dougherty, who retired in 2016, is widely credited for helping to bring the project to fruition through decades of advocacy.

"It's amazing to finally see that the project is starting," he said.

**Cannon Beach Leather**  
Remy Scully  
Since 1906  
**Schott** N.Y.C.  
**Whet blu WILL**  
LEATHER GOODS  
Brighton  
Covode Masley  
239 N. Hemlock • Cannon Beach • 503.436.0208

**COAST GALLERY AND NUMISMATICS**  
"a different kind of gallery"  
Coast Gallery and Numismatics is the northwest coast newest gallery. Opened June 1, 2018, Coast Gallery and Numismatics exclusively features original oil paintings and wood fired ceramics by Jeff Whyman MFA University California Berkeley 1981, Jeff Whyman lived in Cannon Beach for over 20 years and taught at Clatsop Community College in Astoria, Oregon. From around the world we also offer exotic shells and choice world coins. Regards coins we offer complimentary appraisals on Saturdays.  
**COAST GALLERY AND NUMISMATICS**  
3350 N Hwy 101 Suite D, Gearhart, Oregon  
Wed. thru Sat. 9AM to 4PM  
www.coastgallerynumismatics.com

**BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

**PAINTING**

**STORAGE AVAILABLE**

**CANNON BEACH BUSINESS PARK**

**10' x 10' Heated**

**Contact Holly at 503-436-2235**

**LAWN CARE**

**Free Estimates • Storm Clean-Up**

**JIM'S LAWN CARE**  
**503-325-2445**

**LAWNS • SHRUBS • GUTTER CLEANING**  
**BARK • BRUSH CLEARING & REMOVAL**  
**WEEDING • HAULING • MONTHLY RATES**

**CONSTRUCTION**

**COASTER construction, LLC**

"Helping shape the character of Cannon Beach since 1973"

**Residential • Commercial • Remodeling**  
**New Construction • Storm Damage Repair**  
**Full Service Custom Cabinet Shop**

**503.436.2235**

www.coasterconstruction.com • CCB# 150126

**TREE REMOVAL**

**QUALITY TREE REMOVAL**

HIGH CLIMBING • DANGER TREES  
PRUNING • STUMP GRINDING

**JUSTIN J. DAY**

**FREE ESTIMATES (503) 338-5780**

Warrenton, Oregon • Licensed • Bonded • Insured • CCB# 214256 • WA • QUALTR831PO

**PAINTING**

Licensed • Bonded • Insured  
CCB# 89453

Randy Anderson  
36 Years Experience

**Anderson Painting**

(503) 738-9989 • Cell (503) 440-2411 • Fax (503) 738-9337  
PO Box 140 Seaside, Oregon 97138

www.andersonpainting.biz

"Custom Finishing"

**LANDSCAPING**

Laurelwood Compost • Mulch • Planting MacMix  
Soil Amendments

**YARD DEBRIS DROP-OFF**  
(no Scotch Broom)

**503-717-1454**

34154 HIGHWAY 26  
SEASIDE, OR

**Laurelwood Farm**

**CONSTRUCTION**

**BOB McEWAN CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

**EXCAVATION • UNDERGROUND UTILITIES**  
**ROAD WORK • FILL MATERIAL**  
**SITE PREPARATION • ROCK**

OWNED AND OPERATED BY MIKE AND CELINE McEWAN

**503-738-3569**

34154 Hwy 26, Seaside, OR  
P.O. Box 2845, Gearhart, OR

SERVING THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST SINCE 1956 • CC48302

**FLOORING**

CCB# 205283

you walk on our reputation

**Carpet Corner**

Flooring • Installation

3470 Hwy 101 Suite 102 • Gearhart, Oregon  
503.739.7577 • carpetcornergearhart.com

**WEB DESIGN**

**empty canvas media & design**

- music, art, creative, logic

**Merle Fenton**  
tel. (406) 600-6273  
fenton.merle@gmail.com  
1775 S. Roosevelt Unit C Seaside, OR, 97146

Look us up on Facebook.com