



Who will be the next superintendent?

School district board of directors looks for public input on new administrator

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Who will take charge next fall at Seaside schools? And what qualities are residents and district staff looking for in a new leader?

The Seaside School District Board of Directors plans to meet with administrators, staff, students and the community to gather input on qualities they seek in a new superintendent. Informational sessions will be held throughout the day Tuesday, Feb. 9, at Seaside High School and the district office, with a meeting for



Doug Dougherty

the public at 5:30 p.m. at the high school's library. The search team includes Greg McKenzie and Mike Taylor of NextUp Leadership, based in West Linn.

Longtime Superintendent Doug Dougherty announced his upcoming retirement in November, but he will continue to serve part-time as superintendent-emeritus during the 2016-17 school year to help transition the new superintendent. Dougherty also is expected to work on a new school

relocation bond to be placed on the November ballot.

Dougherty began his career with the Seaside School District as a teacher at Seaside Heights Elementary School in 1982. He also worked as a teacher at Broadway Middle School and the principal of Cannon Beach Elementary School before being hired to replace former superintendent Harold Riggan in 1998.

Faculty, student and staff meetings will take place throughout

the day, conducted by one of the board's superintendent search consultants. The purpose of the meetings is for the board to know what the community and district employees are hoping for in the new superintendent, who will begin employment July 1.

"It's not a required meeting for anyone in the district," Executive Assistant Sally Francis said. "It's only if they want to come."

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JOSHUA BESSE/EO MEDIA GROUP

Crews work on North North Holladay Drive near 2nd Avenue in Seaside on Monday.

Student tsunami project makes waves

High schoolers seeking awareness, funds to move at-risk schools

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Seaside High School's Don't Catch This Wave campaign is starting to take effect, bringing awareness to the dire situation faced by three of Seaside's schools that are settled in the tsunami inundation zone.

The school's Associated Student Body officers took on the tsunami awareness and fundraising project as its national goal for the 2015-16 school because of "the extreme importance of this issue," senior Nathanael Ward, communications director, told the Seaside School District Board of Directors during a meeting Jan. 19.

"Our student group is raising funds to help spread awareness and help relocate the school district's at-risk campuses out of the inundation zone," Ward said. "We want the nation to know the importance of this issue."

The primary goal of the project is spreading awareness about the inevitability of an earthquake, likely of an 8.5 or higher magnitude, taking place along the Cascadia Subduction Zone some time in the future.

"The scenario is catastrophic, and it will leave people in coastal towns in southern Canada, Washington, Oregon and northern California with only about 15 to 20 minutes to evacuate to higher ground, providing they actually survive the actual earthquake," ASB Secretary Kyna Lin said.

The problem is that three of the district's four schools are in

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NORTH HOLLADAY DRIVE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BEGINS

Detours around portions of site expected throughout project

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Drivers can expect some detours and lots of construction along North Holladay Drive during the next few months, as the portion between First and 12th avenues undergoes major improvements.

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KATHERINE LACAZE/SEASIDE SIGNAL

North Holladay Drive, between First and 12th avenues, is the site of a major improvement project. Construction crews hope to have the bulk of work done by May 27, before Memorial Day.

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Jason Husa, a volunteer with the Oregon Marine Mammal Stranding Network, pulls aside a piece of blubber from the whale.

A whale of a mystery

Marine experts seek answers in death of humpback whale

By Kyle Spurr and Katherine Lacaze
EO Media Group

The dead 24-foot humpback whale that washed ashore on the north end of Seaside's beach Sunday caused quite a stir.

A couple of dozen onlookers stopped to watch Tuesday as a team of marine experts from Portland State University and Oregon Marine Mammal Stranding Network volunteers performed a necropsy on the animal, which had been moved slightly inland and north on the beach. Some came to town specifically to see the whale.

The team collected biological samples that will be used to help determine a cause of death. If there are no "smoking guns,"

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