



# OREGON CHARTER ACADEMY

Prepared for:  
Cognia Accreditation Site Visit  
March 1, 2021

# What Makes Us Oregon Charter Academy?

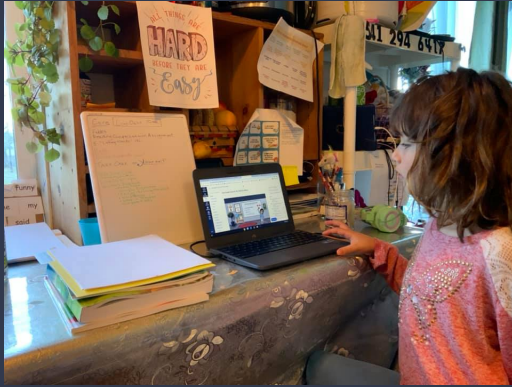


“Progress is impossible without change.”

- George Shaw

- Founded as Oregon Connections Academy in 2005.
  - [2018-21 Strategic Plan](#)
- Became Oregon Charter Academy July 1, 2020.
- Became an independent charter school building our foundation on our [Vision and Mission](#).
- Better tools and resources for staff and students.
- Equitable access for ALL students.
- Curriculum that is dynamic versus static

# Academics



I can already start to see a huge change in student engagement and achievement from last year. When I called my standard history kids in the last week all but three of the kids I spoke to were able to explain to me the downsides of abandoning hunting and gathering and taking up agriculture. That is huge. Normally 20 percent tops would have gotten that. Our classes are already so much more focused and streamlined, and the kids are benefiting. This is working. It was worth it. I know it was incredibly hard and stressful. It is already paying off.

— High School Teacher

Overview of a day for an Oregon Charter Academy student.

- [WSP](#) - Concise Task Definition.
- Varied & Engaging Learning
  - Asynchronous
  - Read, Write Actively
  - Audio/Visual
  - Collaborate
  - Projects & Create
- Live Class & Synchronous
  - “Flipped” Class

... I just think for our families this path is truly setting their children up for success. Thank you both for taking the chance on this! To be quite honest, I was very unsure going into summer last year, but I LOVE being a teacher again!!!!

— Middle School Teacher

# Additional Academic Programs and Supports

- [AVID](#)
- [ASCEND - CTE Program](#)
- Dual Credit
- Summer School
  - High School - Credit Recovery
  - 8th to 9th Grade Bridge Program
  - K-8 - Skill Building
- National Honor Society/Junior Honor Society
- Reading Support
- Math Support
- Rosetta Stone

2019-20 HOSA Team: State Competition



AVID Class Collaboration Session

*The mission of Oregon Charter Academy is to prepare all students for success in a global society through an inclusive, rigorous, academic environment where students have daily live interaction with highly qualified teachers and continuous access to curriculum. Oregon Charter Academy staff partners with families in a transparent, collaborative school environment to support all students in their academic journey.*

# Additional Programs Student Support

We are filled with gratitude for the love, thoughtfulness and generosity of the ORCA learning community. Without you, Christmas would not have come this year. Recovering from the wildfire has been a full time job and taken all our resources and energy. ORCA has been there to support us, keep us faithful, and feel grounded. We would like as a family to thank all the teachers and staff who sent us such wonderful gifts.  
- ORCA Family

- School Social Worker/Family Support Liaisons
  - Providing resources and connections to local communities all over the state.
  - Giving back - Holiday gift bag drive
- Student Engagement Advisory Teacher
- Teen Parent Program
- Graduation Support and Truancy Officer
- Counselor Led Student Support Groups:
  - Worry Warriors
  - Improvement Incorporated
  - Breakfast Club

# Student Engagement



- Principal's Corner
- Student Government
  - Grades 5-12
  - Spirit Week last week
- Events - Virtual and In-Person
  - Over 200 field trips opportunities each year
  - Book Battle
  - Poetry Outloud
- Clubs and Activities
- NASA - ARISS

# Communicating with Stakeholders

## Staff

- [Communicator](#)
- Principal Notes
- [Cabinet](#)
- House of Representatives
- Staff surveys and feedback opportunities

## Students

- [Video Newsletter](#)
- Principal Announcements and Notes
- [Field Trip Central](#)
- Course Surveys
- School Surveys

## Families

- Smart Start Sessions
- Onboarding Support
- Resource Fairs
- Video Newsletters
- [FaceBook](#) - Open and Closed
- Town Halls
- Surveys

# Where are we going?

“Look closely at the present you are constructing. It should look like the future you are dreaming.”

—Alice Walker

- Diversify staff
- Expand CTE pathways
- Purchase office/classroom space to accommodate live interactions
- Continue to refine our systems and platforms by responding to stakeholder feedback and staying current in:
  - Pedagogical practices in online learning
  - Technological advancements and needs
- Continue to lower student to teacher ratios
- Continue opportunities for Board development



# Celebrations since the accreditation site visit:

- Cognia (formerly AdvancEd) scored ORCA as a **377.5 out of 400**.
  - the average score for all Cognia accredited schools over the past five years is 278.34 to 283.33.
- Poetry Out Loud state champion
- 23 of 55 graduating ASCEND (CTE) students have earned industry-recognized certifications, including Certified Clinical Medical Assistant, IT Fundamentals Pro and Oregon Employability Skills.
- State HOSA competition (Medical Science)
  - 1st place winner in Prepared Speaking
  - 4th place winner in Veterinary Science
  - 5th place winner in Veterinary Science
- eDynamic CTE National Teacher Finalist
- 1st annual Book Battle with nearly 50 participants



**Celebrate our Teacher Finalists!**  
In the CTE Category of  
INFORMATION, TECHNOLOGY, STEM & ENGINEERING

*In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week*

**Catherine Hay**  
**Anthony White**  
**Paula Life**

**SANTAN CANYON**  
**KISSD**  
**Proximity Learning**  
Students First

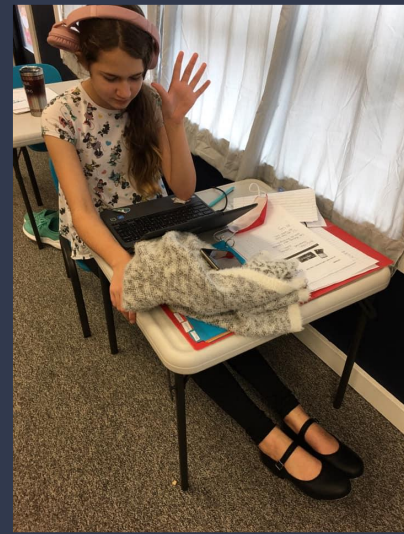
Come celebrate our finalists at the Teacher Awards Ceremony taking place at the virtual Summit, May 22nd  
<http://edynamiclearning.com/virtual-summit/>



(Talking with Astronaut Shannon Walker) was so cool, my son loved it. Heck I loved it. Something he'll remember forever and so will I. Thank you Oregon Charter and Oregon Charter NASA Club! — Parent of Elementary Student

Thank you ORCA for shaping me into the person I am today. — High School Student

I can confidently say that I have the independence and motivation to take on college because of the resources that ORCA has provided.  
— High School Student



I am so excited to be in live lessons to see my classmates and teacher as well as to learn and have fun! — Third-grade student



Thank you ORCA for your amazing teachers and staff. You make school fun. ... Keep rocking it guys! — Parent with five students in ORCA



**OREGON**  
**CHARTER ACADEMY**

Questions?