

SEASIDE SCHOOL™ Earns Florida's Highest School Grade for 25th Consecutive Year

SEASIDE SCHOOL™ earns its 25th consecutive A rating as students achieve standout academic, college and career readiness results.

SANTA ROSA BEACH, FL, UNITED STATES, August 12, 2026
/EINPresswire.com/ -- [SEASIDE SCHOOL™](#) has once again earned Florida's highest school grade (A+) from the Florida Department of Education for the 2025–2026 school year, marking the school's 25th consecutive year receiving the state's highest distinction.



Seacoast Collegiate High School Class of 2026 graduation cap toss.

According to the Florida Department of Education's 2025–2026 accountability results, SEASIDE SCHOOL™ earned 949 points across 11 accountability components, achieving 86% of all available points while recording a 100% graduation rate and 100% College and Career Acceleration.

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Twenty-five consecutive years of earning Florida's highest school grade reflects a culture where students are challenged to reach their potential and our entire community is invested in their success.”

Drew Ward, Interim Executive Director

From significant learning gains at Seaside Neighborhood School™ to exceptional college and career outcomes at Seacoast Collegiate High School, students demonstrated achievement throughout the entire SEASIDE SCHOOL™ academic experience. Among the year's standout accomplishments, Seaside Neighborhood School™ seventh-grade students earned the highest mean scale score in mathematics in the state of Florida, while Seacoast Collegiate High School's AP Environmental Science students achieved a 100% AP Exam pass rate for the second consecutive year, surpassing both the global average of 70.5% and the Florida average of 68.2%.

"Twenty-five consecutive years of earning Florida's highest school grade speaks to something much bigger than academic performance. It reflects a culture where students are challenged to reach their full potential, teachers are empowered to innovate, and families and community partners work together to support every child's success," said Drew Ward, Interim Executive Director of SEASIDE SCHOOL™. "Whether our students are building strong academic foundations in middle school, earning college degrees before graduating high school, achieving industry certifications, excelling in Advanced Placement coursework, or preparing for their next chapter, our focus has always been the same: providing opportunities that inspire them to learn, lead, and make a difference."

Academic Growth at Seaside Neighborhood School™

Seaside Neighborhood School™ students demonstrated both high levels of proficiency and significant academic growth throughout the 2025–2026 school year.

Fifth-grade mathematics proficiency increased from 40% in the fall to 80% in the spring, a 40-percentage-point increase, with 56% of students finishing at Levels 4 or 5. Sixth-grade mathematics proficiency increased from 69% to 95%, with 73% achieving Level 5. Fifth-grade ELA proficiency increased from 52% to 74%, while sixth-grade ELA reached 90% proficiency. Fifth-grade science students achieved 80% proficiency.

Seventh-grade mathematics students delivered one of the year's most significant achievements, earning the highest mean scale score in mathematics in the state of Florida. Every seventh-grade student reached proficiency, with 96% achieving Level 5. Seventh graders also achieved a 100% pass rate on the Civics End-of-Course assessment.

Eighth-grade students continued that performance. Pre-Algebra proficiency increased 45 percentage points, from 48% in the fall to 93% in the spring, with 86% reaching Level 5. Students taking Algebra achieved a 100% pass rate, with 94% of eighth graders scoring at Level 5. Eighth-grade ELA proficiency reached 96%, while eighth-grade science reached 94%.

Students also developed career-ready skills. All 18 students pursuing ServSafe certification through the Middle School Culinary Arts CTE program passed, achieving a 100% certification rate.

Class of 2026 Sets New Benchmarks

At Seacoast Collegiate High School, the Class of 2026 demonstrated exceptional college and career readiness.

Among 66 graduates, 55 students, or 83%, earned an Associate in Arts degree from Northwest Florida State College before receiving their high school diploma. Additionally, 53 graduates, or 81%, earned Honors distinctions; 53 students, or 80%, graduated with industry certifications; and 54 graduates, or 82%, qualified for Florida Bright Futures scholarships.

The original ninth-grade cohort achieved even stronger outcomes, with 95% earning an Associate in Arts degree, 95% earning industry certifications, 97% earning the Florida Scholar Designation, and 87% graduating with Honors and qualifying for Bright Futures scholarships.

The Class of 2026 also improved upon the previous year's outcomes in several areas. The percentage of graduates earning an Associate in Arts degree increased from 78% to 83%, Honors graduates increased from 71% to 81%, Bright Futures eligibility climbed from 60% to 82%, and Scholar Designations increased from 58% to 67%.

Excellence Across SEASIDE SCHOOL™

Florida's accountability results further demonstrate achievement across the school system, including 89% English Language Arts Achievement, 92% Mathematics Achievement, 93% Science Achievement, 95% Social Studies Achievement, 86% Middle School Acceleration, a 100% Graduation Rate and 100% College and Career Acceleration.

As SEASIDE SCHOOL™ begins its 26th consecutive year as an A-rated public charter school while celebrating its 30th anniversary, the school remains focused on meeting students where they are and expanding opportunities for academic growth, college credit, industry certifications, Advanced Placement coursework and innovative learning experiences.

Its mission remains unchanged: to inspire students to learn, lead and make a difference while continuing to set the standard for educational excellence in Florida.

About THE SEASIDE SCHOOL™

Founded in 1996, THE SEASIDE SCHOOL™ is one of Florida's oldest and most successful public charter schools, serving students in grades 5–12 through SEASIDE NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL™ and Seacoast Collegiate High School with a mission to prepare students for success in college, careers and beyond through a responsive, challenging and equitable education model tailored to meet the unique needs of adolescents and young adults.

Recognized as a top-performing school in Florida, THE SEASIDE SCHOOL™ provides students with a tuition-free education valued at more than \$275,000, including opportunities to earn up to 60 college credits, participate in robust extracurricular activities, and develop leadership, community service and personal growth skills.

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