



Ocean Studies CHARTER SCHOOL CAPITAL 2020 CAMPAIGN



Securing our Future

Problem Solvers



David Thompson, President
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Collaborators



oceanstudiescharterschool.org

Scientists



Nicola Rudolph, Vice President
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Free Thinkers



Ocean Studies Charter School is a Tuition-Free Public Florida Charter School Established 2009 Not-For-Profit 501(C)(3)



Ocean Studies Charter School, creating environmental stewards of today to preserve the Florida Keys of tomorrow.

Recognizing the need to educate our youth in order to preserve and protect the fragile South Florida environment, Ocean Studies Charter School is committed to providing a unique foundation for students to become scientists, mathematicians, writers, freethinkers, guardians of our waters and responsible citizens of the world.

Ocean Studies is an A-rated public school based on the best practices of accelerated learning, and offers a rigorous academic program, producing students who meet or exceed the Florida State Standards in English, language arts, math, science, and social studies.

The school's success lies in its marine science program and weekly field labs that ensure all students explore and interact with the natural environment around them, thereby stimulating an interest in research and experimentation. This, along with its Montessori foundation, nurtures curiosity, creativity, and imagination, encouraging children to become independent and self-motivated learners.



CAPITAL 2020 CAMPAIGN

Founded in 2011, the school has rapidly expanded to its current K-5th grade and 112 students, and in order to continue to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards we must now invest in a permanent home.



With your support to raise \$3,300,000, the school can move into its own building, refurbished to meet the needs of future generations. Eliminating the high lease payments will improve the school's financial position and allow greater investment in its students and teachers. The additional indoor and outdoor space, and upgraded marine science lab, will allow Ocean Studies to fulfill its goal of incorporating a middle school in 2021. The new facility will be hurricane proof and provide a safe educational environment, indoors and out.

To donate today, please visit www.oceanstudiescharterschool.org/donate

To schedule a tour, call us at 305.852.7700 or email carol.austin@keysschools.com

WORKING ON CURRENT GLOBAL CONCERNS

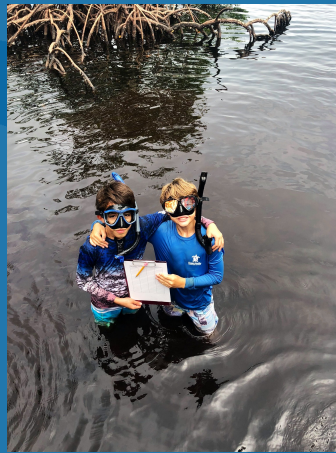
In 2018-19 the OSCS Garden Club partnered with **Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden** in Coral Gables to complete a "**Connect to Protect**" Garden with species planted from the critically imperilled pine rockland ecosystem, indigenous only to South Florida.



In Spring 2018 our marine science teacher was accepted into the prestigious **NOAA Teacher at Sea program** and spent 10 days in the fall, at sea, on a NOAA oceanographic research ship in the North Atlantic, subsequently using her new gained knowledge to create unique scientific opportunities for our students



In 2018 our Green Student Council led waste reduction initiatives that earned the **Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Green School Designation**. The group assessed the state of the school's environment, identified areas for improvement, designed campaigns to educate students, and lead a successful "ZeroWasteWeek".



From 2015-17 5th grade students participated in an annual field trip to the island of **Vieques** in Puerto Rico to conduct a multi-year comparative research study of seagrass health in the Caribbean and the Upper FL Keys. Students were also able to explore other unique natural and cultural sites in Puerto Rico, such as **Mosquito Bay**, one of only five bioluminescent bays in the world,

From 2018, the 5th grade students partnered with **The Institute of Tropical Ecology and Conservation** to conduct a research study comparing the ecosystems of **Panama's Bocas del Toros** province and those of South Florida. Preparation for this project during the school year includes activities such as snorkeling the reefs to gather fish population data, examining mangrove and seagrass growth patterns, and researching water flow and flora & fauna during a multi-day camping trip to the Everglades.



In conjunction with the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)**, 3rd grade students in 2018-19, conducted a year-long seagrass and mangrove restoration project and presented their findings to the Florida Park Service, qualifying Ocean Studies Charter to become a nationally designated NOAA Ocean Guardian School.



"Ocean Studies Charter School is a one-of-a kind school with great teachers and an amazing marine science program; I wouldn't have traded my time there for anything"

Alumnus



"Our daughter happily attended Pre-K through 5th grade at OSCS, and we were delighted every step of the way. The low student-teacher ratio allowed the teachers to know her well as both a person and a student. As a result, they could quickly provide her with challenges and support as she needed them. She made a smooth and happy transition to middle school and felt well prepared. We love OSCS!"

Alumnus parent



"Inspiring and impressive! This is how I would describe the enthusiasm, confidence, and skill displayed by the students at Ocean Studies Charter School through their work on seagrass habitat as part of their Ocean Guardian School project. Through their sea grass project, the 3rd and 4th grade students have completed what one may expect of natural resource professionals: They have implemented experiments on growing seagrass in a tank, started a seagrass habitat monitoring project, and informed community members and leaders across the county of the importance of seagrass and how to restore and protect these habitats. They have risen to the Ocean Guardian Schools challenge and have committed to environmental protection and conservation in their communities!"

Amy Clark

Education Coordinator, NOAA



We welcome a conversation with you to explore ways in which you can be part of our future. Join us for a tour of the school to learn more details about our program and to interact with our students.

EPIPELAGIC ZONE

\$500,000 and Up

MESOPELAGIC ZONE

\$100,000

BATHYPELAGIC ZONE

\$50,000

ABYSSOPELAGIC ZONE

\$20,000

HADALPELAGIC ZONE

Up to \$10,000



We thank you for your support

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