



FIDALGO

NATURE • SCHOOL

2021 – 2022 *Annual Report*



What We Do

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and registered charity in Washington State. Our dedicated group of volunteers and staff provide quality nature-based early childhood education in our all-outdoor classroom at Bowman Bay in scenic Deception Pass State Park. Our emergent curriculum is designed to promote creative thinking and problem solving, instill self-confidence and curiosity, and ensure a life-long sense of belonging in the outdoors!

Outdoor Time: Extended

In 2021-2022, we provided **10,500 hours** of quality time outdoors for our preschoolers! This included 1,400 hours FREE for 8 families, thanks to generous donations and grant funding!

We received our permanent license as an Outdoor Nature-Based Childcare Provider, expanded our board, and hired an executive director to support our future growth.

Our board and volunteers donated over 1000 hours of their personal time in support of our school. Finally, our program continues to be immeasurably enhanced by continuing collaborations with State Park staff, Samish Indian Nation Education Program Manager Denise Crowe, and the Friends of the Anacortes Community Forest Lands.

Thank you!



Self Assessment

How well are we serving our families?

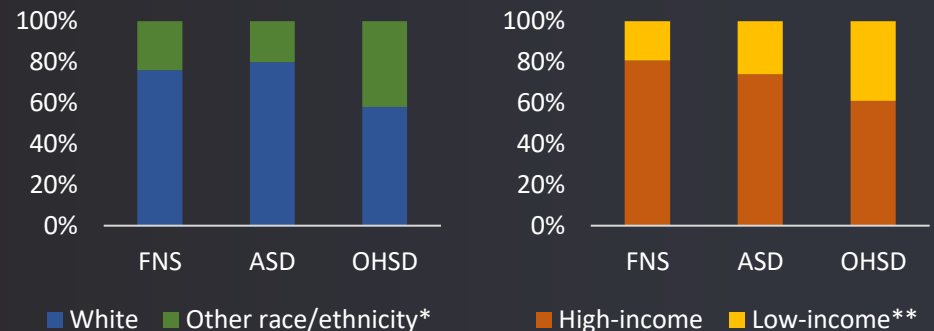
This year, detailed family surveys helped us assess our strengths and challenges.

We are proud to report that **89% of our families agreed or strongly agreed that their child's and family's needs were well met at FNS, and that their family and child felt welcomed, valued, and included.**

The most common challenges for families this year were getting ready in the morning (33%), lack of full-day classes (17%), packing food (17%), and transportation (17%).

These data on challenges for families and how our school demographics compare to our local community are guiding our program direction, growth, and fundraising goals.

Are we serving our whole community?



Anacortes and Oak Harbor School District (ASD, OHSD) data from greatschools.org (most recent data available: 2019).

*Other race/ethnicity includes two or more reported.

**Low-income ASD/OHSD = free/reduced lunch eligible; low-income FNS = Headstart/ECEAP/Working Connections Childcare eligible (free/reduced lunch program not available for preschoolers).

White, high-income families are overrepresented in outdoor preschools across the country. We have more work to do to include everyone.

A photograph of three children playing outdoors on a wooden table. A girl in a pink jacket and purple mask is on the left, a boy in a brown shirt is in the center, and a girl with long dark hair is on the right. They are all focused on a green plastic tray filled with small, flat stones, each engraved with a letter of the alphabet. The background shows a grassy area.

Our Families Say...

"My son began the school year with very few words. While attending FNS his vocabulary blossomed. He also learned to interact with other children while at FNS. Lastly, his physical skills like walking, running, and digging really improved."

"You've been patient and understanding with my kid. He can ID plants when we go for walks in the woods. He can explain facts about all kinds of creatures."

"You've done well keeping my child engaged in class and facilitating friendships with other kids. The environment is safe and welcoming for everyone."

"You're fostering a love for nature, independence, and freedom to imagine."



Financials

(2021-2022)

Operating Support + Revenue

Tuition	\$97,462
Grants	\$65,358
Donations	\$5,901
Other	\$183
TOTAL	\$168,905

Expenses

Staff + Training	\$87,280
Administrative	\$13,189
School Operations	\$7,065
Outreach	\$928
TOTAL	\$108,463



Alexandra Drechsler
Anastasia Brencick
Angie Hansen
Casey Harwood
Christina Tristan
Corinne Grider
Daniel Seaton
Emma Donohew
Justin Bland
Kira Hannum
Lindsey Mawhinney
Michael Foltz
Michele DeCarlo
Patrick Trandem
Paul Ritter
Steve Horras
Susan Lamb
Alan Ayers
Deborrah Snider

Hannah Agate
Holly Besmer
Raven Blahnik
Samantha Homan
Deena Fort
Rachel Abercrombie
Amelia Kolb
Blake Stiller
Carol Adams
Darla Simpson
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Dr. Cameron Bigge
E.J. Toovey
Jon & Diana New
Katie Eastman
Michele L DeCarlo
Rick and Maribeth Ryan
The Harwoods
Vanessa Gregorius

Amazon Smile

The Wonderful Company Foundation, Inc.

Thank You, Donors!

Staff

Molly Harrigan, *Executive Director*

Emma Rohleder, *Ed. Prog. Director/Lead Teacher*

Luanne Ferrell, *Assistant Teacher*

Lyssa Petitclerc, *Teaching Aide*

Christy Ascione, *Substitute Teacher*

Christina Tristan, *Substitute Teacher*

Board

Amelia Kolb, *Chair*

Katharine I., *Vice Chair/Secretary*

Natalie Clark, *Treasurer*

Krystle Taniguchi, *Past Chair*

Kat Y.K.

Carrie Gassett

Deena Fort

Lee Henderson

Casey Harwood

Ashley Gregorius

Advisory

Anastasia Brencick, *Founding Member/Past Chair*

Jason Armstrong, *State Parks Representative*



*Thank you for being part of
our community!*



FIDALGO

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Operating on Coast Salish (especially Samish and Swinomish) lands.