



# WHAT'S NEW IN THE Southwest Area

SERVING COOS, CURRY, & DOUGLAS COUNTIES

## We're Grateful for YOU!



Our community of volunteers, donors, educators, and partners makes it possible for kids to receive valuable reading practice time, individual support, and books to keep. Thank you!

### Corporate and Foundation Sponsors

Many thanks to these partners for supporting our vision of an Oregon where all children can realize their full potential through reading. For a complete listing of SMART's corporate and foundation sponsors, please visit [www.SMARTReading.org/corporate-partnership](http://www.SMARTReading.org/corporate-partnership)

## What We're Reading



### Della Harp, Area Director

"One of my favorite memories around reading was when Mrs. Brown, my 4th grade teacher, used to read *Runaway Ralph* to the classroom using so much expression and pressing her lips together to make just the right sound for a motorcycle fit for a mouse."



### Kris Dellsite, Senior Program Manager

"I'm reading *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. As a child I loved the Little House series. Growing up in the country, books were windows to other cultures and worlds."



### Christine Jones, Program Manager

"Currently, I am reading *Incense and Sensibility* by Sonali Dev, but one of my favorite books growing up was *Matilda* by Roald Dahl."

## 2023-24 Local Impact



22 Sites



978 Students Served



11,545 Books Given

## Volunteer Spotlights

### Meet Megan

Megan Maloney has been a Reader at Ocean Crest Elementary in Bandon since 2008. She's also volunteered with BRAVO (Bandon Readers and Volunteers Organization), sometimes with her dog in tow!



Here's what she has to say about the experience:

*"Reading at the school is a highlight of my week. It's a special time to connect with my kids and (I hope) help instill in them a love of reading and learning."*



### Meet Jane

Jane is the Site Coordinator at Glide Elementary and has been a SMART volunteer since 2013. She is beloved by Readers, teachers and students alike. Here's what the staff at Glide Elementary have to say:

*"SMART Reading has been a very positive experience for our young students. Jane is an integral part of this."*

*Pictured (top to bottom): A student at Ocean Crest reading with Megan's dog. Treats made especially for SMART volunteers at Glide by the school's literacy specialist, Mrs. O'Connor.*

## VISIT US AT THE Sutherlin Blackberry Festival



We're excited to participate in this fun community event, which takes place at Central Park in Sutherlin from Aug. 16-18. We'll be giving away free books and sharing information about volunteer opportunities.

## Volunteers Needed This Fall

If you're not already a volunteer, sign up to join us in the fall! The commitment starts at 1 hour per week (and we promise it will be a highlight of your week). We have openings for Readers and Site Coordinators in many communities, especially for volunteers interested in reading with preschool students. Sign up at [www.SMARTReading.org/volunteer](http://www.SMARTReading.org/volunteer) or give us a call to learn more!