



Graphics company transforms Price Hill classroom

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By Kurt Backscheider • kbackscheider@communitypress.com

Students in Charlene Younger's class at Roberts Academy will have a soothing place to escape and imagine next school year.

Worldwide Graphics & Sign Co. recently installed a calming mural with an "under the sea" theme in a corner of the classroom. Younger teaches special needs students at Roberts, and Worldwide Graphics is her class's partner through the Adopt-A-Class program.

"It's been a blessing to have them," Younger said about the relationship her class shares with Bob Clements and Christian Beebe of Worldwide Graphics.

"Bob and Christian have been wonderful. The kids love them."

Younger said the idea for a graphic mural came up in a conversation she had with Clements and Beebe, and they offered to design and install the mural in her classroom.

"We were talking about how it would be nice to have a place in the room where the kids could go for a calming effect," Younger said.

"Many of the students in my class have sensory needs, so we thought an ocean life scene would be both soothing and cognitively stimulating."

She said some of her students also require fairly intense motor skills therapy, so the colorful sea corner will also help them relax when needed.

She plans to bring in a couple of small beach chairs and put some books about the beach in the area as well.

"It's just a special place where the students can take a break," Younger said.

"They'll love it."

"And it's especially nice because everyone will be able to participate," she said.

Beebe, the owner and president of Worldwide Graphics, said it took about six hours for him and his staff to design and print the graphics for the walls, floor and ceiling tiles in the corner of the classroom.



Worldwide Graphics & Sign Co. created a soothing, calming "under the sea" area in a corner of Charlene Younger's classroom at Roberts Academy. Younger teaches students with special needs, and Worldwide Graphics created the space for her students as part of the Adopt-A-Class program. Thanks to Tracy Power.

Beebe then spent about three hours himself installing the underwater scene.

"This is really fun for me," he said.

"I do 40 different things throughout the day, so being able to get away and do this gives me an internal smile. I get to actually give back and do something for others."

He said the partnership with Younger and her class through Adopt-A-Class has been great. He said his company does a good amount of community service work, and he plans to do more.

"It's awesome," Beebe said. "It brings you back to understanding there are other important things going on in the world."

Younger said she's grateful for the generosity of Beebe and his staff, and she's looking forward to her students enjoying the sea corner.

"This is going to be such a luxury for us," she said.

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Christian Beebe, owner and president of Worldwide Graphics & Sign Co., makes sure a ceiling tile imprinted with an "under the sea" theme is aligned correctly in a corner of Charlene Younger's classroom at Roberts Academy. Worldwide Graphics created a soothing area for the special needs students Younger teaches. Kurt Backscheider/Staff

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