



2011-12

# Annual School Performance Report

Briarwood Elementary School  
17020 SE 134th Street, Renton, WA 98059  
(425) 837-5000  
[www.briarwood.issaquah.wednet.edu](http://www.briarwood.issaquah.wednet.edu)  
Principal Drew Terry

## Welcome

Involved parents and community members enrich our school and enhance our students' learning experiences. Thanks for making a difference!

## Mission

At Briarwood we provide a safe, supportive environment, which promotes respectful, responsible behavior, and challenges students, staff, and parents to reach their potential as learners.

## Demographics

Grades K-5; Enrollment 440; Black 2.7%; Asian 17.5%; American Indian 0.2%; Hispanic 8.0%; Pacific Islander 0.7%; Multiracial 4.8%; White 66.1%; Attendance rate 96.1%

## Teacher experience

Teachers with Master's/Ph.D. 51.9%

## OSPI data

In July 2012, Washington state received a federal waiver. It replaced Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) with Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO). AMO requires that each school and district must reduce by half the number of students who are not proficient in reading and math by 2017.

Briarwood Elementary School met Annual Measurable Objectives for the "All Students" group in reading and math. For complete information about highly qualified teachers, Annual Measurable Objectives, assessment data, and state NAEP results, go to [www.issaquah.wednet.edu/schools/elementary/](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/schools/elementary/); select Briarwood; select state report cards.

## District report

For budget details and more go to [www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/CommunityReport/](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/CommunityReport/)

The Issaquah School District believes in seeking continual feedback from a broad and diverse range of constituents regarding their experiences with the District and their neighborhood school. See the Community Polling Study site at [www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/polling.aspx](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/district/polling.aspx) for more information and survey results.

## Highlights

- Briarwood is one of three elementary schools in the District offering a Science Technology magnet program. This program features a multi-age classroom for fourth and fifth graders that provides the standard district curriculum with an emphasis on science and technology. Students use technology and its resources through engaging projects, film making, and scientific investigations.
- The Reading Buddies program at Briarwood serves all second grade students. Senior citizens and parent volunteers read weekly in one-on-one situations to help our students improve their reading comprehension and fluency.
- Briarwood enjoys an authentic sense of community. Several volunteers graciously give their time in our classrooms. The staff at Briarwood is a closely knit group and they take a team approach to

# Issaquah School District—Briarwood Elementary School

## *more Highlights...*

educating our students. The After School Assistance Program (ASAP) continues to shine at Briarwood. This academic after school program serves nearly 60 students in third-fifth grade in both reading and math. Teachers work on fundamental skills with students in small groups of five in twice-weekly, 45-minute sessions. ASAP was able to expand this school year thanks to continued support from the Briarwood PTA and from a generous \$7,500 Kateri Brow Big Idea Grant from the Issaquah Schools Foundation (ISF). Funds help compensate the teachers for their time, provide healthy snacks for the students, and pay for an ISD school bus to take students home.

## *Improving student achievement*

Briarwood staff development sessions continue to be aligned with current district initiatives. Literacy training is the emphasis at Briarwood and efforts remained focused on maintaining the knowledge and skills from our previous building goal while enhancing our skills and knowledge regarding the teaching of reading and writing. Our Literacy Support Teacher (LST) provides multiple learning opportunities in individual classrooms and in formal in-service settings. Teachers work closely with the LST to model, design lessons, share instructional strategies, and reflect on their teaching. Additionally, all staff have previously received training on a dynamic literacy program, The Daily 5. All grade levels have begun to incorporate this program into their daily literacy instruction. The Four Square Writing program utilizes a standard graphic organizer to help students express their writing ideas and organize those ideas to write clearly and effectively.

Teachers collaborate on a regular basis to plan and develop appropriate lessons for our students. Teachers also analyze and assess student work from a variety of curricular areas collectively. This level of collaboration leads to enhanced instructional practices and increase student learning at each grade level.

## *After school*

Briarwood offers several after school programs. Currently these include: After School Assistance Program (ASAP), International Music Club, Homework Club, Running Club, and Student Council.

## *What's new*

Briarwood Elementary is in the process of being rebuilt on site. The initial phases of the construction project began in the fall of 2010. The new facility is scheduled to open its doors in the fall of 2012.



*The Briarwood Chorus performed beautifully for the annual "Music Alive!" South-End Corridor music festival which took place at Liberty High School.*



*This group of students in Ms. Gillen's class play their self-designed game of skill during the Force and Motion science unit.*

# Issaquah School District—Briarwood Elementary School

## Assessment

Two tests given to elementary school students—The Stanford 10 Achievement Test and the Measurement of Student Progress (MSP)—help indicate how well Issaquah students are learning.

## Stanford 10

The Stanford 10 is a national test that the district administers to students in grades 1, 2, and 5. It shows how well Issaquah students are learning compared to a representative group of other students in the country (the norm group). Issaquah Stanford 10 scores are compared to the norm group scores and are reported as a percentile rank. Students who earn a score of 70, for example, can say that they scored higher than 70% of the norm group.

This year, the norm group changed to a more current sample that is more representative of the nation as a whole. This has produced a “tougher” norm to which our Issaquah School District students are being compared. Therefore, we see lower average scores at the school and district level than last year when there was a less rigorous norm. Because of this different norm group and shift in scores, it is important to avoid comparing scores from years past to draw conclusions about changes in performance.

## Grade level

### Total Reading

### Total Math

1/District	2/District	5/District
47/62	62/66	70/77
52/68	74/78	76/85

## MSP

The MSP is an exam developed by and mandated by the state; it replaced the state’s original annual exam, the WASL, in spring 2010. Washington’s education reform efforts began in 1993 and involve annual state-specific tests for students in grades 3-8 in reading, writing, math, and science (MSP) and then again in grade 10 (High School Proficiency Exams in reading and writing and End of Course assessments in math and biology). MSP goes beyond multiple choice tests like the Stanford 10. The tests are much shorter than the WASL and include multiple-choice and short-answer questions. Four-point essay questions have been eliminated on reading, math and science tests. This change allows students to show they are able to solve the problems, while not being scored on their writing ability on the math, reading and science tests.

Besides being a state test rather than a national assessment, MSP results are reported differently. Each student either “Meets Standard,” “Exceeds Standard,” or “Does Not Meet Standard” in each subject—reading, math, writing, science—and subjects tested vary among grade levels. MSP scores do not compare students to other students; instead they show the learning level of each student as compared to the state’s expectations for a well-taught student at that grade level.

MSP results help parents know how well each student is meeting learning targets, and the results help schools plan instruction and curriculum focused on these learning targets. Numbers represent percentage meeting or exceeding standard.

## Grade level

### Reading

### Writing

### Math

### Science

3	District/State	4	District/State	5	District/State
80.6	83.7/68.7	85.2	87.7/71.4	85.4	87.4/71.0
n/a	n/a	79.0	81.2/61.3	n/a	n/a
76.4	81.8/65.3	82.7	83.6/59.3	80.5	83.9/63.7
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	79.3	85.4/66.1