Welcome

Involved parents and community members enrich our school and enhance our students’ learning experiences. At IVE we love our family atmosphere and focus on our entire community coming together to support our children. We have extremely dedicated parents and staff that put the child first in all our decisions. When you walk into IVE you feel a spirit of joy and a clear focus on learning.

Mission

Issaquah Valley Elementary students, staff, parents, and community share the responsibility for the education of all children in a caring, nurturing, stimulating environment that fosters growth, mutual respect, and a desire to learn.

Demographics

Grades K-5; Enrollment 588; Black 2.2%; Asian 9.9%; American Indian/Alaska Native 1.0%; Hispanic 17.2%; Pacific Islander 0.2%; Multiracial 6.1%; White 63.4%; Attendance rate 95.2%.

Teacher experience

Teachers with Master’s/Ph.D. 59.5%

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.

Issaquah Valley met Annual Measurable Objectives for the “All Students” group in reading. They did not meet Annual Measurable Objectives for the “All Students” group in 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/; select Issaquah Valley; select state report cards.

District report

For budget details and more go to 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 for more information and survey results.

Highlights

- Issaquah Valley was named a Washington State School of Distinction for 2011 as it was one of the top 20 schools in Washington state (out of 1074 elementary schools in Washington) for improvement in math and reading for the last five years.
- Diane Holt, Issaquah Valley Elementary Principal, was named Distinguished Principal of the Year for the East Side Region of Washington State.
- Issaquah Valley received an Earth Hero Award in 2012 for their comprehensive recycling and composting program school wide.
Issaquah School District—Issaquah Valley Elementary School

more Highlights...

- Issaquah Valley Elementary School is a community of staff, parents, and community members working together to provide a high quality learning environment for students. Teachers and staff are dedicated to helping each child perform at high levels—both academically and socially. A highly supportive PTA provides support and enrichment activities to enhance the educational experience of students.

- Issaquah Valley staff are highly trained in literacy instruction, effective use of technology, and differentiated instruction designed to meet the needs of a wide range of learners. A curriculum aligned at each grade and across the grade levels provides structure for a sequential plan of study for students. Dedicated and talented teaching staff provide a student-focused learning environment.

- Several special programs work together to help meet the varied needs of students. The Title I Reading program provides reading and writing support for students. The SAGE program provides weekly pull-out instruction for gifted students. A Special Education program and half time counselor provide additional support for students in need.

Issaquah Valley Elementary is happy to have a close relationship with the Issaquah Schools Foundation. ISF's generous funding of IVE programs allows us to provide greater support for students and families. Last year two of our teachers applied and received classroom grants for literature to go home with students who do not have access to books at home and with our Kindergarteners. We also have added to our book room an entire new set of books funded by the ISF!

Improving student achievement

Our school improvement goal for 2011-2013 is to meet the high standards of No Child Left Behind by having 3rd-5th grades meet 88.1% standard in reading. Staff work together to gather and analyze student data and expand instructional strategies to promote active engagement and increased learning. In 2011 we had 89% of our 4th graders passing the state MSP assessment in reading and 79% in math. Our goals are to continue to lower the gap between Hispanic and Low Income students and the rest of our population.

Special programs

Students at Issaquah Valley Elementary School have the option to participate in a wide range of special instructional programs housed in other schools in the Issaquah School District. These include the Science-Tech class for 4th and 5th grades, Lego Club, Spanish/English class, Homework Club, and SAGE the pull out gifted program for grades 3-5.

Before/after school

The Issaquah School District provides a tuition-based before and after school child care program here at Issaquah Valley called the Cougar Club. In addition to this school age care program, a wide range of activities and after school classes is available to Issaquah Valley students through the school PTA, private instruction, and community groups including Issaquah Parks and Rec Department, and Eastside Enrichment. These activities include drama, art, language, dance, and sports. Many of these classes are offered at school while others are offered at nearby locations. Classes may vary from year to year.

What's new

We have added an additional support for Principal Diane Holt with the addition of a half time Assistant Principal who will supervise the cafeteria, playground, and behavior policies this year. We have a new music teacher who will conduct evening performances at all grade levels and starting a new African Drum program! We also are working hard to implement new District curriculum for literacy with a brand new Book Room donated by ISF and new comprehension resources and phonics materials for K-2nd grade classrooms.

For being one of the five percent highest improving schools in reading and math achievement, IVE was honored as a Washington state 2011 School of Distinction.

IVE first graders grew and harvested beautiful produce in their classroom gardens and donated 129 pounds of lettuce, spinach, and radicchio to the Issaquah Food Bank!
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.

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.

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.