



2011-12

# Annual School Performance Report

Liberty High School

16655 SE 136th Street, Renton, WA 98059

(425) 837-4800

[www.liberty.issaquah.wednet.edu](http://www.liberty.issaquah.wednet.edu)

Principal Dr. Joshua Almy

*Welcome*

Our goal is to create a school culture that helps students achieve personal excellence, live with integrity, and maximize their opportunities as we all strengthen the Liberty community. Each student's individual successes and our collective achievements are based on partnerships with each student, parent, and the larger Liberty Community. 2011-12 was another great year at Liberty High School and we look forward to 2012-13!

*Mission*

To inspire the desire to grow.

*Demographics*

Grades 9 -12; Enrollment 1,224; Black 2.0%; Asian 11.7%; American Indian/Alaska Native 1.0%; Hispanic 7.7%; Pacific Islander 0.2%; Multiracial 2.6%; White 74.8%; Attendance rate 95.5%.

*Teacher experience*

Teachers with Master's/Ph.D. 48.2%

*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.

Liberty High 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/high/](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/schools/high/); select Liberty; 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.

*Academic highlights*

- Liberty offers a robust Advanced Placement (AP) program with courses in Biology, Environmental Science, Psychology, US History, US Government, English Language, English Literature, Calculus AB/BC, Computer Science, and Studio Art. In addition to the AP courses in these areas, we administer the AP tests which can give students the opportunity for college credit. The classes are rigorous and challenging and offer the greatest preparation for students who seek to gain this distinction on their college transcripts
- Liberty High School is proud to partner with the University of Washington (UW) and Bellevue College (BC). Our College in the High School program allows students to earn college credits in Psychology, French, Spanish, Honors Physics, and Calculus. The program is rigorous and intensive, and is an alternative to AP tests. The credits are accepted at colleges and universities all across the United States. Over 250 students this year applied and qualified for College in the High School credit.

# Issaquah School District—Liberty High School

## *more Academic highlights*

- This year we are pleased to welcome the partnership of the Issaquah School District, Microsoft, and the Issaquah Schools Foundation. This partnership will allow us to offer our AP Computer Science and Intro to Computer Science. Each class will be lead and co-taught by a Liberty teacher along with a current Microsoft employee.

## *Other highlights...*

- The Construction Technology class gives students hands-on opportunities to learn about the construction industry. They build an 8' x 8' building starting with the floor joists; wall framing, roof rafters, plumbing, wiring, drywall and outside finish work. This class stresses construction skills, safety, and teamwork.
- The Patriot Players, Liberty's Drama Program, was nominated for multiple 5th Avenue Awards in 2011-12 and won *Outstanding Overall Musical Production* for their production of "Little Shop of Horrors." The 5th Avenue Awards recognize outstanding high school musicals from across the State of Washington.
- The Physettes Club (female students committed to science, math, engineering classes and careers) is a dynamic group of young women at Liberty High School. Their efforts have led to a 100% increase in the number of females in our Physics and Honors Physics classes. The Physettes have sponsored energy audits of classrooms, lead our Cool Schools Challenge and led the larger green movement at Liberty. In addition, they plant trees at Lake Sammamish State Park to make their multi-day field trip to a wind farm and observatory in eastern Washington carbon neutral.

## *Improving student achievement*

The after-school tutoring program and the Wednesday morning tutoring by the National Honor Society helps improve student achievement by allowing students to get extra one-on-one help four times a week. Students still have access to their individual teachers after school, but these programs provide even more support. Students feel that this is time well-spent because they gain greater confidence and knowledge of the subject.

## *Extra-curricular activities and clubs*

Student newspaper (Patriot Press), Yearbook, DECA, Honor Society, Culinary Arts Team, NJROTC Team, Drama, Physettes, Art, Band, Orchestra, and Choir. The following are active student led clubs: Harry Potter, Improv, Diversity, Japanese, Latino, Key Club, and Future Educators of America.

## *What's new*

As the result of a February 2006 bond, Phase 1 construction at Liberty includes a new performing arts center, six additional classrooms (including two upgraded science classrooms and TV video production classroom—work that began in the fall of 2011). Phase 2 construction is included in the 2012 bond approved by voters in April. This will include a remodeled entry, commons, classrooms, library, main and counseling office areas, new gym, weight room, and expanded stadium facilities.



*top: Liberty Link Crew support the school's incoming freshman students and help them get their bearings.*

*bottom: Chemistry students try to build the tallest free standing tower with 20 spaghetti noodles, a meter of string and a meter of masking tape that can hold up a regular marshmallow.*

# Issaquah School District—Liberty High School

## Assessment

Two tests given to high school students—The High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) and End-of-Course (EOC) exams—help indicate how well Issaquah students are learning.

### HSPE

The HSPE 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). HSPE 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, HSPE 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. HSPE 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.

HSPE 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

10	District/State
94.0	93.5/81.1
96.1	95.6/85.2
see EOC below	see EOC below
see EOC below	see EOC below

### Reading

### Writing

### Math

### Science

### EOC

In spring 2011, the state replaced its broad 10th-grade math High School Proficiency Exam with two End of Course Assessments. Now, students take the End of Course 1 assessment at the end of their algebra course, no matter what their grade level; they take the End of Course 2 assessment at the end of their geometry course, no matter what their grade level. In spring 2012, the state similarly did away with the broad 10th-grade science HSPE and replaced it with the Biology EOC Assessment.

EOC Math Year 1	EOC Math Year 2	EOC Biology
School/District/State	School/District/State	School/District/State
90.2/89.9/71.0	90.3/95.5/79.1	82.4/84.0/64.1