



2011-12

Annual School Performance Report

Sunny Hills Elementary School

3200 Issaquah-Pine Lake Road SE, Sammamish, WA 98075

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<http://connect.issaquah.wednet.edu/elementary/sunny/default.aspx>

Principal Sarah White

Welcome

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

Sarah White

Mission

Sunny Hills is a community of life-long learners who are committed to academic and social growth and who celebrate each student's unique strengths.

Demographics

Grades K-5; Enrollment 561; Black 2.0%; Asian 23.2%; American Indian/Alaska Native 0%; Hispanic 5.3%; Pacific Islander 0.5%; Multiracial 6.2%; White 62.7%; Attendance rate 96.5%.

Teacher experience

Teachers with Master's/Ph.D. 55.9%

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.

Sunny Hills 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/; select Sunny Hills; 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

- Our staff is committed to professional development opportunities in order to improve student learning. Professional development is tied to our Continuous Improvement Plan, which is available on the school website.
- This year, educators at Sunny Hills began the second year of our Continuous Improvement Plan focus on reading. Our focus for school improvement contains a few key elements. First, we focus on explicit teaching of reading strategies for comprehension, decoding, and fluency. Also, we provide students with consistent, daily time to read and practice strategies in meaningful ways with "just right" books. In addition, we have implemented best-practice methods of assessing our students' reading in order to best serve their needs in small groups and individually.

Issaquah School District—Sunny Hills Elementary School

more Highlights...

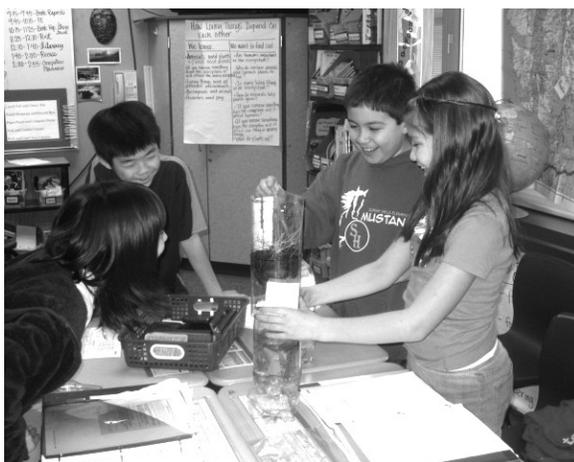
- Each year we alternate between a school-wide Young Author's Celebration and an Art Fair. This year, our Young Author's Celebration enhanced literacy development by giving students the opportunity to apply the writing process, write for authentic audiences, share and exhibit their writing.
- Technology is an integral aspect of instruction in all of our classrooms. The computer lab features computers for every child and all classrooms are equipped with ActivBoards. Computers are available for student use in each classroom. A variety of technology resources and tools are used widely for teaching and learning.
- The Sunny Hills PTA actively supports students, staff, and parents. With its 100% membership, the PTA provides both financial and volunteer support to the classroom through indispensable programs—including supplemental reading and math programs, science enrichment, enhanced art instruction, the Eager Reader program, and classroom enrichment grants. Families needing financial support receive assistance from PTA for field trips and other school activities. The PTA also offers opportunities for the Sunny Hills community to come together for family events such as the annual Sock Hop, Bingo Night, Walkathon, Ice Cream Social, and other social events. Recognizing the need to support its community outside of the school building, the PTA participates in local outreach projects as well as holiday and clothing drives.
- Students benefit from PE, Music, and Library specialist instruction to enrich core curriculum each week.
- For the past several years, fifth graders have presented a complete musical production in the spring.
- Two outdoor learning sites—the Millennium Garden and forest trails—help students actively learn about their environment. Students also participate in supplemental hands-on "Science to Go" lessons and a PTA-sponsored science fair each spring.
- Junior Achievement instruction is offered in many classes each year.
- The Sunny Hills Site Council consists of representatives from the parent community, PTA, and staff who work together to help make our school a successful and positive learning environment.

Improving student achievement

The Benchmark Enrichment Learning Program (BEL) program provides extra reading support for qualifying students in grades K-3. A certificated reading specialist works with these students, and our PTA also generously supplements this program with additional educational assistant time. PTA also funds additional educational assistant time to provide small group math instruction for struggling learners. Special Approach to Gifted Education (SAGE) is an educational enrichment program for 3rd, 4th and 5th graders. Students qualify for this program based on standardized test scores. The SAGE curriculum focuses on the students' development of their problem-solving, processing, and creative thinking skills. The English Language Learners (ELL) program helps students acquire language skills necessary to be academically successful. Three interdisciplinary teams support teachers, students, and families as we collaborate to meet the needs of all students: Teacher Support Team (TST), Guidance Team (GT) and the Building Autism Resource Team (BART).

Before/after school

Sunny Hills offers the Mustang Club (daily before & after school age care), Fourth & Fifth Grade Ambassadors' Choir, and additional enrichment opportunities such as the Jogging Club, Brainteaser Club, and Book Club.



Fourth graders water their ecocolumn while observing the interdependent relationship between plant and animal life.



Second graders worked as a team of engineers to build a game that illustrated force and motion.

Issaquah School District—Sunny Hills Elementary School

Assessment

Two tests given to elementary school students—The Stanford 10 Achievement Test and the Measurements 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
59/62	68/66	80/77
67/68	77/78	84/85

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
85.5	83.7/68.7	87.8	87.7/71.4	84.8	87.4/71.0
n/a	n/a	86.7	81.2/61.3	n/a	n/a
84.5	81.8/65.3	83.7	83.6/59.3	84.8	83.9/63.7
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	83.7	85.4/66.1