Welcome

Involved parents and community members enrich our school and make it a premier middle level learning institution. Thanks for making a difference!

Mission

Beaver Lake Middle School is a center for continual learning. We appreciate, respect and celebrate individual and group success. This school has a place for everyone.

Demographics

Grades 6-8; Enrollment 846; Black 1.4%; Asian 24.5%; American Indian/Alaska Native 0.1%; Hispanic 6.1%; Pacific Islander 0.2%; Multiracial 4.9%; White 62.7%; Attendance rate 95.9%. Free and reduced lunch 7.0%.

Teacher experience

Master’s/Ph.D. 66.0%

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.

Beaver Lake met Adequate Measureable Objectives for the “All Students” group in reading. It did not meet Adequate Measureable 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/middle/](http://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/schools/middle/); select Beaver Lake; select state report cards.

Highlights

- All 6th graders take the TechSmart class in combination with physical education and health. They have the choice of either taking a specific music elective (band, orchestra, or choir), or taking the directed exploratory program where students take one trimester of visual arts (painting/drawing, arts/crafts, sculpture), one trimester of industrial arts (woods, metals, and drafting), and one trimester of multi media/technology (video production).
- Humanities block classes (a two-period block of language arts and social studies) are available for all students. Humanities Plus (advanced humanities) is available for 62 students per grade level. Spanish is also available for 8th graders to take as a year-long elective.
- Beaver Lake students’ state assessment scores in Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Science are consistently among the highest in Washington State.
- The popular new Robotics Club teams (“companies”— complete with CEO’s, Human Resource staff, and Procurement Directors) are beginning to build their robots. Each company/team identifies one problem with food contamination and researches and designs a solution. With problems ranging
from inadequate refrigeration to listeria or e-coli contamination to pesticide residue and water purity, teams will use their research in their tournament presentations.

- For the ninth year in a row, Beaver Lake has sent two 40-foot shipping containers full of clothing, shoes, toys and school supplies to Underberg, South Africa. Staff members (and now students and parents) have made the trip to Africa in the summer, presenting the items to those living there and documenting the trip for students back home. Known as “The Africa Project,” it is a project that allows children in Issaquah to directly help children in need on the other side of the world.
- Students in an elective Leadership Development class are responsible for planning, coordinating, and leading numerous school programs involving over 180 students per year. The class focuses on producing student leaders who lead by example and make Beaver Lake a place of cleanliness, enjoyment, and school spirit. The class is a model for youth leadership programs in Washington State.

Math Lab is an additional course students take during the school day that targets students who did not pass the mathematics portion of the state assessment. It focuses on math test-taking skills and math skills that will help students gain success on the state test.

BEL is an additional course students take during the school day that targets students who did not pass the reading portion of the state assessment. It focuses on reading strategies and reading comprehension that will help students gain success on the state test.

Beaver Lake Middle School offers Open Library, Monday through Thursday. The purpose of Open Library is to provide a structured and quiet atmosphere for homework completion with the support of a certificated teacher.

Club 7 is an opportunity after school to support students who are not meeting standard in one or more of their classes. Students are invited to attend, and complete a contract to participate. Club 7 consists of four 6-week sessions over the course of the year. These after school classes are taught by certificated staff and are subject specific. Club 7 provides academic support including pre-teaching, reviewing concepts, and allow time to work on assignments. Students can graduate from this support when their grades are a C or above.

Yearbook Club, Art Club, Jazz Band, Scratch Club, Robotics Club, Geography and Spelling Bee's, Math and Science Olympiad, B.L.O.C.K. (Beaver Lake Outreach Community Kids), Drama Club, and Chess Club.

Our 6th grade directed exploratory/music program provides all 6th graders with a year-long experience in the arts and ensures that all Beaver Lake 6th graders have meaningful experiences in arts education.

7th and 8th graders have the option of taking either a trimester long video production course. Students learn how to use cutting edge technology to film, edit and produce their own movies and to produce and end of the year school highlight video.

!MPACT Club provides BLMS students with a fun and engaging place to go after school. This program includes tutoring, enrichment classes, and recreation to create a unique and exciting after-school opportunity. !MPACT is a great place the students to create new relationships and explore new skills all while having fun.

Our annual school performance this year was the Beauty and the Beast! Over 80 students sang and danced in four performances over three days, treating the huge crowds to a truly entertaining production! It was great to have current and past students assist with the backstage crew, lights and the sound boards.
Two tests given to middle school students—The Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) and End-of-Course (EOC) exams—help indicate how well Issaquah students are learning.

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.

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<th>Grade level</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>District/State</th>
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<th>District/State</th>
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<tr>
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<td>93.5</td>
<td>87.7/71.4</td>
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<td>86.0/68.7</td>
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<td>83.4/66.2</td>
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EOC Math Year 1

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<td>87.2/89.9/71.0</td>
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