



2012-13

Annual School Performance Report

Grand Ridge Elementary School

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

Principal Christy Otley

Welcome

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

Mission

Our students will be of high character, and will be prepared for and eager to accept the academic, personal, and practical challenges of life in their school, community, and ever-changing global environments.

Demographics

Grades 1-5; Enrollment 900; Black 2.9%; Asian 31.9%; American Indian/Alaska Native 0%; Hispanic 7.3%; Pacific Islander 0.2%; Multiracial 6.3%; White 51.5%; Attendance rate 96.1%. Free and reduced lunch 11.3%.

Teacher experience

Teachers with Master's/Ph.D. 61.4%

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.

Grand Ridge met Annual Measurable Objectives for the "All Students" group in reading. It 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 Grand Ridge; 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

Grand Ridge which opened in 2006 is perched on a hill offering "grand" sweeping views of the Olympics and Northern Cascades. A state-of-the-art facility including a gymnasium, multi-purpose room, stage, music room, library, computer lab, kiln room, and an outdoor covered play area, Grand Ridge hosts five elementary grades (1-5) and a highly qualified, certificated faculty. Grand Ridge kindergarteners attend a Kindergarten Center at Challenger Elementary and return to Grand Ridge as first graders. In addition to a full range of academic subjects, all students participate weekly in library, music and physical education. Grand Ridge takes pride in being a culturally diverse school with a very active parent community.

What's new

Washington State Award: This year Grand Ridge received the Washington State "Overall Excellence" Achievement Award. This honor is awarded to the top 5 percent of all elementary, middle, high and comprehensive schools across the state.

Issaquah School District—Grand Ridge Elementary School

more ... What's new

Literacy: This year Grand Ridge was awarded funds from the Issaquah Schools Foundation to implement a book room. There are over 1,000 leveled book sets in the book room for teachers to use for small group instruction. We continue our focus on meeting students' individual needs, improving comprehension, and creating life-long readers.

Environmental Consciousness: Grand Ridge continues its efforts to be environmentally focused. We are a "green team" school that runs a composting program, a recycling program and a learning garden. We continue to gather data from our newly-installed wind turbine, solar panels and WeatherBug (weather tracking system).

Improving student achievement

Our Continuous Improvement Plan focuses on improving literacy scores as measured by the MSP and Stanford achievement tests. Staff participate in a wide variety of professional development in literacy and Common Core State Standards, and our Literacy Support Teacher provides professional development both in and out of the classroom, modeling strategies and best practices. Grade level teams meet and collaborate closely on Wednesday afternoons. On some Wednesdays, grade levels participate in district professional development related to literacy and the new science curriculum. The Grand Ridge STAR team leads teachers on learning walks in classrooms. Teachers look closely for evidence of thinking skills and reflect upon their own practice and how to make thinking skills even more prevalent. Teachers are trained in GLAD strategies that are integrated in all curriculum areas and they work together on a regular basis to analyze and assess student work. This collaboration leads to consistent scoring throughout each grade level. In-depth discussions of student work samples help to improve instructional strategies and increase student learning.

Grand Ridge concentrates on meeting the needs of every student. The school has a Learning Resource Center (LRC) for students with special needs including academic and behavior support, a Reading Club for students needing additional help with reading and writing, and Special Approach to Gifted Education (SAGE) is an educational enrichment program for students in grades 3-5.

Enrichment activities

Grand Ridge offers a wide variety of before or after school extracurricular activities for students—choir, safety patrol, student council, global reading challenge, media club, boot camp, math club, arts and crafts club, dodgeball, and tuition-based before and after school childcare for students at Grizzly Club.

The Grand Ridge PTSA sponsors many fun and enriching activities throughout the year, such as Book Swap, classroom art docents, Move-A-Thon, after-school movies, national PTSA Reflections art contest, learning garden, "The Art of Discovery" travelling exhibit of Pacific Northwest art, cultural diversity program, and teacher grants. Building off of its innovative and highly successful cultural diversity program, the PTSA hosted its first-ever Cultural Fair, designed to enhance students' knowledge and exposure to different aspects of the various cultures represented by the school's student population. With the help of more than 120 parent and community volunteers, the event offered 32 country booths, arranged by continent, each of which featured information about the nation's history, language, foods, crafts and traditional games. Throughout the evening, music and dances of a variety of nations were presented on stage.



Grand Ridge was recognized as a 2012 Washington Achievement Award winner for overall excellence—an award granted to the top 5% of schools statewide.



Finding just the right book at the ever-popular Book Swap.

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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.

In 2012 the norm group changed to a more current sample. Generally speaking, the new norm group was more representative of the nation as a whole and produced a “tougher” norm to which our Issaquah School District students are now compared. Therefore, last year we expected to see lower average scores at the school and district level than the year before, when there was a less rigorous norm. This year’s scores can be compared to last year’s and, moving forward, we will be able to notice trends in performance.

Grade level

Total Reading

Total Math

1/District	2/District	5/District
65/62	68/64	81/78
71/66	77/75	83/85

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
94.2	90.7/73.0	88.2	87.1/72.4	87.9	87.6/72.6
n/a	n/a	81.6	80.0/62.1	n/a	n/a
84.7	83.5/65.2	81.0	83.9/62.5	83.6	83.1/62.6
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	87.8	86.5/66.5