



2012-13

Annual School Performance Report

Issaquah Middle School

400 1st Avenue SE, Issaquah, WA 98027

(425) 837-6800

<http://connect.issaquah.wednet.edu/middle/ims/default.aspx>

Principal Corrine DeRosa

Welcome

Students, staff, parents and the community work together every day to enrich our school, making it a premier middle level learning experience. Thank you for making a difference!

Mission

Issaquah Middle School is an interdependent community that creates an environment empowering all students to be responsible, respectful, thinking citizens.

Demographics

Grades 6-8; Enrollment 765; Black 1.7%; Asian 19.6%; American Indian/Alaska Native 1.0%; Hispanic 10.8%; Pacific Islander 0.1%; Multiracial 4.1%; White 62.7%; Attendance rate 95.9%. Free and reduced lunch 15.5%.

Teacher experience

Teachers with Master's/Ph.D. 62.2%

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.

Issaquah Middle School 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/middle/; select Issaquah Middle School 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

- **Humanities:** The IMS Language Arts program includes reading with an exploration of fiction, nonfiction, drama and poetry. Students will also learn essay writing, vocabulary development, grammar, and research. Students will write Personal Narrative/Memoirs, explanatory essays, argumentative essays w/ MLA citation, creative writing pieces (poetry/short story), anecdotal essays, and literary analysis papers. Social Studies during middle school includes Ancient Civilizations, World History (600CE – 1600 CE), Washington State History, U.S. History and Civics. Many of the units are hands-on simulations and all 8th graders learn about personal finance with a trip to the Junior Achievement Finance Park funded by the Issaquah Schools Foundation. Humanities Plus is offered for our highly motivated students.
- **Math:** Math students use the Connected Math curriculum which is part of the pathway aimed to prepare our students to complete Algebra by the end of 8th grade. Students on Math Path II will complete Geometry by the end of 8th grade.
- **Science:** IMS students learn Life Science, Earth and Space, and Physical Science in middle school. Real-world, lab-based science curriculum is taught in all grades. Science teachers began examining the science literacy and technology literacy components of the Common Core English Language Arts standards to prepare for Washington State's adoption of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Issaquah School District—Issaquah Middle School

more Highlights...

- **Fine Arts:** The Fine Arts program includes visual arts, orchestra, band, and chorus with optional after school clubs in each of these areas. An energetic group of theater students presented a fall play and spring musical production with the help of teacher advisors, professional technicians and choreographers with extensive support from parents.
- **Electives:** French, Spanish, Digital Animation, Backyard Forests, Leadership, TV Production, Video Media, Photography and Architecture are just a few of the many electives offered this year at IMS.
- **Technology:** IMS has four complete computer labs and two mobile notebook labs. All classrooms are outfitted with document cameras, LCD projects and interactive boards used to maximize student engagement in learning. Each morning, ASB students produce and direct televised daily announcements using ongoing technological advancements.
- **Student Government:** ASB sponsors a variety of school activities and clubs throughout the year including Where Everybody Belongs (WEB). In its eighth year at IMS, WEB is a student-led program offering mentorship and connection activities for 6th graders and students new to the school to support a smooth transition to middle school.
- **PAWS:** Sustained Strategic Reading, ASB activities as well as an advisory program that promotes the personal, social and academic development of our students is offered four times a week in this 25 minute "pause" in our students' day.
- **Teacher Professional Development:** IMS teachers received intensive instruction in the state's new comprehensive Teacher-Principal Evaluation system, as well as participated in Powerful Teaching and Learning/STAR Protocol "Learning Walks" in each other's classrooms and throughout the district. Many also participated in an online book study offered by Teaching & Learning Services to explore the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
- **Special Recognition:** IMS was once again honored by the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks as part of the Earth Heroes at School program for consistently modeling environmental habits that reduce, reuse, and recycle.
- **Reflection:** All 8th grade students completed "Panther Passage," a culminating experience where each student meets with two community validators to reflect on his/her middle school years.
- **Future planning:** Staff and community members participated in a series of Design Team meetings to provide feedback on construction of the new Issaquah Middle School campus.

Improving student achievement

Our Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) focused on reading across the curriculum at all three grade levels. IMS uses Collaborative Strategic Reading strategies to aid in decoding and comprehending context-area text to improve reading across all grade levels and subjects areas. In addition, all students participated in two Common Reading Assessments. During school, math and reading support classes are offered at all grades levels and after school math and science help with content-area teachers is sponsored by the Issaquah Schools Foundation. In addition, ISF generously supported the launch of "Panther Club," a specialized after school tutoring program in math, science and humanities to specifically support academically at-risk students.

Special programs

IMS offers a full range of special services, including a highly successful inclusion approach for LRC I students in math and humanities. This program is supported by math, reading and writing labs. We also offer a self-contained LRC II program for students with more severe learning disabilities. ELL is offered for our English language learners.

Extra-curricular activities

IMS offers four seasons of boys' and girls' athletics, including softball, cross country, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, soccer and track. In addition, students are sure to find something that inspires them at Craft Club, Dance Club, Games Club, Generation Impact, Geography Club, Green Team, La Chispa, Math Club, National Junior Honor Society, Robotics Club, and Video Animation Club.

Parent and community involvement

Our supportive PTSA has provided numerous hours of volunteer service in supporting programs like WalkAbout, Most Valuable Panther sundaes, chaperones for ASB socials and the 8th grade Celebration Cruise, and serving as Panther Passage validators. They are also ready, willing and able to assist financially with teachers' classroom grants, helping replenish classroom emergency bucket supplies, providing Angel Program gift cards, supporting special academic opportunities like the Pacific Science Center's "Science on Wheels" program for Earth Science students and a guest speaker/author for 7th grade Language Arts.



Students work in teams in well-equipped science labs.

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Assessment

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.

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

6	District/State	7	District/State	8	District/State
84.3	87.7/71.4	85.8	86.0/68.7	84.7	83.4/66.2
n/a	n/a	86.4	87.9/71.0	n/a	n/a
78.2	80.6/59.3	86.8	87.3/63.7	77.0	75.6/53.2
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	86.9	83.5/64.9

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. This means a middle schooler on a typical math track will take two state math assessments their eighth-grade year: the general MSP and the End of Course assessment 1.

EOC Math Year 1	EOC Math Year 2
School/District/State	School/District/State
89.0/89.9/71.0	100.0/95.5/79.1