



2013-14

# Annual School Performance Report

Cascade Ridge Elementary School

2020 Trossachs Blvd. SE, Sammamish, WA 98075

(425) 837-5500

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

Principal Natalie Fowler

*Welcome*

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

*Mission*

The Cascade Ridge Elementary mission is to challenge, support, and celebrate each student as they learn, work to meet standards, and excel to be their best—both academically and socially.

*Demographics*

Grades K-5; Enrollment 561; Black 0.7%; Asian 29.5%; American Indian/Alaska Native 0%; Hispanic 3.8%; Pacific Islander 0%; Multiracial 7.1%; White 58.9%; Attendance rate 96.7%. Free and reduced lunch 1.4%.

*Teacher experience*

Teachers with Master's/Ph.D. 50.0%; Teachers with National Board Certification 2; Average Years Teaching Experience 11.5.

*OSPI data*

In March 2014, the U.S. Department of Education declined to renew the state of Washington's conditional Elementary and Secondary Education Act Flexibility Waiver for schools receiving Title I, Part A funds. This decision affects all schools in Washington State, which are now subject to the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Washington is the only state that has lost its waiver and must revert to NCLB standards and timelines of assessment. For schools and districts to be considered succeeding under NCLB, schools must meet Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) standards. For schools to meet AYP, 100 percent of all students, regardless of special needs or English language mastery, must meet proficiency standards. Cascade Ridge did not meet AYP this year. For complete information about the Issaquah School District's assessment data, highly qualified teachers, annual yearly progress, and state NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) results, please visit the [state's online district report card](#).

*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.

*Highlights*

**Commitment to student achievement:** Staff and parent partnerships focus on quality education and high student achievement for all students. This past year, Cascade Ridge received the 2012 Washington Achievement Award in Math. This marks the second time Cascade Ridge has won this award. For more information please go to [www.k12.wa.us/Communications/pressreleases2013/AchievementAwards.aspx](http://www.k12.wa.us/Communications/pressreleases2013/AchievementAwards.aspx).

**Commitment to sustainability:** This past year, Cascade Ridge attained King County Green School Level 2 status. Under the leadership of our Dean of Students, our Green Team has helped spread the word on the importance of recycling, reducing and reusing. Whether through collecting caps/lids, recycling drink

# Issaquah School District—Cascade Ridge Elementary School

## More highlights ...

pouches or outfitting each classroom with a small compost bucket, our students are seeing each day that small acts and changes can add up to have a positive impact on our earth.

**With Staff collaboration:** Staff works collaboratively on a weekly basis to plan and implement quality, rigorous curriculum aligned across the grade levels. Wednesday early release provides staff members time to work as teams, as well as a whole staff, to develop and support school improvement plans as well as delve deeper into the new literacy curriculum. The Continuous Improvement Plan for 2010–2014 focused on improving reading skills for all students, with an added emphasis on closing the gender gap between boys and girls in literacy.

**Emphasis on the whole child:** Students benefit from PE, Music and Library specialists instruction to enrich core curriculum each week. In addition, PTSA grants support a dynamic drama program, art docents, science docents and a variety of guest speaker opportunities.

**Community and School Partnerships:** One hundred percent membership in our PTSA provides a deep and caring commitment to the important partnership between the school and families. Thousands of volunteer hours provide enrichment opportunities, academic support, and social events for all students and families. Staff and PTSA work together to offer a variety of programs for kids focusing on academic support, enrichment, and fun! The PTSA also boasts one of the most comprehensive and informative websites for families.

## Improving student achievement

For the past four years, Cascade Ridge's Continuous Improvement Plan has focused on improving reading skills for all students. The desired student outcomes include students understanding how to choose an appropriately leveled book for themselves, students being able to answer higher level questions and apply thinking strategies to facilitate and extend comprehension, students being able to make connections to texts, and students having access to a wide variety of reading materials. This past year, we continued to utilize the recently adopted district reading curriculum, Making Meaning, in all grade levels as well as Fountas and Pinnell Phonics in the primary grades. In addition, our teachers began to implement Lucy Calkins Units of Study for writing instruction. Teachers continued to receive both district and building staff development around reading and writing instruction, including a two day residency with literacy expert, Matt Glover.

## Special programs

We are proud to host three Learning Resource Center (LRC) classrooms delivering quality education to students with special needs and those needing additional academic support. Reading Explorers offers support for students needing additional help with reading and writing. In addition, through the generosity of our PTSA, we were able to offer additional support for third, fourth and fifth graders through our Intervention Groups held before school. Highly capable students participate in the SAGE program for additional academic challenge. Our SAGE teacher also led Challenge Math groups in second through fifth grade for students who demonstrated a need for enrichment in math. Lastly, Cascade Ridge is also home to one of the three elementary Science and Technology Magnet programs in the district for 4th and 5th graders.

## Before/after school

Student Council, Safety Patrol, Chorus, Marimba Club, Math Club, Spanish Language Class, Scratch Club and Caring Coyotes. We also have a dynamic before and after school child care program—Coyote Club.

## What's new

To foster a Culture of Kindness at Cascade Ridge, our students attended a Bucket Fillers assembly in the fall. They learned about bucket filling and bucket dipping and the importance of being kind to others. Many teachers carried this concept into their individual classrooms throughout the year. Many "Great Kids" (our recognition program) were recognized for their kind and thoughtful ways. In addition, another student recognition program was started – The Dean's List. Our Dean of Students chose students who were displaying our Coyote Code and entered their name into a drawing every other month for a pizza lunch with the Dean.



*Fifth Grade Patrols, led by Paula Parks, hard at work to keeping Cascade Ridge students safe each morning and afternoon.*

# Issaquah School District—Cascade Ridge Elementary School

*Assessment* Two tests given to elementary school students—The Stanford 10 Achievement Test and the Measurement 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 |
|------------|------------|------------|
| 62/64      | 66/63      | 83/77      |
| 71/67      | 81/74      | 89/84      |

*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 |
|-----|----------------|------|----------------|------|----------------|
| *   | 88.3/72.0      | 93.3 | 87.9/70.0      | 93.2 | 88.3/72.4      |
| n/a | n/a            | 92.3 | 83.2/62.1      | n/a  | n/a            |
| *   | 83.9/63.0      | 93.3 | 85.9/60.8      | 86.4 | 83.2/63.5      |
| n/a | n/a            | n/a  | n/a            | 90.0 | 83.8/66.8      |