



2013-14

Annual School Performance Report

Liberty High School

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<http://connect.issaquah.wednet.edu/high/liberty/default.aspx>

Principal Dr. Joshua Almy

Welcome

Our goal is to create a school culture that helps students achieve personal excellence, live with integrity, and maximize their opportunities as we all strengthen the Liberty community. Each student's individual successes and our collective achievements are based on partnerships with each student, parent, and the larger Liberty Community. 2012-13 was another great year at Liberty High School!

Mission

To inspire the desire to grow.

Demographics

Grades 9 -12; Enrollment 1,204; Black 1.7%; Asian 14.2%; American Indian/Alaska Native 0.5%; Hispanic 9.7%; Pacific Islander 0.4%; Multiracial 4.0%; White 69.6%; Attendance rate 95.4%. Free and reduced lunch 12.6%.

Teacher experience

Teachers with Master's/Ph.D. 75.0%; Teachers with National Board Certification 4; Average Years Teaching Experience 11.4.

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. Liberty 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/

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.

Academic highlights

- Liberty offers a robust Advanced Placement (AP) program with courses in Biology, Environmental Science, Psychology, US History, US Government, English Language, English Literature, Calculus AB and BC, Statistics, Computer Science, and Studio Art. In 2013-2014, we have set new Liberty HS records for the numbers of our students accessing the AP tests and our passing rates for these tests have continued to improve. The classes are rigorous and challenging and offer the greatest preparation for students who seek to gain this distinction on their college transcripts.
- Next fall we are excited to add AP Human Geography and AP World History to our Advanced Placement offerings. The district realignment of Social Studies at the high school level provided a wonderful opportunity for us to reexamine the sequence of advanced academic courses we offer in the Social Studies area, and we feel that this provides students with accessible and high interest opportunities to challenge themselves and to build their skill level in these courses.
- Liberty High School is proud to partner with Renton Technical College, the University of Washington (UW) and Bellevue College (BC). Our College in the High School programs (also known as dual

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more Academic highlights

enrollment programs) allow students to earn college credits very affordably while studying Culinary Arts, Psychology, French, Spanish, Japanese, Honors Physics, and Calculus on the Liberty campus with our dedicated staff. The program is rigorous and intensive, and is an alternative to AP tests. Some students choose to do both in those classes where both are available. The credits are accepted at a wide range of colleges and universities across the United States. Over 250 students this year applied and qualified for College in the High School credit.

- This year we are pleased to continue the partnership of the Issaquah School District, Microsoft, and the Issaquah Schools Foundation. This partnership allows us to offer our AP Computer Science and Intro to Computer Science. Each class is lead and co-taught by a Liberty teacher along with a current Microsoft employee.

Other highlights...

- The large scale remodeling of the academic areas of Liberty High School will be completed the summer of 2014 (library, classrooms, and CTE wing), and the final phase (the Liberty High School Stadium Project) will be completed the summer of 2015.
- The Patriot Players, Liberty's Drama Program, was nominated for multiple 5th Avenue Awards in 2012 and won Outstanding Overall Musical Production for their production of "Little Shop of Horrors." The 5th Avenue Awards recognize outstanding high school musicals from across the State of Washington. This year, the Liberty Drama Program was again nominated in several categories for its production of "Once Upon a Mattress".
- The Physettes Club (female students committed to science, math, engineering classes and careers) is a dynamic group of young women at Liberty High School. Their efforts have led to continued increases in the number of females in our Physics and Honors Physics classes. The Physettes have sponsored energy audits of classrooms, lead our Cool Schools Challenge and led the larger green movement at Liberty. In addition, they plant trees at Lake Sammamish State Park to make their multi-day field trip to a wind farm and observatory in eastern Washington carbon neutral.

Improving student achievement

Students are invited to attend work sessions after school with teachers in various departments, either as individual appointments or as a part of the Liberty High School Tutoring Program. Students who receive academic support after school have access to an Academic Bus, which runs Monday-Thursday at 3:45. Additionally, the National Honor Society provides academic help on Wednesday mornings in the Library, allowing students to take advantage of expertise and knowledge from a peer perspective.

Within the school day, the Math department offers support Lab courses in Algebra 1 and in Geometry, and the English department offers ILS (Improving Literacy Skills) support classes for grades 9, 10, and 11. These classes function on a pre-teach/re-teach system allowing students to gain stronger understanding of the skills and content of the course. These support classes are smaller and are very focused upon providing a strong foundation in the subject area.



DECA students competing at Nationals.

Extra-curricular activities and clubs

During the school year, Liberty provides a variety of co-curricular clubs. These clubs allow students to pair individual interest with academic credit since each is a class, built into a school day. These clubs include Patriot Press (8 publications of a student newspaper), Yearbook, DECA, Culinary Arts, NJROTC, Drama, Jazz and Marching Band, Orchestra, Choir, and ASB. In addition, Liberty offers a wide range of extra-curricular active student-led clubs: Badminton, Cheer, Drill, Dance, Doctor Who, Graphic Design, Honor Society, Improv, Japanese, Key Club, Model United Nations, Patriot Crew, Physettes, Ping Pong Club, Robotics, and Student Book Review. At any time during a school year, students can complete an application and start a new club.



Liberty girls soccer celebrating their State Championship win.

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Assessment

Two tests given to high school students—The High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) and End-of-Course (EOC) exams—help indicate how well Issaquah students are learning.

HSPE

The HSPE 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). HSPE 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, HSPE 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. HSPE 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.

HSPE 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

10	District/State
94.4	94.2/82.9
92.6	94.7/85.6
see EOC below	see EOC below
see EOC below	see EOC below

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. In spring 2012, the state similarly did away with the broad 10th-grade science HSPE and replaced it with the Biology EOC Assessment.

EOC Math Year 1	EOC Math Year 2	EOC Biology
School/District/State	School/District/State	School/District/State
36.7/83.9/58.4	25.0/60.0/53.4	89.2/91.1/70.3