

Lake Washington School District

Connections

School News and Events to our Community



ESEA Report Cards

Jan. 8, 2002, President Bush signed into law the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), also known as the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB). This act was developed around four basic education reform principles: stronger accountability for results, increased flexibility and local control, expanded options for parents, and an emphasis on teaching methods that have been proven to work.

One of the act's new accountability measures is a requirement that all schools and school districts publish "report cards" that contain specific data elements highlighting the progress of public schools. These report cards provide disaggregated data on the state's assessment, the Washington Assessment of Student Learning, by the five major racial/ethnic subgroups; gender; disability; English proficiency; migrant/bilingual status; and economic standing. These reports also include data on school demographics; teacher qualifications; graduation and dropout rates for secondary students; and school improvement status.

Lake Washington School District believes these report cards can provide educators, parents, community members and the general public with important information about local public schools. It is the support of all of these stakeholders that ensures the success of all students in our district.

Please visit the district website at www.lkwash.wednet.edu to view an ESEA report card for a specific school. If you do not have internet access, you can visit your local public library or stop by the Resource Center at 16250 NE 74th Street, Redmond Town Center to pick up a copy.

Continuing High Standards

Lake Washington Students First Among Same Size Districts in WASL comparisons

Lake Washington School District ranked Number one in WASL 10th grade reading, 10th grade math; 7th grade reading and 4th grade math scores when compared to the 10 districts of similar size.

Lake Washington ranked Number two in WASL 7th grade math and 4th grade reading scores when compared to districts of similar size.

Data from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction used in the comparison of the 10 districts of similar October student enrollment counts, places Lake Washington at the top of the list. Districts in the comparison had student enrollments ranging from 17,735 to 24,098.

WASL scores showed that 4th, 7th and 10th grade students at Lake Washington School District continued to show progress. While 4th and 7th grade scores dropped slightly in writing, they continued to make progress in both their reading and listening scores. However, the most remarkable increase for 4th grade students was in their mathematics scores, which were up 9% over last year. Seventh grade students also showed significant progress in mathematics, with score up 6% from last year. Tenth grade students improved scores in reading, mathematics and writing, with only a fractional decline in listening over the past year. This group had their greatest increase in writing, which was up 6% over the last year.

Superintendent **Don Saul** commented that, "These results are encouraging and energizing and reflect the dedication and terrific effort of our teachers and staff along with the hard work of the students and support of our parents and community. Washington standards and assessments are genuinely demanding and require that we continue to support the Lake Washington traditions and innovations which promote these kinds of results."



Connections

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Community School students, under the supervision of staff members **Lynn Black** and **Marilyn Fullerton**, conducted research at the Kirkland Market on October 1 for the school's annual "Town" unit. The youngsters also had the opportunity to meet with Kirkland Mayor Larry Springer prior to visiting the market. Town allows Community School students the opportunity to simulate the commercial interchange of a small town and through the process gain valuable skills in communication, responsibility, cooperation as well as academic knowledge.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture made a visit to Kirkland on Wednesday, October 8, as **BEST High School** became a major Pacific Northwest stop for the Food Safety Mobile, also known as the "BAC Mobile." The 35-foot recreational-style vehicle is currently on a nationwide tour to educate and reinforce to consumers the importance of handling food safely.

School PTAs provided financial contributions to the Assistance League of the Eastside to help cloth Lake Washington School District students. Over 10,000 kids have been helped by Operation School Bell since 1992. PTAs making donations to ALE include **Lake Washington High, Evergreen Junior, Kirkland Junior, Helen Keller, Samantha Smith, and Laura Ingalls Wilder.**

Both **Eastlake High** and **Margaret Mead** participated in the DuPont Carpet Reclamation Program with approximately 7,400 square yards of removed school carpet being kept out of landfills. The carpet replacement, coordinated by **Support Services** capital improvement

Twenty-Five District Students Named National Merit Semifinalists

The following Lake Washington School District students are among the 16,000 semifinalists from across the country who have qualified to compete for awards given through the National Merit Program.

Students entered the competition by taking the 2002 preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Semifinalists represent less than 1 percent of each state's high school seniors. They are the highest-scoring program entrants in each state.

To become a finalist, students must have a record of very high academic performance in college preparatory work, submit SAT scores that confirm their prior test performance, and be endorsed by their high school principal. About 8,000 of them will be eligible for scholarships in 2004.

Eastlake High School - Michael Skinner, Sarah Washburn

International Community School - Nikolas Sherrow-Groves, Allison Strother

Juanita High School - Ray Linford, Jonathan Murray, Laura Rosen, Matthew Winkler

Redmond High School - Nikolay Blajev, Clara Cantor, Yewleh Chee, Jennifer Cushing, Tammy Guo, Emily Hu, Thomas Lee, Graham Macaree, Cian Malone, Emmett Nicholas, David Palmiter, Benhamin Slade, Jennifer Sovey, Jeffrey Staples, Ram Talwar, Jennifer Wilson, Ernest Yang

Information Regarding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 is an Act which prohibits discrimination against persons with a handicap in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. The Act defines a person with a handicap as anyone who:

1. has a mental or physical impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities (major life activities include activities such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working);
2. has a record of such an impairment; or
3. is regarded as having such an impairment.

In order to fulfill its obligation under Section 504, the Lake Washington School District recognizes a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel and students. No discrimination against any person with a handicap will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices in the school system.

The school district has specific responsibilities under the Act, which include the responsibility to identify and evaluate the child. If he/she is determined to be eligible under Section 504, the district is responsible to afford access to appropriate educational services.

If a parent or guardian disagrees with the determination made by the professional staff of the school district, he/she has a right to a hearing with an impartial hearing officer.

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) also specifies rights related to educational records. The Act gives the parent of guardian the right to: 1) inspect and review his/her child's educational records; 2) make copies of these records; 3) receive a list of all individuals having access to those records; 4) ask for an explanation of any item in the records; 5) ask for an amendment to any report on the grounds that it is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the child's rights; and 6) a hearing on the issue if the school refuses to make the amendment.

If there are questions, please feel free to contact **Dan Phelan**, 504 Coordinator for the school district, at (425) 702-3387.

Operation School Bell®

More than 1230 LWS D students scheduled to receive new school clothing

Assistance League® of the Eastside (ALE), in a new partnership with Fred Meyer stores, held back-to-school shopping events for 394 junior high students identified as in-need by Lake Washington School District counselors. All seven of Lake the district's junior highs were involved in this community endeavor. In addition to new clothing, students came away with newfound confidence and self-esteem. For many of the students who participated, this will be their only opportunity to select brand new clothing. ALE volunteers were on hand at selected Fred Meyer stores to supervise and assist students with this shopping event.

Beginning in late September, ALE volunteers visited the 25 LWS D elementary schools served by Operation School Bell to assist the children with their clothing selections. Thanks to our counselors, teachers and principals, ALE is able to assist the K-3rd graders in just four weeks! This will be the 11th year that ALE has provided back to school clothing for our students. Over 1,800 students will be served by Operation School Bell® this year in Bellevue, Northshore, and Lake Washington.

Alexander Graham Bell's counselor **Pat Conley** had this to say about the OSB project, "The OSB experience was great. Thank you all so much for doing this program. We had a lot of really happy and excited kids at the end of the day. It was really nice getting the bags of clothing the same day as having the kids fitted, as the excitement was high. Please convey A.G.Bell's thanks!"

"The need in our community is increasing...we are limited only by the dollars we are able to raise", reports ALE President Leslie Young. Funding for this project comes from a variety of Chapter events, as well as through the generosity of private contributors, United Way workplace campaigns, corporations, foundations, service organizations, and municipalities. ALE is an all volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to Caring For Our Community. Donations or requests for information may be sent to ALE, PMB 291, 16541 Redmond Way, Redmond, WA 98052-4482, 425-556-5106. www.alecares.org

Dogs and Schools

Within the past two years we have had instances of people being bitten by dogs both in school and on the grounds. Indoor air quality, including odors, can be affected due to animal dander that is present with any fur animal; dander that can be transported throughout the building by the HVAC system. According to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, allergies induced by dog and cat contact are estimated to occur in approximately 15% of the population. The presence of a dog may cause a student who has allergies to have a reaction that is detrimental to the health of the child as well as the child's educational experience.

In order to ensure our schools are safe and comfortable for all inhabitants, the district has developed the following requirements regarding dogs in and on school grounds:

- Dogs are not allowed in the school or classroom unless they are serving as a bona-vidé service dog to a staff member, parent, child or visitor. In such cases, an up to date vaccination record must be provided for the animal.
- Service dogs in training are not to be kept in school district buildings except for those that have already commenced training. Upon completion of that training, no new service dogs in training are to be brought into the school district buildings.
- Parents should be advised that dogs are not allowed in the school. Dogs are also not allowed on school grounds during the hours in which school children are present.
- King County Code requires that dog bites will be reported to the King County Health Department and the dog may be placed in quarantine for 10 days.
- During non-student hours dogs must be leashed in accordance with King County Code 11.04.230.

projects, took place over the summer and the materials will be recycled in a variety of products.

Mili Nelson at **Lake Washington High** shared good news regarding the school's support of Children's Hospital & Regional Medical Center. Lake Washington will be recognized on the Cumulative Donor Wall at the Advocates level for contributing over \$5,000. Over the years, the school has contributed over \$10,000 to Children's.

Evergreen Junior students Maria Villalobos, Joana Avila, Ariana Loreto, and Mirna Ibarra help bridge the communication gap. These former Einstein students volunteered their time to help translate for Spanish speaking parents at **Albert Einstein's** Curriculum Night held in September. Because of their assistance, Einstein teachers were able to communicate with parents from our Spanish speaking families and the evening was a huge success.

Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary in Woodinville was named a Blue Ribbon School last month by the state superintendent's office. In all, five Washington schools received the national honor this year. Lake Washington Blue Ribbon winners since 1982, under previous program criteria, include: **Alexander Graham Bell Elementary, John Muir Elementary, Juanita Elementary, Redmond Elementary, Emily Dickinson School, Inglewood Junior High, Redmond High School, and Lake Washington High School.**

Lake Washington
School District's

Safety Tip
Hotline

425
702-
3400

Lake Washington School District

Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents and students who are 18 or emancipated minors ("eligible students") certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED) -

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of -

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use -

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

Lake Washington School District has developed policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The school district will directly notify parents and eligible students of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. Lake Washington will also directly notify parents and eligible students, such as through U.S. Mail or email, at least annually at the start of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of the following activities and provide an opportunity to opt a student out of participating in:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents/eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

Stella Schola Students Build Aqueduct

Seventh graders at Stella Schola Middle School in Redmond built a two hundred eighty-five foot working aqueduct on the school grounds. The project was in conjunction with a two month study of Ancient Rome.

"Our main theme for the year is that the building blocks of the future are laid upon the foundations of the past," said Head Mistress and seventh grade teacher, **Brigitte Tennis**. "All the subjects (such as science, math, literature, writing, and social studies) are integrated with the historical study of history."

The thirty students were divided into work teams, each team being roughly responsible for a 25 foot segment of the aqueduct. After surveying the land and using their mapping skills, students used small segments of PVC piping, duct tape, and wooden stakes to construct the aqueduct. Students followed specific building codes, and applied their in-class instruction on water velocity, water pressure, momentum, and friction as they built.

Connections

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photos by Carol Brozman

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Lake Washington School District complies with all state and federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, or disability. This holds true for all district employment and opportunities.

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