



Lake Washington School District School Annual Report

Each student will graduate prepared to lead a rewarding, responsible life as a contributing member of our community and greater society.

Discovery Community School

12801–84th N.E., Kirkland, WA 98034 (425) 820–3776

School Mission

Discovery Community School fosters love of learning, strong self esteem, communication skills and independence.

Mascot: Lighthouse

Colors: Silver and Blue

Website: www.lwsd.org/discovery

Mark Blomquist, Principal

Discovery Community School (DCS) is one of three elementary choice schools in the Lake Washington School District. Located on Carl Sandburg Elementary School's campus, DCS enrolls 73 students. There are three multi-age classes: grades one and two, grades three and four and grades five and six.

DCS maintains a noncompetitive learning environment with a family-like atmosphere. We educate the whole child in a cooperative effort that respects and responds to each child's needs and abilities. We encourage hands-on learning, providing concrete experiences that incorporate elements of real life, discovery and student-initiated learning. Our developmentally-appropriate curriculum is aligned with the Washington Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs), includes active parent participation and emphasizes community lifelong learning. In addition, every student practices Life Skills: they form the basis for agreement between teacher and students and among students about behavior and expectations (academic and social).

Parents are valuable members at DCS. They participate by working cooperatively with teachers to sustain a cohesive learning environment by enriching learning experiences and encouraging the love of learning.

Year in Review – 2007-2008

School Improvement Plan

The Discovery Community School's Continuous Improvement Process guides our staff with concrete goals and objectives in the areas of reading, writing, mathematics and science. Discovery teachers and staff worked to align the school's mission and goals with what happens in the classroom and worked to ensure that we have a balanced curriculum from first through sixth grade. We used our Wednesday Early Release time to work as a staff, with other schools in the Juanita Learning Community, and as a school district. Teachers had many discussions about student progress, assessment practices, and setting concrete and measurable goals for student improvement. Staff members participated in a survey that measures how our school is perceived in areas that are typical of an effective school. We used the resulting data to focus on school climate, assessment, and community involvement.

Our students' performance on the WASL remained high, scoring well above the state average in all areas. While there is always hard work to do, we are proud of the efforts of staff, parents, and the community, to improve student achievement.

I-728

Initiative 728 was designed to improve public education and lead to higher academic achievement for all students. This funding is critical to help kids get off to a good start as well as to support those who are struggling. In this sixth year of I-728 funding, Lake Washington School District (LWSD) continued to focus on four areas:

- The early childhood program, which funds preschool classrooms staffed by highly trained teachers, so more children come to school prepared to learn.

- Kindergarten and first-grade class sizes, which are kept at an average of 19 so children get more teacher attention in those critical early years.

- Summer and school-year programs to work with students who are struggling to meet academic standards.

- The award-winning New Teacher Support Program, which helps new teachers succeed from the start, and additional professional development so teachers are always finding more ways to help students learn.

No Child Left Behind Report

The "No Child Left Behind" Act of 2001 (NCLB) outlines requirements that K-12 schools must meet. LWSD met the standard for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 49 of 59 subgroups under NCLB. In most of the 49 areas, students scored significantly above the requirements. The areas of concern for the district include special education, Hispanic students and low-income students. No school district in the state of Washington with over 10,000 students made AYP, including this district. This school did make AYP for this year. NCLB requires all public schools and school districts to publish "report cards" that contain specific information highlighting their schools' progress, including the results of the Washington Assessment of Learning (WASL). Visit <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us> to view this data plus the WASL scores broken out by eight subgroups.

Discovery Community School – Assessment

Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

	Reading		Mathematics		Writing		Science	
	06-07	07-08	06-07	07-08	06-07	07-08	06-07	07-08
3rd Grade	92	100	92	100	*	*	*	*
District	83	86	83	84	*	*	*	*
State	71	70	69	68	*	*	*	*
4th Grade	92	100	83	67	75	92	*	*
District	88	85	80	70	82	82	*	*
State	76	72	58	53	60	62	*	*
5th Grade	100	92	100	83	*	*	92	75
District	83	89	78	81	*	*	60	72
State	72	75	59	61	*	*	36	43
6th Grade	67	100	67	100	*	*	*	*
District	81	82	72	71	*	*	*	*
State	68	69	50	49	*	*	*	*

The WASL is a standards-based test that measures how well students apply knowledge and skills in reading, mathematics, writing, and science. Scores represent percentage of students at standard in each area.

n/a | not available

* not tested | 3rd Grade does not test Writing and Science, 4th Grade does not test Science, 5th Grade does not test Writing, 6th Grade does not test Writing and Science

District Budget Summary

District Per Pupil Expenditure

\$8,671 per pupil including I-728

General Fund Budget

\$201.1 million

Direct Classroom Support 80.3%

- Teachers
- Instructional Assistants
- Teaching Supplies
- Counselors
- Staff Training
- Curriculum Development
- Librarians
- Special Education
- School Building:
Utilities, Maintenance, Insurance

Indirect Classroom Support 14.2%

- Building Administrators
- School Support/Secretaries
- Transportation
- Food Services
- Student Activities/Athletics

Administration 4.5%

- Board, Superintendent
- Central Office Administrators
- Human Resources, Public Information, Payroll, Accounting
- Technology Support
- Administration Buildings:
Utilities, Maintenance, Insurance

Other Programs 1.0%

School Use/Parents and Community

School Use

Our school facilities are available for public use by contacting our school office.

Parents and the Community

We encourage you to get involved in our school and in PTSA. Volunteers are trained and work in a variety of positions. To get involved, call our school office.

School Snapshot

Building Budget

\$10,385

Student Composition

Asian	16.92%
African American	1.54%
Hispanic	0.0%
Native American	0.0%
Caucasian	78.46%
Pacific Islander	0.0%
Special Ed	6.15%
ELL	0.0%
Free/Reduced Lunch	6.74%
Male/Female	43/57%

School Enrollment

October 2006	63
October 2007	65

Staff Education Achievement

Bachelor's	1
Bachelor's + 45 credits	0
Bachelor's + 90 credits	0
Bachelor's + 135 credits	0
Master's	0
Master's +45 credits	2

Student Attendance

Attendance 95.6%

Capital Projects Levy Activities

Facilities: No facilities projects.

Technology: Computer allocations were maintained at the district standard. New equipment continued to replace old on a standardized basis. Interactive whiteboards and projection systems have been installed in every classroom. Training continued on integrating technology into subject areas and using technology to increase student engagement. Software enhancements, network upgrades and new technologies to support student learning were available.

Use of Maintenance and Operations Levy

Assist schools in helping all students reach academic standards; offer ongoing teacher training; purchase textbooks and classroom materials; provide additional staff for instruction and supervision; and support extracurricular athletics and activities..