



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.

BEST High School

10903 N.E. 53rd, Kirkland, WA 98033 (425) 828-3289

School Mission

Foster the development of highly functioning citizens who participate in the global community.

Mascot: Dragon

Colors: Rainbow

Website: www.lwsd.org/best

Jane Andrew, Principal

BEST High School is a choice school and unique in the district for its small size and educational focus. The school accepts a maximum of 175 students in grades 10 to 12. That size allows us to emphasize individual student learning styles and tailor educational opportunities to specific student goals. We provide a unique educational program that helps students be the best people they can be academically, emotionally and socially. BEST starts with the student and builds his or her ability to perform academically while shaping a positive view of self.

Students apply to BEST and they attend because they want to be here. With the school's smaller size, teachers can provide high levels of individually-guided and personalized instruction. Thus, students are able to pick up missed credits or accelerate their education.

BEST is a place where students are cared about and known. Teachers set high standards for academic achievement, personal conduct, and job competence, while providing opportunities for students to assume responsibility and serve others.

Our students and staff work to sustain a cohesive learning community and enrich experiences. Students develop the kind of positive perceptions of self, learning, and life that are the foundation for continued success.

Year in Review – 2007-2008

School Improvement Plan

BEST High School's school improvement plan focuses on improving instruction and raising student achievement in reading, writing, math and science. The goal is that all BEST High School students will pass the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) at or above standard in reading, writing, math and science. Ongoing professional development will support staff in differentiating instruction to meet all students' academic needs.

In addition, students who did not meet the standard on previous attempts to take the WASL will participate in additional classes, tutoring, and on-line support in reading, writing and math. Each student has an individually developed plan that addresses their specific goal areas. Some of these students are placed into state-funded English Safety Net and/or math Safety Net classes to improve their academic progress.

All students are assessed in reading, math and writing three times a year. These assessments are used for placing students in classes and in the development of their written student learning plans.

The results of the 2007-08 WASL show that BEST needs to continue with a strong focus in math and writing. Improving our participation in the WASL and improving our graduation rate are also areas that continue to need our attention. Students and parents will receive monthly progress reports with a focus on math, reading and writing.

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 not make AYP for this year: it did not meet the participation goal in reading and math and did not meet the graduation rate goal. 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.

BEST High – Assessment

Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

10th Grade	Reading		Mathematics		Writing		Science	
	06-07	07-08	06-07	07-08	06-07	07-08	06-07	07-08
School	66	76	30	23	79	74	8	4
District	92	91	75	72	93	93	61	62
State	81	81	50	49	84	86	36	40

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.

SAT	06-07 Verbal	07-08 Verbal	06-07 Math	07-08 Math	06-07 Writing	07-08 Writing
School	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
District	552	555	563	570	542	545
State	526	526	531	533	510	509

ACT	06-07 Overall	07-08 Overall
School	n/a	n/a
District	24.6	24.9
State	23.1	23.1

The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and the American College Test (ACT) are required by many colleges and universities for admission. Students elect to take these tests.

2007-2008: Student Data

Attendance The requirements of BEST are for the students to meet attendance criteria every session (5 weeks). Thus, students must keep their attendance within a 90% attendance rate. All continuing students meet this requirement. Students who fall below the 90% standard are placed on probation and given extra support and monitoring to assist them in meeting the requirements.

Graduation rate 14.8%

We graduated 16 students during the 2006-07 school year. Because we do not separate students in conventional years in school and have a continuous entry program, it is difficult to compute an exact percentage.

Drop-out rate 12.0%

School Use Contact our school to inquire about use of the school facilities.

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 Snapshot

Building Budget

\$38,692

Student Composition

Asian	6.25%
African American	0.78%
Hispanic	14.84%
Native American	2.34%
Caucasian	64.84%
Pacific Islander	2.34%
Special Ed	12.50%
ELL	0.0%
Free/Reduced Lunch	23.57%
Male/Female	39/61%

School Enrollment

October 2006	188
October 2007	128

Staff Education Achievement

Bachelor's	1
Bachelor's + 45 credits	2
Bachelor's + 90 credits	4
Bachelor's + 135 credits	1
Master's	0
Master's +45 credits	3
Vocational	0

Capital Projects Levy Activities

Facilities: Retrofitted lighting and electrical systems building-wide, including fire alarm upgrades. Replaced incandescent exit lights with LED. Installed 2" seismic gas valve. Classroom modifications. Installed new fire sprinkler gauges and shutoff valves.

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.

Parents and the Community

We encourage you to get involved in our school and in PTSA. To get involved, call our school office.