

# Continuous Improvement Process Plan

## Stella Schola Middle School

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Redmond, WA 98052

425-936-2460

<http://www.lwsd.org/school/rhms>

2016 -  
2017



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Lake Washington School District  
2016 - 2017

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## DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL

Provide a description of the school, its performance history, demographic make-up, academic focus, school culture focus, and parent/family/community engagement strategies.

Stella Schola ("Star School" in Latin) is a Choice middle school in Lake Washington School District. Stella Schola offers sixth, seventh, and eighth graders a comprehensive, consistent, challenging and classical learning environment with high academic and behavioral standards and solid teacher support. The school encourages parents and community members to assist students in developing skills to become independent and self-sufficient adults who will succeed and contribute responsibly in a global community.

The rich, classical learning environment is based on historical themes with an emphasis on mastery learning for all students. By integrating as many subjects as possible into year-long historical themes, students learn from the past to make better choices and decisions in the future. Students have the same teacher for most of the school day, which enhances opportunities for integration of subject matter, helps promote curricular continuity, and increases the students' sense of belonging during early adolescence. Teachers work collaboratively to provide a challenging, stimulating, and hands-on curriculum for students. In-depth studies of the core subjects are emphasized. Students participate in a student-to-student mentoring program.

Stella Schola's unique schedule allows teachers to create a highly personalized environment for students. Students get individual academic assistance after school as necessary to ensure mastery of content. Students recognize the benefits of their hard work and focus on learning by experiencing personal and academic success.

Student Demographics		
<b>Enrollment</b>		
October 2015 Student Count		87
May 2016 Student Count		87
<b>Gender (October 2015)</b>		
Male	39	44.8%
Female	48	55.2%
<b>Race/Ethnicity (October 2015)</b>		
Hispanic / Latino of any race(s)	2	2.3%
Asian	39	44.8%
White	40	46.0%
Two or More Races	6	6.9%
<b>Special Programs</b>		
Free or Reduced-Price Meals (May 2016)	1	1.1%
Special Education (May 2016)	2	2.3%
Transitional Bilingual (May 2016)	0	0.0%
Migrant (May 2016)	0	0.0%
Section 504 (May 2016)	6	6.9%
<b>Other Information (<a href="#">more info</a>)</b>		
Unexcused Absence Rate (2015-16)	0	0.0%

## DISTRICT PERFORMANCE TARGETS

Indicators <i>Note: Indicators based on state assessments</i>		District Baseline Performance 2014-15	District Current Performance 2015-16	District Target Performance 2018
8 <sup>th</sup> Graders' on Track for Success	% of 8 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Literacy	81.1%	81.7%	92.0%
	% of 8 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Math	71.5%	73.6%	85.0%
	% of 8 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Science	83.4%	86.5%	93.0%

- **Grade 6-8 Literacy and Math Data based on the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) and reported on the OSPI Washington State Report Card (<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/>).**

### Process to determine District Performance Targets:

Lake Washington School District developed a strategic plan for implementation in 2013-2018. Part of the strategic plan includes Student Learning Milestones and indicators of student success. Many of the indicators are measured based on state testing results. A process was implemented to set performance targets for each indicator. For the 2014-15 school year, the state adopted the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) to measure student progress in Math and English Language Arts. Due to this change the district made adjustments to the 2018 performance targets in these areas. The performance targets were set based on the 2015 SBA results.

**SCHOOL PERFORMANCE OVER TIME**

		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
<b>6<sup>th</sup> Graders' on Track for Success</b>	% of 6 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Literacy	≥95.0%	≥95.0%					
	% of 6 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Math	83.3%	≥95.0%					
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Graders' on Track for Success</b>	% of 7 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Literacy	≥95.0%	≥95.0%					
	% of 7 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Math	93.3%	86.2%					
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Graders' on Track for Success</b>	% of 8 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Literacy	≥95.0%	≥95.0%					
	% of 8 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Science	90.0%	≥95.0%					
	% of 8 <sup>th</sup> graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Math	≥95.0%	≥95.0%					

## CIP REFLECTION: EVALUATE OUTCOMES

**2015-16 CIP Goals and 2016 Outcomes:***Data:*

	Goal	Achievement (Achievement Level Descriptor)
<b>Literacy: 6-8 ELA</b>	96.6 % of SSMS students will score proficient or higher on the Spring 2016 ELA SBA.	96.6 % of SSMS students scored proficient or higher on the Spring 2016 ELA SBA.
<b>Math: 6-8 Math</b>	91 % of SSMS students will score proficient or higher on the Spring 2016 Math SBA.	93 % of SSMS students scored proficient or higher on the Spring 2016 Math SBA.
<b>Science: 8 Science</b>	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient and higher on the Spring 2016 Science MSP.	96.6% of SSMS students scored proficient and higher on the Spring 2016 Science MSP.
<b>Achievement Gap</b>	Stella staff will do intentional outreach to under-represented demographic groups to encourage application for the lottery in the January of 2017..	This has been done through school visits and video.
<b>College and Career Readiness</b>	100% of 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students will take a survey using Career Cruising and will identify at least two possible careers of interest.	100% of 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students took a survey using Career Cruising and identified at least two possible careers of interest.
<b>School Effectiveness:</b>	New staff members will be fully integrated this year and the results of the 9 characteristics survey will reflect this with 90% of responses being agree completely or agree mostly.	100% of the responses on the 9 Characteristics Survey were “Agree Mostly” or “Agree Completely.”
<b>Attendance and Discipline:</b>	<b>Attendance:</b> Each staff member will have 100% completion of contacting home	Goals met

	<p>of those students who reach 3 consecutive absences.</p> <p><b>Discipline:</b> There will be no out of school suspensions.</p>
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*Narrative Reflection:*

<b>Narrative Reflection</b>	
<b>Process:</b>	<p>Our CIP goals were driven by student needs demonstrated on in-class work and on assessments.</p> <p>Staff collaborated on specific speaking and listening skills and provided multiple opportunities for student practice. Staff delivered direct-instruction of math skills, coupled with student-centered explorations and hands-on experiences. Students participated in multiple inquiry-based learning projects, including the engineering and architectural sciences. The Stella Schola 6<sup>th</sup> grade piloted new math curriculums the district was considering for adoption, one of which was adopted. The Stella Schola 8<sup>th</sup> grade piloted a new science curriculum that the district was considering for adoption.</p> <p>Staff monitored progress in the three content areas via anecdotal notes of in-class observations, mid-chapter assessments, active participation in class discussions and activities.</p>
<b>Literacy: 6-8 ELA</b>	<p>In Literacy, Stella Schola achieved the goal of 96.6% of students scoring “proficient or higher” on the Spring 2016 ELA SBA. One student with learning difficulties passed with a Level 3, which we did not anticipate.</p>
<b>Math: 6-8 Math</b>	<p>In Math, Stella Schola exceeded the goal of 91% of students scoring “proficient or higher” on the Spring 2016 Math SBA by 93% of the students scoring Level 3 or 4. This was a pleasant surprise because math was challenging for many students.</p>
<b>Science: 8 Science</b>	<p>In Science, Stella Schola achieved 96.6% of students scoring “proficient or higher” on the Spring 2016 Science MSP, but the goal of 100% passage was not realized. We realize that 100% passage was a lofty goal, but we wanted to challenge our students and instructional practices.</p>
<b>Achievement Gap</b>	<p>The demographics of Stella Schola Middle School currently are not reflective of the demographics of the Lake Washington School District and have never been historically. It is important that we have a diverse group of students applying for the Stella Schola lottery. Part of this requires active recruitment and widespread dissemination of information about the school, especially for those who may not be able to attend the parent information night. This is something all Choice</p>

	schools are working on and as a collective effort the district created a video that showcases each school. This is an area we hope to continue to keep our focus.
<b>College and Career Readiness</b>	As students move on to different high schools in the district we are proud that each 8 <sup>th</sup> grade student has exposure to Career Cruising and has identified potential interests. In addition, throughout their time at Stella, professionals from many different fields come to visit Stella students in the classroom and/or students have an opportunity to see professionals in their work environments.
<b>School Effectiveness:</b>	100% of the responses on the 9 Characteristics Survey were “Agree Mostly” or “Agree Completely.” This demonstrates that new staff are feeling comfortable and a sense of ownership within the school climate and culture.
<b>Attendance and Discipline:</b>	We are pleased that no students received suspensions this year. In addition, our follow up with students missing consecutive days of school helped to build positive relationships between home and school and families could see that we care for their student.

## ANNUAL SCHOOL GOALS

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### 2016-17 Annual School Goals:

SMART Goals	
<b>Literacy: 6-8 ELA</b>	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient or higher on the Spring 2017 ELA SBA.
<b>Math: 6-8 Math</b>	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient or higher on the Spring 2017 Math SBA.
<b>Science: 8 Science</b>	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient and higher on the Spring 2017 Science MSP.
<b>Achievement Gap</b>	Stella staff will do intentional outreach to under-represented demographic groups to encourage application for the lottery in the January of 2018
<b>College and Career Readiness</b>	100% of 8 <sup>th</sup> grade students will take a survey using Career Cruising and will identify at least two possible careers of interest.
<b>School Effectiveness:</b>	New staff members will be fully integrated this year and the results of the 9 characteristics survey will reflect this with 90% of responses being agree completely or agree mostly.

<b>Attendance:</b>	Each staff member will have 100% completion of contacting home of those students who reach 3 consecutive absences.
<b>Discipline:</b>	There will be no out of school suspensions.

### Annual School Goals: Academic

The goals were selected as a school team by all the educators after analyzing our students and SBA scores.

As a team, we selected this goal because 31 out of 90 students were at, near, or below standard in Claim 1 Reading on the ELA SBA and showed some difficulty in daily assignments. We will be differentiating the assignments to allow for reading levels ranging from below 6<sup>th</sup> grade (special needs students) through 12 grade (challenge for higher 8<sup>th</sup> grade readers). We plan to allow for Socratic Seminars centered around readings to allow for verbal discussion and practice of conversational skills, listening, and comprehension.

To ensure students receive necessary interventions, we will practice comprehending nonfiction text frequently and in a variety of ways and encourage students to seek assistance with the teacher one-on-one after school hours.

We are going to monitor progress via daily assignments, grades, and professional observations.

### Annual School Goals: Achievement Gap

Review of demographic data of Stella Schola and the Lake Washington School District.

The demographics of Stella Schola Middle School currently are not reflective of the demographics of the Lake Washington School District and have never been historically. It is important that we have a diverse group of students applying for the Stella Schola lottery.

### Annual School Goals: College and Career Readiness

Given the CORE 24 requirement in High School, we would like to support students as they transition, enabling them to select courses and pathways that may align to their career interests. We want every student to be goal and future oriented. We will administer the survey in Career Cruising and follow up with any

students who do not complete the survey. In addition, we will make sure students have a record of their results.

### Annual School Goals: School Effectiveness

There are two new staff members this year and with a small staff (6) it is critical that everyone feels as if they are part of the school and supported.

### Annual School Goals: Attendance

There are very few attendance and discipline concerns at Stella Schola Middle School. Weekly review of attendance data and follow up with teachers.

### Annual School Goals: Discipline

There are very few attendance and discipline concerns at Stella Schola Middle School.

## INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES AND REQUIRED RESOURCES

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<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Math</b>
<i>Strategy to support goals</i>	To support this goal, we will use a varied approach by using direct teaching, group exploration, independent practice, and group practice. If students are struggling, we will be available for one-to-one appointments after school and use supplementary materials when the whole class needs extra practice. We will post grades within 48 hours so students know where they stand, review homework problems that the majority of the class misses, and allow retakes on chapter tests.
<i>Professional Learning needed</i>	As a staff, we need time to plan effective and engaging math lessons that grade-level appropriate and meet the needs of our students. We also need collaborative time to investigate current best math practices.
<i>Resources needed</i>	Time and effective and engaging math curriculum.
<i>Responsible individual or team</i>	Team.
<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Science</b>
<i>Strategy to support goals</i>	I will provide multiple hands-on lessons so students can experience and apply science concepts in many ways. I will provide detailed and frequent

	feedback on student work, and teach in multiple genres (i.e. direct approach, group projects, individual projects, inquiry based lessons, etc.).
<i>Professional Learning needed</i>	I am involved in the middle school science pilot, and am discussing implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards with a colleague in Eastern Washington.
<i>Resources needed</i>	Time and pilot materials.
<i>Responsible individual or team</i>	Individual.

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Literacy</b>
<i>Strategy to support goals</i>	Analyze student progress and next steps as the year continues. We are also order a few comprehension texts to allow for stretching students comprehension in the area of nonfiction.
<i>Professional Learning needed</i>	Continued work on rubric development that spans all 3 grade levels
<i>Resources needed</i>	Time
<i>Responsible individual or team</i>	Team

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>School Effectiveness</b>
<i>Strategy to support goals</i>	Weekly staff meetings, clear building decision making model, open communication
<i>Professional Learning needed</i>	Click here to enter text.
<i>Resources needed</i>	LEAP time, DSS support, time
<i>Responsible individual or team</i>	Admin Team, all staff

## PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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### Strategies to involve parents, families, and the community in the Continuous Improvement Process

We involve parents, families, and the community in our school by doing the following:

- invite parents and legislators into the classroom,
- invite parents to participate in the PTO,
- take students out into the community via Honors Society and various field trips,
- provide community support via food drives and students servicing the community,
- invite parents in to the classroom as guest speakers and experts in the field,
- partner with Microsoft and Google for the Hour of Code,
- have parents work with students individually (i.e., math facts, reading) at school,
- send out biannual survey to allow for parental feedback,
- ask for student feedback, on our instruction
- provide opportunities for parents to attend student presentations,
- Hold parent/student/teacher conferences twice a year
- invite families to participate in school events (i.e., skate night, BBQ, pool party)

### Strategies to inform parents, families, and the community about the Continuous Improvement Process

Include information in monthly parent letter and share survey results.