

2007-08 School Performance Report



Bellingham High School

Bellingham Public Schools

Our School

Bellingham High has a safe and challenging school culture. Our welcoming and highly trained staff provides a rich environment for learning that fosters a sense of belonging for all students. This school is not for some students but for ALL students as we strive to reach everyone that walks through our doors. Our positive student culture reflects the Collective Commitments we have built this school upon, and students thrive within those commitments. The combination of high expectations and a positive, healthy



school climate has established Bellingham High as one of the top high schools in the state of Washington.

Bellingham High School prides itself on constantly striving to improve academics and create opportunities for students through academics and extracurricular activities. Bellingham High received outstanding recognition in the 2007-08 school year for sports and academics:

- State School of Distinction for academic gains
- State academic champions in boys' cross-country, swimming
- State finalists in girls' cross country, golf
- Award-winning dance team
- State-quarter finalists in football
- Individual students excelled in many state competitions

Principal's Welcome



Principal Steve Clarke

At Bellingham, we believe in doing our best to open as many doors as possible for our students as they move through high school and on to post-secondary training.

Our Collective Commitments are the basis of our success. They are: 1. Treat all members of the BHS community with dignity and respect. 2. Take care of this great place. 3. Expect quality work all the time from all facets of this school community.

We are working hard to provide the best education possible for our students. From hiring exceptional staff to developing a program that allows our students to compete with top students from around the country, we are confident that our students leave here set for success. We have a healthy, positive student culture that allows them to flourish in all ways. High graduation rates, some of the lowest dropout rates in the region, coupled with excellent scores on the WASL, PSAT, ACT and SAT, are strong indications of our ability to achieve the goals we have set forth for ourselves as a school. It is a privilege to be a Red Raider!

demographics

Student characteristics

	Bellingham High	Bellingham School District
As of Oct. 1, 2007		
Total Enrollment	1,228	10,805
Class Size Average		
Grades 9-12	26	25
Percent American Indian/Alaskan Native		
	2%	3%
Percent Asian/Pacific Islander		
	3%	7%
Percent Black		
	3%	2%
Percent Hispanic		
	7%	10%
Percent White		
	84%	75%
Percent Other (Includes Not Provided)		
	1%	3%
English Language Learners (ELL)		
	2	564
Highly Capable		
	57	320
Indian Education		
	10	98
Special Education		
	136	1,309
Title I Reading/LAP/KIDS		
	—	503

For the 2007-08 school year

Discipline		
Suspensions	73	—
Expulsions	5	—
Free and Reduced Meals (May 2008)	24%	33%

Student-to-computer ratio: 4 to 1

Expenditure per pupil

In 2006-07, the per student expenditure rate was approximately \$8,469. About 72% of the district budget was spent on teaching and teaching support, well above the state average of 69%. Funding sources: 67% from state based on enrollment; 20% from local taxes supported by the maintenance and operations levy; 8% from federal; and 5% from other sources such as donations and investment earnings.

2006-07 is the latest year data is available

Bellingham High School

“ We believe the best of all of our students. It is amazing how often they live up to those high expectations! ”

Principal Steve Clarke

Focus on Powerful Teaching and Learning



Our staff has a strong educational background and varied experiences that strongly qualify them as high school instructors. We continue to identify and use successful teaching strategies in all classes. Our staff regularly gets together to reflect on instruction, curriculum and student work to further increase student learning.

Personalize Learning



Our teachers meet regularly to discuss how best to support and challenge each student, who is struggling, meeting standards or exceeding standards.

Engage Students

Families are encouraged to maintain open lines of communication with their child's teachers. We want to help all of our families sign up for ParentConnect, a free service that allows you to log in and view your child's homework assignments, grades, transcripts, attendance, discipline records and school cafeteria choices.



Please contact our school for information about ParentConnect.

Student Recognition

Bellingham High students have exceptional academic achievements for the 2007-08 school year, including:

- First place in Imagine Tomorrow Competition.
- Eighth place in Washington State Scholars Cup.
- Three National Merit Scholarship Finalists and one Washington Scholar.

Plan to Improve Learning

Our improvement plans are aligned with our school strategic plan that can be found on the district Web site in detail. We are focused on five key areas: reading, writing, math, technology and learning environment. The goal in each area is to increase proficiency by giving students the experiences and tools to grow in their knowledge and application in real world situations.

- Reading – Sustained Silent Reading (SSR) four days per week, literacy support for students not at standard in reading, reduced class sizes in English for grades nine and 10 to better meet the needs of younger students.
- Writing – A writing program designed for grades nine and 10 utilized in all English courses, and implementation of scholarly paper components into courses in grades 11 and 12.
- Math – Development of math support program for students not at standard, requiring three years of math through increased graduation requirements and additional math courses required for students that have not passed the WASL.
- Technology – Implementation of new technology including interactive whiteboards, increased wireless access, six computer labs and three wireless computer stations that can be utilized throughout the building. Staff professional development in technology has greatly increased.
- Learning Environment – Development of ninth grade teams for most freshman, incorporation of culminating project outcomes embedded in courses and continued efforts in instructional coaching for all teachers.

Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

(Percent of grade 10 students meeting or exceeding standards)

	BHS		DISTRICT		STATE	
	2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
Reading	87%	88%	85%	87%	81%	81%
Writing	88%	93%	88%	90%	84%	86%
Math	60%	64%	65%	63%	50%	49%
Science	48%	50%	53%	52%	36%	40%

The WASL is a standards-based test used in Washington state to measure how students are progressing in meeting state academic standards. As a graduation requirement, students in the classes of 2008-2012 must pass the reading and writing WASL, a state-approved alternative to the WASL, or an assessment for students in special education. Students have a few additional options to meet the state's math requirement. The scores above represent last year's 10th graders who either took the WASL for the first time or who passed the high school WASL in previous years. The next retake opportunity is in spring 2009. Each of the four high schools in the district is providing extended day learning and support for students.

The Washington State Report Card Web site is available at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>

"Adequate Yearly Progress"

As part of the "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB) legislation of 2001, schools and school districts are considered to be making "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP) if they meet targets in various categories, including those listed below. Academic progress in reading and math must be measured for: All Students, American Indian, Asian, Black, Hispanic, White, Special Education, Limited English, and Low Income. For 2008, state targets increased in every category, some by as much as 20 percentage points. Schools and districts must have a minimum number of students in a category before it becomes a requirement for AYP, so larger districts and schools are more likely to miss targets. Missing the target in any one category causes a school or district not to make "Adequate Yearly Progress" overall. BHS made AYP in 12 of its 15 required categories. Our school missed the AYP targets for not having a sufficient number of students in special education participate in the reading and math WASL, and for participation in the math WASL of low-income students.

Highlights of Progress from 2007-08

- Improved WASL scores in every area.
- Continued support for students "not yet at standard" through support classes in reading, writing and math.
- Expanded ninth grade teams that allow the majority of our ninth graders to connect with other freshmen and teachers in a personal learning setting.
- Increase in elective courses for 2008-09 school year, including the addition of Film and Media as well as Bicycle Maintenance and Repair.
- Class of 2008 graduated with many accolades and accomplishments, including eight valedictorians and more than 60 students with a 3.8 GPA or higher.
- Statewide recognition for drama and music programs including Les Miserables performance rated "Top High School Musical in the State," All-state selections in band, choir and orchestra.
- More than 120 scholarships awarded to graduates of the Class of 2008.



On-Time Graduation and Dropout Rates*

Academic Year (2006-07)	BHS	District	State
Annual Dropout Rate	4%	5%	6%
On-Time Graduation Rate	78%	73%	72%
Extended Graduation Rate	81%	77%	77%

Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

The numbers above are calculated based upon the state's formula for determining graduation and dropout rates. The state-calculated graduation rate represents only those students with an expected graduation year of 2007. These students would have started grade nine in 2003 and were expected to graduate "on-time" (i.e. in four years). The state-calculated extended graduation rate includes students who graduated after their expected graduation year. The state-calculated dropout rate is defined as the total number of students that drop out of school from grades nine through 12, divided by the total number of students, less the number of students that transferred out of the district/school.

*2007 is the latest year that cohort data is available from the state. The district conducted a thorough records review of the Class of 2008 cohort that needed to meet all four graduation requirements of a high school and beyond plan, culminating project, course credits and state assessments: 73% of district students had completed all four requirements as of June 2008.

Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Results

School	2008 Critical Reading	2008 Math	2008 Writing	2008 # Test Takers
BHS	568	575	553	138
State	526	533	509	36,306
National	502	515	494	1.5 million

Source: Overall mean scores are represented above from The College Board's 2008 College-Bound Seniors report.

"Adequate Yearly Progress" Status			
AYP Indicators		BHS 2007-08	District 2007-08
Sufficient percentage of 10 th graders who met WASL standard	Reading	yes	yes
	Math	yes	no (Low Income only)
At least 95% of 10 th graders participated in WASL testing	Reading	no (Special Education only)	no (Low Income only)
	Math	no (Special Education and Low Income)	no (Low Income only)
On-Time graduation rate		yes	yes
Met AYP	Overall	no	no

The district made AYP in 50 of its 67 required categories. It did not make AYP in high school for WASL participation in reading and math for low-income students, and in WASL math proficiency for low-income students. Sanctions for not making "Adequate Yearly Progress" only affect schools and districts receiving federal Title I funding. The district does not have any Title I schools facing sanctions for the 2008-09 school year. For more information about "No Child Left Behind," visit <http://www.k12.wa.us/ESEA/>

History and Facility Update

Bellingham was constructed in 1937 with partial funding by the federal Public Works Administration. The building was dedicated in 1938. Over the years, it had several additions. In 1998, the school closed for two years for a major renovation. Keeping much of the historical facade facing Cornwall, Bellingham High reopened its doors in August 2000.

Bellingham High School
2020 Cornwall Avenue
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 676-6575

<http://bellingham.bham.wednet.edu/>

Principal: Steve Clarke
Assistant Principals:
Linda Miller
Jeff Vaughn
Secretary: Aileen Cleary

PTSA Co-Presidents 2008-09:
Lea Bocek
Nancy Clark

Stay informed. Register for news via e-mail at www.bham.wednet.edu



Accessibility

The district ensures that each program, service or activity, when reviewed in its entirety, is readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities per the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). Some of our schools or programs are not accessible. Therefore, persons needing special accommodations should contact the school principal or Student Services at (360) 676-2787.

Annual Notices

The health and safety of students and staff are paramount. The district manages vegetation and pests using a minimum of pesticides. The district uses physical, mechanical, cultural, biological and educational tactics as primary controls. Chemical controls are a last resort and the least toxic alternative is used. When pesticides are used, notification signs are posted at buildings 48 hours prior to pesticide use and for 24 hours after. Individuals wishing advance notification of pesticide use at any site may contact the Maintenance Department at the address and phone number listed below. The asbestos notification requirement is in response to the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). The district has developed and maintains a management plan, including records of surveillance, training and abatement activities. Detailed reports of both pesticide use and asbestos records are available at the Maintenance Department, 4060 Bakerview Valley Road, or by calling (360) 676-6548. The Bellingham School District maintains a Phase II Permit for Western Washington, "National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System and State Waste Discharge General Permit for Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewers in Western Washington." Refer to the district Web site for contact information.

Kèm theo đây là giấy tờ bao gồm các chi tiết quan trọng về nhà trường của con em quý vị. Xin đưa những chi tiết này cho người nào đó có thể giải thích cho quý vị hiểu càng sớm càng tốt. Cảm ơn.

Прилагаемый документ содержит важную информацию из школы ваш его ребенка. Пожалуйста, попросите перевести вам эту информацию как можно скорее. Спасибо.

Adjunto se encuentra un documento que contiene información importante de la escuela de su hijo. Por favor solicite que le traduzcan esta información tan pronto como sea posible. Muchas gracias.

ਨੱਥੀ ਕੀਤਾ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਬੱਚੇ ਦੇ ਸਕੂਲ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਰੱਖਦਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਦਾ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਜਿੰਨੀ ਜਲਦੀ ਹੋ ਸਕੇ ਕਰੋ। ਧੰਨਵਾਦ।

Bellingham School District #501
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The annual School Performance Report provides access to information on the educational programs in each school so that families and community members can make informed decisions about the schools in their district. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) also provides online access to more detailed data required by the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). District and school report cards can be viewed at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>. Select "Bellingham School District" or the name of the school to view detailed student achievement and demographic information. Printed copies of the reports are available at schools, district offices and the Bellingham Public Library.



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