

# 2007-08 School Performance Report

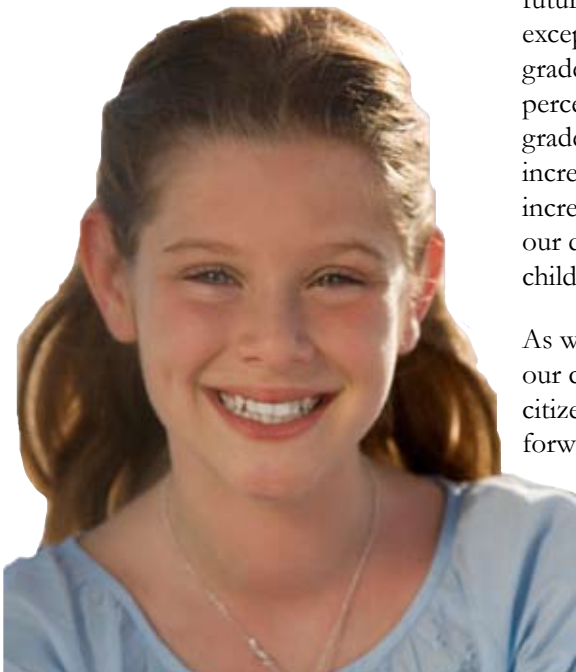


## Happy Valley Elementary

Bellingham Public Schools

### Our School

Happy Valley is a warm and encouraging school where children enjoy a rich variety of learning opportunities provided by a caring and collaborative staff. Parents at Happy Valley play a vital role in their children's education. Our academic gains reflect the importance of a strong partnership between family and school.



Happy Valley has a strong sense of pride by students, families and staff. All of us want our children to succeed in school and life. We know that education opens the doors necessary for dreams to become reality. Our culture of high expectations paired with a balanced program of art, music, science and math provides children the education they need for the future. Our WASL scores were exceptional for the 2007 test. Third grade reading was increased by 22 percent and 18 percent in third grade math. In grade five, science increased by 18 percent. The increase in WASL scores shows our dedication to making every child's education a priority.

As we work together preparing our children for college, career and citizenship, our students can look forward to the future with hope and anticipation.

### Principal's Message



*Karen Tolliver*

The staff at Happy Valley extends a warm welcome to all our new and returning families. Whether you are at Happy Valley for just this year and then returning to Lowell Elementary, or with

us for the next several years, we are glad to have you as a part of our school community. We are excited about this unique opportunity to bring our schools together and ready to work together for the success of all students.

We continue to have a strong, dedicated teaching staff. From the classroom to the playground, we work as a team and are committed to the continuous improvement of all students. For more than 50 years, Happy Valley has maintained a culture of high expectations for quality work and supported students to learn the skills necessary for them to be successful. This year is presenting the perfect opportunity for us to model for our students how to learn from each other.

*(Continued on page 3)*

# demographics

# Happy Valley Elementary

## Student characteristics

	Happy Valley	Bellingham School District
As of Oct. 1, 2007		
Total Enrollment	491	10,805
Class Size Average		
Grades K-3	22	22
Grades 4-5	26	25
Percent American Indian/ Alaskan Native	1%	3%
Percent Asian	6%	6%
Percent Black	2%	2%
Percent Hispanic	3%	10%
Percent White	81%	75%
Percent Other (includes Not Provided)	7%	4%
English Language Learners (ELL)	17	564
Highly Capable	6	320
Indian Education	1	98
Title I Reading/LAP/KIDS	—	503
Special Education	47	1,309

## For the 2007-008 school year

Unexcused absences	0.0%	0.2%
Discipline		
Suspensions	5	
Expulsions	0	
Free and Reduced Meals (May 2008)	18%	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

“At Happy Valley we expect all students to take a step toward excellence.”

Principal Karen Tolliver

## Focus on Powerful Teaching and Learning



Our staff has a strong educational background and varied experiences that strongly qualify them as elementary 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 Families and Community



Families play an important role in the lives of Happy Valley 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 attendance, discipline records and school cafeteria choices. Please contact our school for more information about ParentConnect and how to get your log in and password.

## School Highlights for 2007-08

- Each year students participate in a county math competition. This year, individual students in fourth and fifth grade took first, second and third place. Fourth and fifth grade teams took first and second place.
- Happy Valley's art teacher and the "Fifty (More) Years of Excellence" mural received the 2007-08 Bellingham Mayor's Art Award.

## Happy Valley Programs

- Science Fair
- Math and art enrichment
- Math Club
- World language classes
- Chess Club
- Geography Club
- Music program
- Fifth Grade Strings
- Community service projects
- Highly Capable Learners
- Reflections Art Show
- Spring Sock Hop
- Extended Day math
- Literacy support
- Choir



## Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

Percent meeting or exceeding standards

	Grade 3			Grade 4			Grade 5		
	HV 2008	District 2008	State 2008	HV 2008	District 2008	State 2008	HV 2008	District 2008	State 2008
Reading	91%	77%	70%	86%	77%	72%	94%	81%	75%
Writing	—	—	—	82%	65%	62%	—	—	—
Math	91%	76%	68%	65%	58%	53%	84%	66%	61%
Science	—	—	—	—	—	—	80%	56%	43%

The WASL is a standards-based test used in Washington state to measure how groups of students in the district and state are progressing in meeting state academic standards.

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

### Happy Valley's Plan to Improve Learning for 2008-09

- This year we will focus on citizenship. Through monthly assemblies that teach qualities such as respect, responsibility, kindness and honesty, we will begin to instill character traits that help students learn how to learn and work together
- A Welcome Four-Year-Olds program will begin this year to help parents and preschoolers transition into kindergarten. We will partner with private preschools to have parent education events to help families learn how they can support their children with pre-kindergarten skill-building at home.
- There will be a focus on quality work in math and science. Grade levels will meet a minimum of 10 times per year to evaluate student work and to plan for instruction.
- Interventions: All K-5 students who are not yet at standard in reading will receive additional support in literacy. All intermediate students not yet at standard in math will receive additional support in mathematics.

### Principal's Message *continued*

Getting ready for career, college and citizenship does not begin in high school or even middle school. The foundation for learning begins in elementary school and it is our goal to ensure that students not only learn the necessary academic skills that will allow them to be successful in the workplace, but also the social skills that will empower them to be productive members of society. At Happy Valley, we are working to ensure that students can take advantage of all life has to offer.



### “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. Happy Valley made AYP in all its required categories for 2007-08.

“Adequate Yearly Progress” Status			
AYP Indicators		HV 2007-08	District 2007-08
Sufficient percentage of elementary students who met WASL standard	In reading	yes	no (Hispanic, Limited English, Special Education and Low Income)
	In math	yes	no (Hispanic, Limited English, Special Education and Low Income)
At least 95% of elementary students participated in WASL testing	In reading	yes	yes
	In math	yes	yes
No more than 1% of students' absences were unexcused		yes	yes
Met AYP	Overall	yes	no

The district made AYP in 50 of its 67 required categories. It did not make AYP in elementary for reading and math WASL for Hispanic students, limited English students, students in special education, and 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

Happy Valley opened in 1956.

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<http://www.hvap.bham.wednet.edu/>

Principal: Karen Tolliver  
Secretary: Patricia Hemminger

PTA President 2008-09:  
Andrea Hood

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e-mail at [www.bham.wednet.edu](http://www.bham.wednet.edu).

*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 further student achievement and demographic information. Printed copies of the reports are available at schools, district offices and the Bellingham Public Library.*



1306 Dupont Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225-3118



## 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 Americans 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 an asbestos 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.

Kính thưa quý là giấy tờ báo 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 rằng sớm càng tốt. Cảm ơn.

Цей документ містить важливу інформацію про школу вашого ребенка. Будь ласка, попросіть перекласти вам цю інформацію як можна шкоро. Спасибі.

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

ਜੀਵੀ ਸੀਭਾ! ਖਾਸਕਾਰੇਜ਼ ਵਰਗੇ ਸੰਬੰਧੇ ਮੁਹੱਲ ਵੇਲੇ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਵੰਝਵਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਦਾ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਜਿੰਨੀ ਜਲਦੀ ਤੋ ਸਕੇ ਕਰੋ। ਧੰਨਵਾਦ।

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