

2007-08 School Performance Report



Kulshan Middle School

Bellingham Public Schools

Our School

Kulshan Middle School provides a safe, challenging and nurturing learning environment. Dedicated students, parents and staff members contribute to Kulshan Middle School's sense of community.

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade students are organized into grade-level teams where they participate in math, science, language arts and social studies learning activities. Students also engage in a variety of enrichment courses (art, orchestra, band, music appreciation and Spanish) and participate in physical education every other day. Kulshan thrives as a school full of life, energy and learning.

Communication

Our school collectively recognizes the importance of communication with students' families. We send home a Thursday Note with students every week. We post school highlights, snow/emergency information and a daily bulletin on our school Web site. Teachers use an electronic gradebook where parents and students can check students' progress using ParentConnect or StudentConnect at their convenience. Phone and face-to-face appointments are other welcome and effective ways of staying in touch.

Principal's Message



Principal Jeannie Hayden

As a newcomer to Kulshan Middle School, I am proud to serve as the principal of such a well-established and highly functioning school.

The Kulshan staff aspires to challenge and meet

the needs of students in a safe, orderly and nurturing environment. Although proud of our efforts and accomplishments, we also continue to be learners. Staff recognize that the middle years are pivotal developmental years for students and we continually strive to further improve our practices in assisting all students in reaching their potential.



demographics

Kulshan Middle School

Student characteristics

	Kulshan	Bellingham School District
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As of Oct. 1, 2007

Total Enrollment	623	10,805
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Class Size Average

Grades 6-8	28	26
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Percent American Indian/ Alaskan Native	2%	3%
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Percent Asian/ Pacific Islander	5%	7%
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Percent Black	3%	2%
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Percent Hispanic	9%	10%
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Percent White	78%	75%
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Percent Other (includes Not Provided)	3%	3%
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English Language Learners (ELL)	13	564
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Highly Capable	13	320
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Indian Education	9	98
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Title I Reading	—	503
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Special Education	68	1,309
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For the 2007-08 school year

Unexcused absences	0.5%	0.2%
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Discipline

Suspensions	164
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Expulsions	1
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Free and Reduced Meals (May 2008)	32%	33%
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Student to computer ratio: 4 to 1

Expenditure by 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 Kulshan we make a concerted effort to pay attention to *every* student. We believe that all students are capable of growing into healthy teenagers and adults. It is our job to provide rich opportunities for them to develop as individuals. ”

Principal Jeannie Hayden

Focus on Powerful Teaching and Learning



Our teachers' rich educational backgrounds and varied experiences strongly qualify them as middle level instructors.

We continue to identify and use successful teaching strategies in our classes. Our staff routinely connects and collaborates to reflect on program and instructional issues and to review student progress. Over the next few years, staff will meet in content-alike groups to continue to align curriculum, develop common assessments, and work on standards-based practices.

Personalize Learning



Each student at Kulshan belongs to a team of teachers that meets regularly to discuss how best to support and challenge their students. Staff members work

with students who are not meeting standard and with their families to develop learning plans and provide extra support. Students reflect on their own progress, set individual goals, and lead conferences with parents and teachers.

Engage Families and Community in Student Learning



Families play an important role in the lives of Kulshan students. Families are encouraged to maintain open lines of communication with teachers to reinforce education in the home. We encourage our families to sign up for

ParentConnect, a free service that allows parents to view assignments, grades, transcripts, attendance, discipline records and school cafeteria choices. Parents provide input as valued representatives on our school Site Council. Kulshan is also fortunate to have a fabulous and active PTSA. Clearly, it takes a partnership to meet the needs of all students and to run a healthy school. We are very appreciative of our parent support!

Ready for College, Career and Citizenship

In our rapidly developing global economy, we understand the importance of setting high expectations and providing adequate support for all of our students. We continue to develop an aligned core curriculum that will prepare all middle school students for college-prep coursework in high school. We want all students to know that going to college is possible and, as middle schoolers, to set their sights on the future. Families are encouraged to view high school graduation requirements, college entrance requirements, financial aid resources and more in our Ready Guide online at www.bham.wednet.edu. See “Families.”

Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

(Percent of students meeting or exceeding standards)

	Grade 6			Grade 7			Grade 8		
	Kulshan 2008	District 2008	State 2008	Kulshan 2008	District 2008	State 2008	Kulshan 2008	District 2008	State 2008
Reading	79%	77%	69%	70%	68%	63%	75%	71%	66%
Writing	—	—	—	76%	74%	70%	—	—	—
Math	52%	57%	49%	60%	57%	50%	64%	63%	52%
Science	—	—	—	—	—	—	55%	56%	48%

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>

Kulshan's Plans to Improve Learning

For 2008-09, Kulshan will continue its efforts to develop student leadership and help students see how they can make a tremendous difference in the school and larger community. Teachers will continue to learn about standards-based grading practices and meet with teachers from other Bellingham middle schools to develop and align our middle school core curriculum and assessments. Our staff recognizes that students learn at different rates and need different levels of support. Staff will continue to develop strategies for meeting the needs of all students.

Kulshan Program Highlights

Citizenship and Service – understanding the power of giving

- Random Acts of Kindness
- Pennies for Patients – in support of children with leukemia
- Food to Flowers – a commitment to recycling food waste and reducing garbage
- Charity Carnival – each grade-level team decided upon and created booths to raise money to support charitable organizations such as Children's Hospital, Doctors without Borders, the Humane Society and more.
- Book Fair
- Turkey Trott and canned food drive
- Crew – peer mentors for sixth graders

Clubs and Sports – making connections outside the classroom

- Red Hawks English Language Learners Tutoring
- Fiddle, Jazz Band and Sunrise Choir
- Yearbook and Photography
- Homework and Crane Elevate
- Writer's Club
- Algebra Tutoring
- Role-Playing Club
- Football
- Soccer
- Gymnastics/Dance
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Wrestling
- Track



“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. Kulshan made AYP in 17 of its 21 required categories. Our school did not make AYP in reading proficiency in the special education category and in math proficiency in the Hispanic, special education and low-income categories. This is part of our school's Plan to Improve Learning.

“Adequate Yearly Progress” Status			
AYP Indicators		Kulshan 2007-08	District 2007-08
Sufficient percentage of middle school students who met WASL standard	Reading	no (Special Education only)	yes
	Math	no (Hispanic, Special Education and Low Income)	no (Low Income only)
At least 95% of middle school students participated in WASL testing	Reading	yes	no (Low Income only)
	Math	yes	no (Low Income only)
No more than 1% of student absences were unexcused		yes	yes
Met AYP	Overall	no	no

The district made AYP in 50 of its 67 required categories. It did not make AYP in middle school in reading and math proficiency for students in the categories of Hispanic, special education and low income. 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

Kulshan Middle School opened in the fall of 1994. It was rebuilt after a fire on July 25, 1993, just before it was originally scheduled to open.

Kulshan Middle School
1250 Kenoyer Drive
Bellingham, WA 98229
(360) 676-4886

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

Principal: Jeannie Hayden
Assistant Principal: Michelle Abernathy
Main Office Secretaries:
Jeanne Bach
Terri Inge

PTA Co-Presidents 2008-09:
Terri McIntyre
Tracy Boyce

Stay informed. Register for the Kulshan
Thunder and district news via
e-mail at 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 detailed 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 American 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.

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 его ребенка. Пожалуйста, попросите перевести вам эту информацию 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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