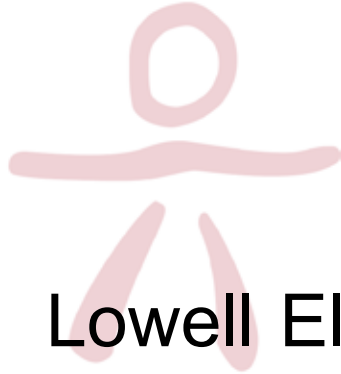


2006-07 School Performance Report



Lowell Elementary School

Bellingham Public Schools

Principal's Message



Rob McElroy

I often tell kids that, “Where you are is an OK place to be, but not an OK place to stay.” This creates an expectation that we are all on a path of continuous learning, changing and growing. While this report

provides evidence of significant student achievement and general information about our school community, it is only a snapshot of where we are along our journey.

I have heard that in his later years Pablo Picasso was not allowed to roam an art gallery unattended, for he had previously been discovered in the act of trying to improve on one of his old masterpieces. This is the kind of modeling that creates a school community of learners. This year we have a real life opportunity to teach our children about the role of “change” in learning and growing. With the new school boundaries going into effect and the temporary closure of Lowell for seismic retrofit work next year, we can teach our children how to deal with life’s changes in creating new and sometimes unexpected positive outcomes. I believe that with our world changing so fast, the ability to manage, learn and grow from change will be an important skill for life success.

Our School

Lowell provides a safe, challenging and is a warm and encouraging school where children enjoy a rich variety of learning opportunities provided by a caring and capable staff. Parents at Lowell play a vital role in their children’s education. Our academic gains reflect the importance of a strong partnership between family and school. 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. As we work together preparing our children for college, career, and citizenship, our students can look forward to the future with hope and anticipation.

School E-News

Are you registered to receive news from our school via e-mail? Sign up at www.bham.wednet.edu under “E-News Registration.” Be sure to list Lowell as your child’s school. This will add you to our school’s mailing list for important announcements and information. You also can choose to receive district news such as emergency school schedule changes and more. If you are already registered but your e-mail address has changed, please register again. Tell a friend!



demographics

Lowell Elementary

Student characteristics

	Lowell	Bellingham School District
As of Oct. 1, 2006		
Total Enrollment	278	10,471
Class Size Average		
Grades K-3	23	22
Grades 4-5	23	25
Percent American Indian/ Alaskan Native	2%	2%
Percent Asian/ Pacific Islander	4%	6%
Percent Black	0%	2%
Percent Hispanic	7%	9%
Percent White	84%	77%
Percent Other (includes Not Provided)	3%	4%
English Language Learners (ELL)	6	543
Highly Capable	6	374
Indian Education	2	104
Title I Reading/LAP/KIDS	—	746
Special Education	30	1,415

For the 2006-07 school year

Unexcused absences	0.0%	0.0%
Discipline		
Suspensions	3	
Expulsions	0	
Free and Reduced Meals (May 2007)	25%	34%
Student-to-computer ratio:	4 to 1	

Expenditure per pupil

In 2006-07, the per student expenditure rate for instruction was approximately \$8,379. About 74% of the district budget was spent on teaching and teaching support. Funding sources: 67% from state based on enrollment; 20% from local taxes supported by the maintenance and operations levy; 9.5% from federal; and 3.5% from other sources such as donations and investment earnings.

“ Change is inevitable, except for vending machines. ”
Principal Rob McElroy

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 in Student Learning



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

Lowell Programs

- Science Fair
- School Choir
- Fifth Grade String Instruments
- Fifth Grade Mountain School
- World Language
- Arts Enrichment
- Family Sock Hop
- Book Fair and Used Book Exchange
- Back on Track Reading
- Extended Day Learning Support
- Family Math Night
- Family WASL Night
- Service Learning Opportunities
- Monday Morning Assemblies
- Playground Mediators
- Birthday Books
- Math Olympiad
- Sasquatch Readers



Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

Percent meeting or exceeding standards

	Grade 3			Grade 4			Grade 5		
	Lowell 2007	District 2007	State 2007	Lowell 2007	District 2007	State 2007	Lowell 2007	District 2007	State 2007
Reading	95%	76%	71%	85%	84%	76%	93%	81%	72%
Writing	—	—	—	66%	67%	60%	—	—	—
Math	95%	73%	69%	68%	69%	58%	84%	69%	59%
Science	—	—	—	—	—	—	64%	51%	36%

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>

Lowell's Plan to Improve Learning for 2007-08

Lowell teachers are collaborating and learning a balanced approach to teaching mathematics. The components of a balanced math program are:

- Computational skills (math review and mental math)
- Problem Solving
- Conceptual Understanding
- Mastery of Math Facts
- Assessment of Student Learning

Teachers are implementing our schoolwide agreements on literacy instruction. All students will be expected to use the steps of the writing process — planning, drafting, revising, editing and publishing — for a variety of genre.

Teachers will use our new classroom presentation tools (document camera, LCD projector) to provide differentiated instruction using the teaching and learning cycle.



How Lowell Measures Up

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 the targets established by the state and federal governments 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. Schools and districts must have a minimum number of students in a category before it becomes a requirement for AYP. Lowell made AYP in all its required categories for 2006-07.

Adequate Yearly Progress Status

AYP Indicators		Lowell 2006-07	District 2006-07
Sufficient percentage of elementary students who met WASL standard	In reading	yes	yes
	In math	yes	yes
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 all of its required categories except for elementary reading and math for Limited English students; elementary reading for Special Education students; middle school math for Hispanic students; and middle school reading and math for Special Education students. This was the first year that the district did not make AYP in these specific categories, so it is in "warned status." Sanctions affect schools and districts receiving federal Title I funds. For more information about "No Child Left Behind," and its reauthorization, visit <http://edlabor.house.gov/>

History & Facility Update

The current Lowell Elementary was built in 1914. Lowell will temporarily close during the 2008-09 school year while seismic safety work is completed. We will work closely with our Lowell community on our plans before, during and after this construction. Many thanks to our students, families and PTA for all the work on our new entryway leading up to our playground.

Lowell Elementary School
935 14th Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 676-6430

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

Principal: Rob McElroy
Secretary: Kathie Olsen

PTA President 2007-08:
Liz Michaelson

Stay informed. Register for 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 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 Students 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. The district controls weeds by applying Round Up twice to various locations of each school site annually. The district hires commercial applicators as needed to treat trees and flowering shrubs for insects and disease by using NuCop fungicide and Merit 75 WSP annually. 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.

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.

ਨਾਬੀ 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
1306 Dupont Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BELLINGHAM WA
PERMIT NO. 3