

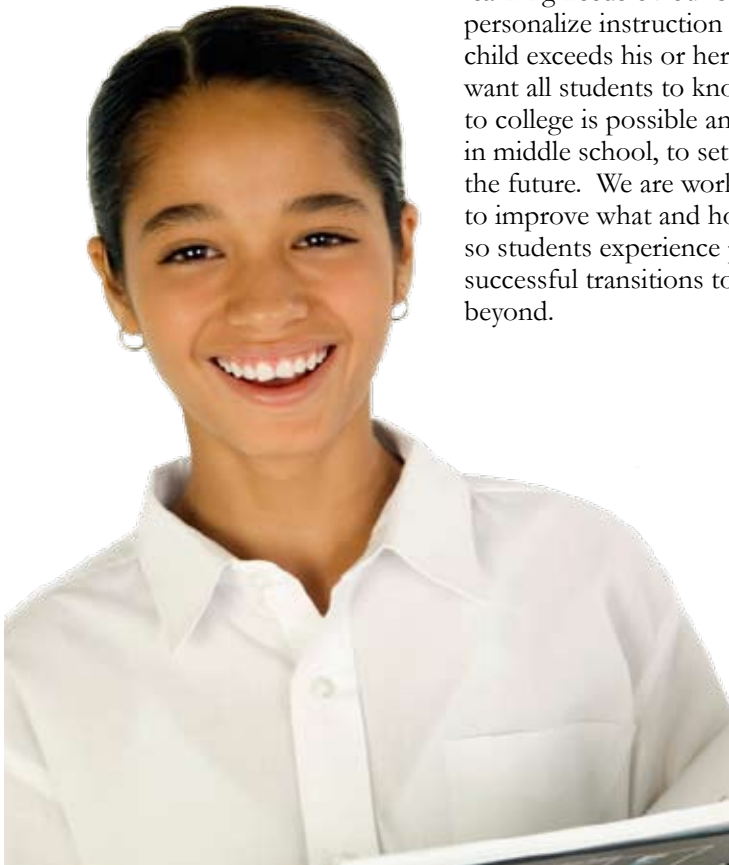
2007-08 School Performance Report



Bellingham Public Schools

Our School

Shuksan is in its 52nd year of providing a safe and nurturing learning environment. The input and support Shuksan receives from staff, families and community members continues to make the education of our students a success. We are proud of our history and our community.



As a diverse school, Shuksan is unique in Bellingham. We celebrate this diversity and encourage all students to be proud of their culture, their families and themselves. Building self-esteem in middle school is vital to a student's success.

At Shuksan, we identify the individual learning needs of our students and personalize instruction so that every child exceeds his or her potential. We want all students to know that going to college is possible and, as children in middle school, to set their sights on the future. We are working constantly to improve what and how we teach so students experience positive and successful transitions to high school and beyond.

Principal's Welcome



Principal Andrew Mark

Welcome to Shuksan! This report shares Shuksan's successes as well as important information about our school.

This is an exciting time for the Shuksan community. For the 2008-09 school year, we have a number of projects in the works including a new building rising out of our playfields, a special citizenship program and a new music opportunity. We benefit from a cohort of very talented teachers. Our new teachers this year join a strong staff already at Shuksan to create engaging learning opportunities for all students.

Shuksan's focus is on learning. We believe students need opportunities to explore potential interests that prepare them for the future. Students who dive into middle school with a willingness to work and open eyes, create a variety of options for themselves as they enter high school. To increase their options and to better prepare them for all the opportunities life has to offer, we have added new programs.

Continued on page 2

demographics

Shuksan Middle School

“At Shuksan, success is the only option.”

Principal Andrew Mark

Student characteristics

	Shuksan	Bellingham School District
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As of Oct. 1, 2007

Total Enrollment	557	10,805
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Class Size Average

Grades 6-8	25	26
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Percent American Indian/ Alaskan Native	3%	3%
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Percent Asian/ Pacific Islander	9%	7%
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Percent Black	3%	2%
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Percent Hispanic	21%	10%
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Percent White	62%	75%
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Percent Other (includes Not Provided)	2%	3%
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English Language Learners (ELL)	48	564
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Highly Capable	10	320
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Indian Education	7	98
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Title I Reading*	80	503
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Special Education	89	1,309
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* Shuksan no longer receives Title I funds as of the 2008-09 school year.

For the 2007-08 school year

Unexcused absences	1%	0.2%
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Discipline

Suspensions	422	—
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Expulsions	7	—
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Free and Reduced Meals (May 2008)	53%	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

Principal's Welcome,

continued

Last year, Shuksan implemented Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) for all grades. AVID targets students who traditionally would not go to college, and provides them with the skills they need to be competitive in high school and beyond. It includes an increase in rigor, extra support and skill-building in note taking, speaking and organization. We saw tremendous success with this program during the 2007-08 school year. Last year also brought us Read 180, a program designed to help struggling readers and students who are English language learners, build vocabulary and build reading strategies. Both of these programs will expand during this school year.

Our new citizenship program is called “Make Your Day.” It enhances the teacher/student relationship by asking students to make choices about their learning. Parents are contacted when students choose not to learn. We want to keep the focus on learning and we believe “Make Your Day” is helping.

As you look through the pages of this document, please note the improvements Shuksan has made in student achievement. We are proud of our students, our teachers and our community.

Focus on Powerful Teaching and Learning



All of our staff members are “highly qualified” as defined by the federal accountability standards set by No Child Left Behind. We use specific skills to develop your child’s thinking abilities. Teachers

are matched with a peer coach who regularly observes their lessons and offer goals to continually advance student learning.

Personalize Learning



All students at Shuksan belong to a team of teachers that meets regularly to discuss how best to support and challenge each student. We identify students who are not meeting standards and provide extra help and student learning plans. This year we are implementing a new program that provides support for students who need to strengthen their skills and provides enrichment activities for students who are at or exceeding grade level.

Engage Families and Community in Student Learning



Parent involvement is essential to our students’ success. It is only through a true collaboration that we can realize the full potential of our students. Parents and guardians can get involved in the school through PTSA activities, after-school club sponsorship, field trips and the following committees: strategic planning, new building opening, School Leadership Team, Gateway to Technology initiative and Make Your Day.

Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

Percent meeting or exceeding standards

	Grade 6			Grade 7			Grade 8		
	Shuksan 2008	District 2008	State 2008	Shuksan 2008	District 2008	State 2008	Shuksan 2008	District 2008	State 2008
Reading	62%	77%	69%	46%	68%	63%	63%	71%	66%
Writing	—	—	—	57%	74%	70%	—	—	—
Math	51%	57%	49%	35%	57%	50%	44%	63%	52%
Science	—	—	—	—	—	—	43%	56%	48%

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

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

Highlights of Success in 2007-08

- Shuksan had more students taking geometry at the high school level than any other middle school.
- Shuksan placed first in the Math Counts math competition, defeating all other middle schools in Whatcom County.
- A Shuksan student became a spokesperson for Washington state's College Bound scholarship program.
- Shuksan's eighth grade basketball team was undefeated and won the district title.
- Shuksan had a total of six nationally board certified teachers.

Shuksan's Plan to Improve Learning for 2008-09

At Shuksan, we will concentrate on the following areas for the 2008-09 school year:

Math:

- Identify students not meeting standard. Engage parents in encouraging struggling students through parent workshops and math nights.
- Continue to provide support in the classroom for students through differentiation, extended learning classes during the school day and after-school programs such as Bridges to Algebra.
- Increase rigor through AVID techniques and support students performing at or above standard in higher level math classes.
- Increase diversity of students taking high level math courses.

Reading:

- Continue to provide reading support in language arts classes and emphasize a half hour of reading a night.
- Identify students not at grade level in reading and provide Read 180 support during extended learning periods.
- Increase the number of students identified as English Language Learners (ELL) in the Read 180 program.

Writing:

- Continue to provide writing support in language arts classes, encourage AVID techniques for writing and standardize the writing process across the school.
- Delineate what writing strategies and techniques will be taught at each grade level.

Science:

- Improve teacher instruction through North Cascades and Olympic Science Partnership (NCOSP) participation, mentoring and provide more time for teachers to collaborate in science lesson development.
- Create excitement in science by adding science competitions and increase the number of science kits.

Technology:

- Increase technology integration by providing extensive staff development during the year.

"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. Shuksan made AYP in 19 of its 29 required categories. Our school did not make AYP for unexcused absences, in math proficiency according to the federal calculation for all students, and in reading and math proficiency in the categories of Hispanic, limited English, special education and low income. This is part of our school's Plan to Improve Learning.

"Adequate Yearly Progress" Status

AYP Indicators		Shuksan 2007-08	All Middle Schools in District 2007-08
Sufficient percentage of middle school students who met WASL standard	Reading	no (Hispanic, Limited English, Special Education and Low Income)	no (Hispanic, Special Education and Low Income)
	Math	no (All Students, Hispanic, Limited English, Special Education and Low Income)	no (Hispanic, Special Education and Low Income)
At least 95% of middle school students participated in WASL testing	Reading	yes	yes
	Math	yes	yes
No more than 1% of student absences were unexcused		no	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

Thanks to Bellingham's voters, we are continuing the process this year to rebuild Shuksan. With the exception of a 1961 classroom addition and a library addition in 1971, Shuksan has not had any major renovation since it was built in 1956. Bellingham's Zervas Group Architects designed the new school adjacent to the current building. The current building is housing students during construction, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars in portable classroom costs, and will be torn down as soon as possible to recreate space for playfields.

Shuksan Middle School
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<http://wwwsms.bham.wednet.edu/>

Principal: Andrew Mark
Assistant Principal: Tracy Martinez
Secretary: Peggy Foster

PTA Co-Presidents 2008-09:
Pat Strickling
Lori Morrow

Stay informed. Register for the Cougar Chronicle 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.



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 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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