

# Bellingham Public Schools

## Strategic Planning Process

**School: Whatcom Middle School**

**Date: October 2007**

- Annual Update**  
 **Complete Revision**

Strategic Plan Area	School Goals for Student Performance
Reading	WMS students' literary and informational text comprehension will improve in all content areas as measured by WASL with an increase to 85.2 meeting standard in the 2007-08 school year.
Writing	WMS sixth, seventh and eighth grade students will use appropriate writing skills and strategies to express comprehension of both literary and informational text. Students will show a gain in achievement by 78.5 meeting or exceeding state writing standards, as measured by the WASL in the 2007-08 school year.
Math	WMS sixth, seventh and eighth grade students will use appropriate reading skills and writing skills and strategies to express mathematical understanding. Students will show a gain in achievement by 74.9 meeting or exceeding state mathematical standards as measured by the WASL in the 2007-08 school year.
Learning Environment	The Whatcom Middle School community will create and maintain a learning environment, which fosters a sense of community and belonging, providing all students opportunities to experience academic and social growth.

**Principal Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Site Council Chair Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Action Plan: Reading**

School: Whatcom Middle School						Date: October 2007	
<b>District Goal</b> for Student Performance: 65.1% of students will meet or exceed grade level standards, as measured by the WASL.							
<b>School Goal</b> for Student Performance: WMS students' Literary and Informational Text reading comprehension will improve in all content areas as measured by the WASL. 85.2% of WMS students will meet or exceed the standard in the 2007-08 school year.							
<b>Target Objective:</b> All sixth, seventh, and eighth grade WMS students will use appropriate skills and strategies in order to demonstrate comprehension in both Literary and Informational Text.							
<b>Strategies (include actions related to instruction, professional development and parent involvement)</b>	<b>C/I</b>	<b>PD</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHEN</b>	<b>Evidence of Implementation</b>	<b>Evidence of Impact (Include methods of assessment)</b>
Teachers will model and students will practice metacognitive strategies	X			Teachers	2007-08	Metacognitive strategies modeled and practiced per observations and Quick Visits	Teacher data collected through on-going assessments will indicate improved student performance in reading comprehension in both literary and informational text
All teachers will identify and teach content/academic <b>vocabulary</b> critical to the meaning of text and in all subjects	X			Teachers	2007-08	Observations and quick visits will demonstrate instruction of critical <b>vocabulary</b>	
All teachers will apply <b>comprehension monitoring</b> strategies during and after reading, teach an understanding of <b>main idea</b> , and <b>supporting details</b> in all texts	X			All Teachers	2007-08	Reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of <b>comprehension monitoring</b> strategies, and instruction on <b>main idea</b> , and <b>supporting details</b>	

## Action Plan: Reading

Strategies (include actions related to instruction, professional development and parent involvement)	C/I	PD	PI	WHO	WHEN	Evidence of Implementation	Evidence of Impact (Include methods of assessment)
All teachers will teach students in all subjects how to use <b>prior knowledge</b> to support individual reading comprehension	X			All Teachers	2007-08	Reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of <b>prior knowledge</b> activating strategies	Student reading comprehension in literary and informational text will increase as measured by WASL reading scores.
Core teachers will teach all students how to use <b>prediction</b> to support individual reading comprehension	X			Core Teachers	2007-08	Reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of <b>prediction</b> strategies	Teacher data collected through on-going assessments will indicate improved student performance in reading comprehension in both literary and informational text
All teachers will teach all students how to <b>summarize</b> informational and literary text	X			All Teachers	2007-08	Reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of <b>summarization</b> strategies	
All teachers will teach all students how to understand printed and electronic <b>text features</b>	X			All Teachers	2007-08	Reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of <b>text features</b>	
Core teachers will teach all students to understand and <b>analyze</b> (compare and contrast) <b>story elements</b> : Theme, Setting, Character, Plot	X			Core Teachers	2007-08	Reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of how to understand and analyze story elements: Theme, Setting, Character, Plot	

### Action Plan: Reading

Strategies (include actions related to instruction, professional development and parent involvement)	C/I	PD	PI	WHO	WHEN	Evidence of Implementation	Evidence of Impact (Include methods of assessment)
All teachers will teach all students to <b>analyze</b> literary or informational text for <b>similarities and differences</b> and <b>cause and effect relationships</b> .	X			All Teachers	2007-08	Reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of <b>how to analyze</b> informational and literary text for <b>similarities and differences</b> and <b>cause and effect relationships</b> .	Increase in student comprehension in literary and informational text as measured by WASL reading scores
Core teachers will teach all students to recognize <b>literary devices</b> (simile, personification, humor, metaphor, idiom, imagery, exaggeration, dialogue, irony, sarcasm, and analogy) and <b>explain</b> how they make a story more interesting	X			Core Teachers	2007-08	Reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of how to <b>recognize literary devices</b> and <b>explain</b> how they make a story more interesting	Increase in WASL reading scores and teacher data collection of individual performance per on-going assessments
An extended day program for below standard Reading students will be created using Read Naturally	X		X	Teachers	2007-08	Attendance sheets, Observations, and Quick Visits	The number of Reading students below standard (Level 2) will decrease by 10 % from 2006-07 Attending below standard Reading students' (Level 2's) reading fluency will increase by at least one grade level

**Action Plan: Writing**

School: Whatcom Middle School						Date: October 2007	
<b>District Goal</b> for Student Performance: 72.6% of students will meet or exceed grade level standards, as measured by the WASL.							
<b>School Goal</b> for Student Performance: WMS students' achievement will improve in writing as measured by the WASL. 78.5% of WMS students will meet or exceed the standard in the 2007-08 school year.							
<b>Target Objective:</b> All sixth, seventh, and eighth grade WMS students will use appropriate skills and strategies in order to demonstrate proficiency in writing.							
<b>Strategies (include actions related to instruction, professional development and parent involvement)</b>	<b>C/I</b>	<b>PD</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHEN</b>	<b>Evidence of Implementation</b>	<b>Evidence of Impact (Include methods of assessment)</b>
Core teachers will teach all students to understand and use the <b>writing process: prewriting, producing drafts, revising, editing, and publishing</b>	X			Core Teachers	2007-08	Observations, and quick visits will demonstrate instruction of the <b>writing process: prewriting, producing drafts, revising, editing, and publishing</b>	Student achievement in WASL writing scores will increase.  Teacher data collected through on-going assessments will indicate improved student performance in writing.
All teachers will teach all students how to write in a <b>variety of forms</b> for different audiences and purposes	X			All Teachers	2007-08	Observations and quick visits will demonstrate instruction of how to write in a <b>variety of forms</b> for different audiences and purposes	
All teachers will teach all students how to write clearly and effectively, e.g. <b>develop ideas, use appropriate style, know and apply writing conventions</b>	X			All Teachers	2007-08	Observations and quick visits will demonstrate instruction of how to write clearly and effectively, e.g. <b>develop ideas, use appropriate style, know and apply writing conventions</b>	

**Action Plan: Math**

<b>District Goal</b> for Student Performance: 66% of students will meet or exceed grade level standards, as measured by the grade WASL.							
<b>School Goal</b> for Student Performance: WMS sixth, seventh and eighth grade students will use appropriate reading skills and writing skills and strategies to express mathematical understanding. Students will show a gain in achievement by 65.4% meeting or exceeding state mathematical standards as measured by the WASL in the 2005-06 school year.							
<b>Target Objective:</b> WMS students will improve their ability to communicate mathematical understanding with a 5% increase in the number of students meeting standard math each year.							
<b>Strategies (include actions related to curriculum and instruction, professional development and parent involvement)</b>	<b>C/I</b>	<b>PD</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Evidence of Implementation</b>	<b>Evidence of Impact (include methods of assessment)</b>
All Math and Core teachers will use WASL stem questions and stem question vocabulary in their instruction.	X			Math & Core Teachers	2007-08	Lesson Plans Observations/Quick Visits/Collaborative Assessment discussions at Whole Group learning meetings	Students are able to respond correctly to WASL stem type questions in all content areas demonstrating understanding of vocabulary and stem question format
All teachers will model and teach students metacognitive strategies	X	X		Teachers	2007-08	Lesson Plans Observations/Quick Visits/Collaborative Assessment discussions at Whole Group learning meetings	Students will be able to self-check their process (self-monitor) and apply prediction, inference and problem-solving skills
Math teachers will use on-going assessments to determine student understanding of concepts	X	X		Math Teachers	2007-08	Lesson Plans Observations/Quick Visits/Collaborative Assessment discussions at Whole Group learning meetings	Students will be able to analyze information, apply skills and mathematically explain, describe and represent their understanding.
Math teachers will teach students to apply communication skills to clearly and effectively express ideas and situations using mathematical language and notation.	X			Math Teachers	2007-08	Lesson Plans Observations/Quick Visits/Collaborative Assessment discussions at Whole Group learning meetings	Students will be able to mathematically describe and support with evidence their thinking processes
Math teachers will teach students to apply concepts and procedures of measurement	X			Math Teachers	2007-08	Lesson Plans Observations/Quick Visits/Collaborative Assessment discussions at Whole Group learning meetings	Students will be able to correctly apply formulas for area, circles, triangles and volume

**Action Plan: Math**

<b>Strategies (include actions related to curriculum and instruction, professional development and parent involvement)</b>	<b>C/I</b>	<b>PD</b>	<b>PI</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Evidence of Implementation</b>	<b>Evidence of Impact (include methods of assessment)</b>
An extended day program for below standard Math students will be continued using a combination of class work completion, Cognitive Tutor, and community/business partnerships	X		X	Math Teachers	2007-08	Attendance sheets, Observations, and Quick Visits	The number Math students below standard (Level 2) will decrease by 10 % from 2006-07

## Action Plan: Environment for Learning

**District Goal:** To provide students with the opportunity to learn skills, acquire knowledge, and develop attitudes, which will allow them to function as responsible, and contributing adults.

**School Goal** for Student Performance: The Whatcom Middle School community will create and maintain a learning environment, which fosters a sense of community and belonging, providing all students opportunities to experience academic and social growth.

### Target Objectives:

- The amount of reported bullying will decrease by 40% from 2005-06 school year
- Student suspensions will remain less than 12% of WMS student population (# of suspensions for the year divided by the # of students enrolled)

Strategies (include actions related to curriculum and instruction, professional development and parent involvement)	C/I	PD	PI	Who	When	Evidence of Implementation	Evidence of Impact (include methods of assessment)
Staff will organize and implement a 6 <sup>th</sup> grade transition day the week before school begins	X		X	Counselors, Teachers and Administration	2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Date set on the school calendar.</li> <li>○ Parent and student notification.</li> <li>○ Photos from the day of the event</li> </ul>	Sixth grade student survey will demonstrate feelings of safety and belonging.  Parent and student requests for schedule changes will be reduced as reported by the counseling office.
6th and 7th grade teachers prior to the end of the school year will create 7th and 8th grade teams for the next school year.			X	Teachers and Administration	2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Team and section lists of students.</li> </ul>	
7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grade student schedules will be mailed one week prior to school beginning.			X	Registrar and Administration	2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Student schedules created and printed through Zangle.</li> <li>○ Parents &amp; students receiving schedules in the mail</li> </ul>	
Provide parents support information regarding the WASL, Progress & Promotion and HS graduation requirements			X	Teacher & Administration	2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ WASL Awareness Class</li> </ul>	
WMS will develop a collaborative climate for professional development		X		Staff	2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Teams will receive coaching support as a group and as individuals for a three week period of time</li> </ul>	
Every student will have and use a student planner			X	Staff, students, parents	2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Student planners will be utilized by each student, teacher, and parent</li> </ul>	
Provide parents support information regarding the Emergency Preparedness Plan and Disaster Drill			X	Teachers & Administrators	2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Newsletter articles, letters home, school website, and daily bulletins will all provide information to parents</li> </ul>	

## Action Plan: Environment for Learning

Strategies (include actions related to curriculum and instruction, professional development and parent involvement)	C/I	PD	PI	Who	When	Evidence of Implementation	Evidence of Impact (include methods of assessment)
Students will participate in positive community building activities to reinforce positive learning environment	X		X	Teachers and Administration	2007-08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Wildcat day will be held on the first early release morning in September.</li> <li>o Wildcat Pride Award celebration 6 times per year</li> <li>o Counselors will teach Bully-Proofing Curriculum</li> <li>o 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to WCC &amp; BTC</li> </ul>	Results of an on-line student survey in May will indicate students of all grades report feelings of safety and belonging
Leadership training will be implemented in the Power of Hope for Teachers and Students		X		Teachers & Students	Nov. 2007	Trained Staff and Students will demonstrate implemented learning of Power of Hope	
Staff will utilize processing forms to promote student reflection on behavior		X		Staff	2007-08	<p>Teams will keep baseline data on numbers of processing occurrences by semester</p> <p>Assistant Principal's secretary will record number of office referrals by semester</p>	<p>Demerits and Office Referrals will decrease by 10% from 2006-07</p> <p>WMS will have a suspension rate of 12% or less for the 2007-08 school year</p>
Staff will continue to meet student needs by meeting once a week during team meeting time		X		Staff	2007-08	Teams will keep team meeting minutes that reflect discussions regarding students	
Staff will be trained in the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens		X		Staff	LID 2007-08	Teachers will use the concepts of Seven Habits in team meetings and in individual classrooms	
All 7 <sup>th</sup> grade students will be trained in the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens		X		Students	December 2007	7 <sup>th</sup> grade Students will demonstrate understanding of the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens during quick visits, classroom conversations	
All Regular Education Teachers will use Zangle Grade book and implement Parent Connect		X	X	Teachers	Sept. – June	Monthly reports from Student Records will indicate 100% Zangle and Parent Connect use	Parent Connect sign-ups will demonstrate a minimum of 60% of WMS parents have access to Parent Connect