

Bellingham Public Schools

Strategic Planning Process

School: Whatcom Middle School

Date: October 2006

- 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 75.5% meeting standard in the 2005-06 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 by 74.7% meeting or exceeding state writing standards, as measured by the WASL in the 2005-06 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 65.4% meeting or exceeding state mathematical standards as measured by the WASL in the 2005-06 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 2006	
District Goal for Student Performance: 90% of students will meet or exceed grade level standards, as measured by the WASL.							
School Goal for Student Performance: WMS students' Literary and Informational Text reading comprehension will improve in all content areas as measured by the WASL. 75.5% of the 7 th grade students will meet or exceed the standard in the 2006-07 school year.							
Target Objective: 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.							
Strategies	C/I	PD	PI	WHO	WHEN	Evidence of Implementation	Evidence of Impact
In small study groups, teachers will study professional literature which is relevant to WMS's student achievement goal		X		Teachers	2006-07	Individual Reflection sheets written during each small study group session	Student reading comprehension in literary and informational text will increase as measured by WASL reading scores.
Teachers will model and students will practice metacognitive strategies	X			Teachers	2006-07	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 vocabulary critical to the meaning of text and in all subjects	X			Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of critical vocabulary	
All teachers will apply comprehension monitoring strategies during and after reading, teach an understanding of main idea , and supporting details in all texts	X			All Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of comprehension monitoring strategies, and instruction on main idea , and supporting details	
All teachers will teach students in all subjects how to use prior knowledge to support individual reading comprehension	X			All Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of prior knowledge 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 prediction to support individual	X			Core Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, reflection sheets, dialogue action plans,	Teacher data collected through on-going

reading comprehension						observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of prediction strategies	assessments will indicate improved student performance in reading comprehension in both literary and informational text
All teachers will teach all students how to summarize informational and literary text	X			All Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of summarization strategies	
All teachers will teach all students how to understand printed and electronic text features	X			All Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of text features	
Core teachers will teach all students to understand and analyze (compare and contrast) story elements : Theme, Setting, Character, Plot	X			Core Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, 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	
All teachers will teach all students to analyze literary or informational text for similarities and differences and cause and effect relationships .	X			All Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of how to analyze informational and literary text for similarities and differences and cause and effect relationships .	Increase in student comprehension in literary and informational text as measured by WASL reading scores
Core teachers will teach all students to recognize literary devices (simile, personification, humor, metaphor, idiom, imagery, exaggeration, dialogue, irony, sarcasm, and analogy) and explain how they make a story more interesting	X			Core Teachers	2006-07	Small study group agendas, reflection sheets, dialogue action plans, observations, and quick visits will all demonstrate instruction of how to recognize literary devices and explain how they make a story more interesting	Increase in WASL reading scores and teacher data collection of individual performance per on-going assessments

Action Plan: Writing

School: Whatcom Middle School				Date: October 2006			
District Goal for Student Performance: 69.7% of students will meet or exceed grade level standards, as measured by the WASL.							
School Goal for Student Performance: WMS students' achievement will improve in writing as measured by the WASL. 74.7% of the 7 th grade students will meet or exceed the standard in the 2006-07 school year.							
Target Objective: All sixth, seventh, and eighth grade WMS students will use appropriate skills and strategies in order to demonstrate proficiency in writing.							
Strategies	C	P	R	WHO	WHEN	Evidence of Implementation	Evidence of Impact
Core teachers will teach all students to understand and use the writing process: prewriting, producing drafts, revising, editing, and publishing	X			Core Teachers	2006-07	Observations, and quick visits will demonstrate instruction of the writing process: prewriting, producing drafts, revising, editing, and publishing	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 variety of forms for different audiences and purposes	X			All Teachers	2006-07	Observations and quick visits will demonstrate instruction of how to write in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes	
All teachers will teach all students how to write clearly and effectively, e.g. develop ideas, use appropriate style, know and apply writing conventions	X			All Teachers	2006-07	Observations and quick visits will demonstrate instruction of how to write clearly and effectively, e.g. develop ideas, use appropriate style, know and apply writing conventions	

Action Plan: Math

District Goal for Student Performance: 66% of students will meet or exceed grade level standards, as measured by the grade WASL.							
School Goal 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.							
Target Objective: WMS students will improve their ability to communicate mathematical understanding with a 5% increase in the number of students meeting standard math each year.							
Strategies	CI	PD	PL	WHO	WHEN	Evidence of Implementation	Evidence of Impact
All Math and Core teachers will use WASL stem questions and stem question vocabulary in their instruction.	X			Math & Core Teachers	2006-07	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	2006-07	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	2006-07	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	2006-07	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	2006-07	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: 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 2004-05 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	CI	PD	R	WHO	WHEN	Evidence of Implementation	Evidence of Impact
Staff will organize and implement a 6 th grade transition day the week before school begins	X		X	Counselors, Teachers and Administration	2006-07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date set on the school calendar. • Parent and student notification. • Photos from the day of the event 	Sixth grade student survey will demonstrate feelings of safety and belonging.
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	2006-07	Team and section lists of students.	Parent and student requests for schedule changes will be reduced as reported by the counseling office.
7 th and 8 th grade student schedules will be mailed one week prior to school beginning.			X	Registrar and Administration	2006-07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student schedules created and printed through Zangle. • Parents & students receiving schedules in the mail 	
Provide parents support information regarding the WASL, Progress & Promotion and HS graduation requirements			X	Teacher & Administration	2006-07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WASL Awareness Class 	
WMS will develop a collaborative climate for professional development		X		Staff	2006-07	Collaborative study groups will meet on early release days for the purpose of professional development	
Every student will have and use a student planner			X	Staff, students, parents	2006-07	Student planners will be utilized by each student, teacher, and parent	
Provide parents support information regarding the Emergency Preparedness Plan and Disaster Drill			X	Teachers & Administrators	2006-07	Parent Information Class	

Students will participate in positive community building activities to reinforce positive learning environment	X	X	Teachers and Administration	2006-07	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildcat day will be held on the first early release morning in September. • Wildcat Pride Award celebration 6 times per year • Counselors will teach Bully-Proofing Curriculum • Noisy Waters Art Project Sept. to Dec. • Various assemblies (Mark Brown, Noisy Waters, Canfield) • 8th grade field trip to WCC & BTC • 7th grade field trip to WWU 	Results of an on-line student surveys in November and May will indicate students of all grades report feelings of safety and belonging
Staff will utilize processing forms to promote student reflection on behavior		X	Staff	2006-07	<p>Teams will keep baseline data on numbers of processing occurrences by trimester</p> <p>Assistant Principal's secretary will record number of office referrals by trimester</p>	Demerits and Office Referrals will decrease by 10% from 2005-06 WMS will have a suspension rate of 12% or less for the 2006-07 school year
Staff will continue to meet student needs by meeting once a week during team meeting time		X	Staff	2006-07	Teams will keep team meeting minutes that reflect discussions regarding students	
Each team will implement at least one interdisciplinary instructional unit and emphasize curriculum connections	X		Staff	2006-07	Teams will provide short description of interdisciplinary units and curriculum connections at monthly staff meetings	