

# Rainier Middle School

## 2008-09 School Performance Report

### ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

#### Demographics and history of neighborhood or area:

Rainier Middle School is located on the east hill of Auburn near Green River Community College. The attendance area covers a large geographical area including parts of unincorporated King County and parts of the City of Auburn. The socioeconomic level of the families in the attendance area for Rainier Middle School is diverse.

#### Students

As of October 1, 2008, 832 students are enrolled at Rainier Middle School. The student count for October 2007 was 761. The student gender percentages for October 2007 were 51.8% male and 48.2% female. The ethnic breakdown for October 2007 is reflected below:

White	67.4%	Black	8.9%
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	1.3%	Hispanic	10.4%
Asian	12.0%	Mobility Rate (2007-08)	13.0%

- Free or Reduced-Price Meals (May 2008) were 34.5%
- Special Education (May 2008) was 6.3%
- Transitional Bilingual (May 2008) was 3.8%
- Migrant (May 2008) was 0.0%
- Unexcused Absence Rate (2007-08) was 0.4%

#### Staff

The Rainier Middle School staff is professional and exceptionally talented. They are friendly, positive, dedicated, caring, and energetic. They have high expectations of students, themselves, and school programs. They support one another and are responsive to student and parent needs. The staff members display a warm sense of humor that enhances a cohesive and positive building climate.

Below is the educational information about Rainier Middle School's teachers. It includes the total number of certified teachers who instruct secondary students in a classroom setting for which daily attendance is kept. This information also includes teachers who instruct students in ungraded classes, as well as those who teach special education, disadvantaged, and home/hospital.

#### Teacher Statistics for 2007-08:

Classroom Teachers:	37
Teacher Experience:	Teachers have an average of 12.20 years of teaching experience.
Teacher Education:	The percentage of teachers with at least a master's degree is 59.5%.



### OUR SCHOOL BUILDING

[Condition, school size, classroom space, portables, planned improvements or remodeling and community use]

Rainier Junior High was built on Lea Hill in 1991. Beginning in 1995, a transition was made to Rainier Middle School, serving grades 6-8. At the present time, the main building houses 32 teaching stations, commons area, library, offices, health room, work room area, two gymnasiums, and a staff lunchroom totaling 96,000 square feet. Five portable classrooms have been installed because of increased enrollment. Rainier Middle School partners extensively with community organizations including Auburn Parks and Recreation; Auburn Little League; the YMCA; Green River Community College; and a variety of school, church, and public organizations.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Rainier Middle School staff is committed to providing our students with the essential academic skills, an appreciation for the arts, and an understanding of the importance of health and fitness that will enable them to function in our global society according to their individual strengths. We are committed to assisting students to develop personal responsibility, self-respect, and acceptance of others, while fostering a desire for lifelong learning and responsible citizenship.



## TEST RESULTS

Rainier Middle School uses a variety of assessment measures to develop a profile of what students know and are able to do. These profiles are used to monitor and report student progress in meeting the Essential Academic Learning Requirements for the state of Washington.

Assessment data is collected by the standards-based Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) in reading, writing, and math at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10. The WASL requires students to use a different approach to problem solving than has been previously required on standardized tests. In addition to standardized tests, teachers collect classroom-based evidence such as reading unit tests, spelling, essays, math, science projects, and social studies tests, as well as observations, daily assignments, class participation, behavior charts, and major projects to assess student progress. Student progress is reported through individual score reports, parent conferences, report cards, classroom newsletters, phone calls, and notes. Special education, Title I/LAP, and ELL use a variety of individual assessment measures for screening and identification for placement.

### Grade Levels and Subjects Tested Using WASL

	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	10th
Reading	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Math	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Writing		X			X		X
Science			X			X	X

### 2007-08 WASL Results for Rainier Middle School

Grade Level	Reading	Math	Writing	Science
6th Grade	74.7%	53.9%		
7th Grade	66.2%	61.7%	82.2%	
8th Grade	64.0%	58.5%		42.3%

Washington State Assessment of Student Learning Benchmark Two Trend for Rainier Middle School % of Students Meeting the Standard				
	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Math</b>	53.5	50.2	60.4	61.7
<b>Reading</b>	71.2	57.2	69.8	66.2
<b>Writing</b>	73.6	73.0	81.6	82.2
<b>Science</b>	37.1	34.1	34.6	42.3

#### Legal Notice

The Auburn School District No. 408 complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origins, sex, or disability, and does not tolerate sexual harassment. This holds true for all students who are interested in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Any reports of alleged sexual harassment or concerns about compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district Title IX RCW 28A.640 officer and Section 504 and ADA coordinator, Tim Cummings, 915 Fourth Street Northeast, Auburn, Washington 98002 (253) 931-4932.

## NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND/ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) is one of the cornerstones of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) signed into law January 2002, as the "No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act." In Washington, it is primarily a measure of year-to-year student achievement on the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) in reading and mathematics. One of the requirements of NCLB is that states develop a baseline or starting point for students to achieve proficiency as measured by WASL in math and reading scores. Every three years, the state must "raise the bar" in gradual increments so, by 2014, all (100%) students and identified student populations such as special education or English Language Learners (ELL) will achieve proficiency in each content area. NCLB requires that ninety-five (95) percent of the enrolled students must take the state's standards-based test. States are also required to identify an additional indicator for elementary/middle schools and high schools. Elementary and middle schools are required to monitor unexcused absences, while high schools are required to monitor on-time graduation rates. Thus, each district and school will be monitored annually on thirty-seven (37) AYP indicators or areas. For schools receiving Title I Part A funds, the law specifies consequences when a school does not meet AYP targets for two or more years in a row. While the results of WASL testing are reported for all schools and districts, the consequences apply only to those schools receiving Title I Part A funds.

Results for Rainier Middle School (Non Title I) for the 2007-08 school year indicate Rainier Middle School met 35 of the 37 indicators for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) requirements.

- The areas not meeting AYP were: Reading-Special Education; Math-Low Income
- Rainier Middle School met the AYP requirement for Unexcused Absence Rate.
- Rainier Middle School met the AYP requirement of 95% WASL participation.

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

As evidenced by the steady increase in results of the WASL assessment, Rainier Middle School is committed to helping all students make academic gains. Students at Rainier Middle School typically score above the state average in core content areas. The staff at Rainier Middle School has selected specific strategies to raise student achievement in reading, writing, and mathematics. Students receive 30 minutes of specialized instruction each day targeted to boost their ability level in all content areas. The school follows a model of helping students develop a personal learning plan based on goals that students identify after reviewing data on their own academic achievement.

This year, mathematics instruction was significantly enhanced through the use of the Algebraic Thinking model in which significant focus is made on helping students mediate abstract concepts into a concrete understanding through the use of hands-on materials and a constant emphasis on problem-solving strategies. Newly adopted reading curriculum over the last two years has given substantial strength to instructional practices. The “Step Up to Writing” model is the backbone of writing instruction at the school and writing has been increasingly integrated across all content areas.

Students receive consistent instruction on the writing process in math, science, and social studies as much as they do in language arts. Several of the Rainier Middle School staff are experts in this area and are widely consulted throughout the district and region. Rainier Middle School is committed to creating a safe and supportive learning environment by creating an environment that is culturally responsive to the diversity of the students and staff, reducing the incidents of conflict and emphasizing the excellence of the student body.

## WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT OUR SCHOOL?

### Special Programs, Events, Activities

Diverse and quality course options provide learning opportunities to meet the students’ needs in honors classes, special education classes, and a Learning Assistance Program. Each of these programs demonstrate consistent gains for the students they serve. Specific elective programs include orchestra, band, computer, art, musical theatre, drama, family and consumer sciences, technology applications, and industrial arts. Rainier Middle School has an excellent athletic program that draws high participation from students and staff. Softball, football, basketball, baseball, track, volleyball, gymnastics, and wrestling are offered. Rainier Middle School offers a variety of academic and extracurricular programs for students including a drama club, American Sign Language club, choir club, and others. Rainier Middle School continues to strengthen the quality of after-school programs that provide both general academic support and targeted interventions in math and reading. For the last two years, student participants have demonstrated measurable gains in math and reading. Strong partnerships with the Associated Student Body, the Parks and Recreation Department, YMCA, civic groups such as Kiwanis, and faith-based organizations provide a wide range of social and cultural opportunities to its students. There are also various spirit and social functions planned throughout the year.

The 2008-09 school year advances the second year of implementation of the WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) program. WEB provides ongoing transition and academic support for sixth grade students by eighth graders who serve as peer mentors. Younger students meet regularly throughout the year with their peer mentors to talk about help they need and academic progress and regular social activities are designed to enhance the connections of the school community. This year, additional emphasis on academic support has been added.

Rainier Middle School maintains a remarkable facility with the ability to change to meet the increasing population and student programs. It is a well-maintained, pleasant setting that offers outstanding facilities in the areas of music, drama, art, science, P.E., athletics, and technology. The campus is safe, secure, clean, and attractive.

Parental support is strong and welcomed at all of Rainier Middle School’s programs. The school initiates and maintains an open line of communication with the community. Parent involvement is promoted through the PTA. The PTA at Rainier Middle School has a high rate of membership and an even higher level of parent participation with PTA events. The PTA supports the school with extraordinary commitment. Parents can be found almost daily helping with classroom activities, serving in the office, helping students at lunch, and organizing events for families. Rainier Middle School also reaches out to its parents through use of the school planner, newsletter, and progress reports. Rainier teachers receive training in the area of technology, learning styles, diversity, and academic programs. Rainier Middle School staff members have been Gates Grant and Boeing Science Grant recipients.

All staff members at Rainier Middle School take an active interest in school activities and provide strong leadership for student programs. Rainier’s staff is comprised of:

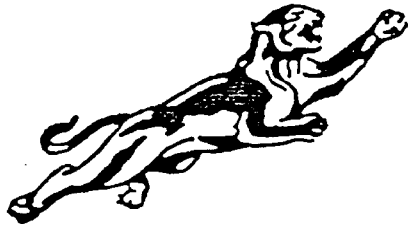
- Administrators who encourage academic achievement and model instructional leadership. The principal is a community resident, and both administrators are visible throughout the school day and afternoon as well as attending evening and weekend events.
- Teachers who are professional, compassionate, and experienced in their assigned responsibilities.
- Staff members who provide effective supervision throughout the school for academic programs and school activities.

The staff, students and parents at Rainier Middle School are champions. Rainier Middle School supports programs and activities that create school spirit, loyalty, and good sportsmanship. Rainier Middle School’s consistent efforts to serve students communicate its understanding of the correlation between relationships and student achievement. Rainier Middle School understands: “*There is no significant learning without a significant relationship.*” —James Comer

## FINANCIAL RESOURCES

<b>Auburn School District Funds Spent Per Student for 2007-08</b>	
Total Expenditures (includes salaries)	\$8,361.74
Supplies and Materials	475.62
Equipment	29.12

<b>Rainier Middle School 2007-08 Budget Funds Spent Per Student (not including salary)</b>	
Books and Supplies:	
Basic Education	\$48.00
Special Education	57.19
Library	6.00
Field Trips	1.80
Administrative Supplies	2.00



### How to get involved

Auburn School District encourages all parents and community members to be involved in the educational process. Each of the district's 14 elementary schools, four middle schools, and four high schools offer volunteer opportunities, including PTA. For more information, contact your school.

Rainier Middle School  
30620 116th Avenue Southeast  
Auburn, Washington 98092

Phone: 253-931-4843



*"In a safe environment, all students will achieve high standards of learning in order to become ethically responsible decision makers and lifelong learners."*

"AVENUE TO EXCELLENCE"

**Auburn School District No. 408**  
915 Fourth Street Northeast  
Auburn, Washington 98002

#### **Board of Directors**

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