

Cascade Middle School

2014-15 School Performance Report

"Home of the Spartans"



ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Cascade Middle School is located at the north end of the city of Auburn. The attendance area contains both single and family dwellings and apartment complexes. Cascade Middle School has a wide range of socio-economic levels. Presently, we are the second smallest of the district's four middle schools.

Student Information

Enrollment (October 2013)	730
Enrollment (May 2014)	715

Gender (October 2013)

Male	55.2%
Female	44.8%

Race/Ethnicity (October 2013)

American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.4%
Asian	7.9%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	5.3%
Black/African American	8.9%
Hispanic/Latino of any race(s)	20.8%
White	49.5%
Two or More Races	7.1%

Special Programs

Free/Reduced Price Meals (May 2014)	61.4%
Special Education (May 2014)	12.4%
Transitional Bilingual (May 2014)	8.8%
Migrant (May 2014)	0.0%
Section 504 (May 2014)	2.2%
Foster Care (May 2014)	0.0%

Other Information

Unexcused Absence Rate (2013-14)	0.9%
Mobility Rate (2013-14)	22.0%

OUR SCHOOL BUILDING

Cascade Middle School was originally constructed in 1967. A major renovation was completed in 1998, incorporating electrical support for technology as well as improving the overall building aesthetic. The school has since made minor renovations to accommodate all regular and special education program needs. At one time, Cascade Middle School's enrollment exceeded 1,200 students, which made it the largest middle school in the state of Washington. This year, student enrollment is approximately 740 students.

Cascade Middle School has been the center of community activities since its inception. Cascade

Middle School's facilities, both indoor and out, serve the numerous extracurricular activities of community and school. The facility is often in use seven days a week.

MISSION STATEMENT

Spartan Excellence: Everyone, Everyday, Everywhere

The vision of Cascade Middle School is to address the learning needs of all students through promoting academic, professional, and organizational excellence. These three tenets apply to all components of the schoolhouse and are interdependent in achieving Cascade's mission.

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ASSESSMENT

Starting this school year, our state's learning standards are now aligned to the Common Core State Standards in math and English language arts. The transition began when State Superintendent Randy Dorn adopted the new standards in 2011. New state standards mean new state tests. This spring, your child will take the new Smarter Balanced tests in math and English language arts. Science exams will remain the same as last year. Students in grades 3-8 and 11 will take the new Smarter Balanced tests in English language arts (ELA) and math. These assessments are required for Federal Accountability and will replace the MSP/HSPE reading, writing and math assessments. Graduation requirements for the class of 2015-2018 are based on 10th grade ELA or Reading/Writing assessments and End-of-Course Math and Biology exams.

In grades 3-8, students take Smarter Balanced tests and MSP for **federal accountability**. Students scores on these tests determine a school's adequate yearly progress (AYP) status.

Tests Required for Federal Accountability		
Grades	Subject	Test
3-8	ELA	Smarter Balanced
	Math	
5 & 8	Science	MSP

In high school, students take Smarter Balanced tests and the biology EOC for **federal accountability**. Student scores on these tests determine a school's AYP status. All 11th graders will take the Smarter Balanced tests in ELA and math. Students take the biology EOC as they complete the course, typically by the end of 10th grade.

Tests Required for Federal Accountability		
Grades	Subject	Test
11	ELA	Smarter Balanced
	Math	
10	Science	EOC

The state legislature determines graduation requirements. The following table shows tests required for graduation as of the 2014 state legislative session. Requirements may change during the next legislative session.

For more information about graduation requirements, please e-mail: gradreq@k12.wa

Tests Required for Graduation		
Class	Subject	Test
2014	ELA	Reading AND Writing HSPE*
	Math	Choose 1: Algebra 1/Integrated Math 1 EOC Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC
2015	ELA	Reading AND Writing HSPE*
	Math	Choose 1: Algebra 1/Integrated Math 1 EOC Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC Algebra 1/Integrated Math 1 EOC exit exam** Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC exit exam**
	Science	Biology EOC++
2016	ELA	Choose 1: Reading AND Writing HSPE Smarter Balanced ELA test (exit exam cut score)+
	Math	Choose 1: Algebra 1/Integrated Math 1 EOC Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC Algebra 1/Integrated Math 1 EOC exit exam** Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC exit exam** Smarter Balanced math test (exit exam cut score)+
	Science	Biology EOC++
2017 & 2018	ELA	Smarter Balanced ELA test (exit exam cut score)+
	Math	Choose 1: Algebra 1/Integrated Math 1 EOC Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC Algebra 1/Integrated Math EOC exit exam** Geometry/Integrated Math 2 EOC exit exam** Smarter Balanced math test (exit exam cut score)+
	Science	Biology EOC++
2019	ELA	Smarter Balanced ELA test (cut score to be determined by State Board of Education)+
	Math	Smarter Balanced math test (cut score to be determined by State Board of Education)+
	Biology	Biology EOC++

* Reading and Writing HSPEs will be available to 11th and 12th graders who have not met their graduation requirements in spring and summer 2015, and to 12th graders in spring and summer 2016.

** EOC exams are based on previous Washington State Learning Standards in math. EOC exit exams are based on updated Washington State Learning Standards (Common Core), beginning in school year 2014-15.

+ The Washington State Board of Education will set the exit exam cut score. The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium will recommend to the Washington State Board a college- & career-ready cut score that, once approved, will be used for accountability in 11th grade. If a 10th grader meets the college- & career-ready cut score, he or she will not have to take the Smarter Balanced ELA test in 11th grade.

++ Until Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) are implemented and assessed, students will be required to pass the biology EOC. After NGSS are implemented and assessed, students will be required to pass a comprehensive NGSS Test. The timeline for NGSS is being developed.

Legal Notice

Auburn School District complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not illegally discriminate on the basis of age; gender; race; color; creed; religion; national origin (including language); sex; sexual orientation including gender expression or identity; honorably discharged veteran or military status; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; the use of a trained dog guide or service animal; and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding compliance procedures may be directed to: Tim Cummings at (253) 931-4932, Title IX Officer and Section 504 and ADA Coordinator.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

During the 2014-15 school year, Cascade Middle School will begin its transition to a Title 1 school. Being a Title 1 school allows us to have more resources to provide more services for all of our students. To help with this transition, we are currently developing a School Improvement Plan that will provide our staff with an instructional focus. This plan will focus on literacy, math and collaboration/communication with ongoing professional development embedded throughout the school year. In the area of literacy, a school-wide focus will emphasize explicit vocabulary instruction and summarization. In the area of math, our focus is vocabulary and academic discourse (increasing student talk during each lesson in order to increase academic talk). Cascade Middle School continues to provide math intervention classes to help support students that struggle in math. The students identified for math intervention will also participate in regular math classes. The goal of math intervention is to support these students in their regular math class while also increasing their skill deficiencies. For the current school year, we have decided to place our special education students in their resource class plus general education classes in order to prepare them for high school and beyond. Lastly, in collaboration/communication, Cascade Middle School is committed to establishing Professional Learning Communities that address the following questions:

1. What do we want all students to know and be able to do?
2. How will we know if they have learned it?
3. What will we do if they haven't learned it?
4. What will we do if they already know it?

By focusing on these four questions, Cascade Middle School staff will create a more collaborative culture around student learning with the goal of increasing student achievement. Along with collaboration/communication, we have developed a peer observation model that will allow teachers to observe their colleagues teaching. While observing, teachers will fill out an observation protocol and will later debrief with the teacher they observed using the protocol. The goal of this is to create a culture of discussion around teaching and learning, therefore, providing students with consistent instructional practices across all content areas.

Currently, Cascade is in its third year of a three-year instructional coaching model that will help us address our instruction with the CORE subjects (language arts, social studies, math, and science). So far, we have trained a majority of our teachers in SIOP (Sheltered Instruction Observational Protocol) and will provide those teachers with ongoing professional development throughout this school year and the next school year. Our focus for this professional development will be on lesson design (purpose), lesson delivery (student engagement), and lesson results (assessment). By focusing on these three areas, it will assist our teachers in creating highly effective content and language objectives with intentional strategies that maintain high levels of student engagement, therefore, producing high academic results on assessments.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT OUR SCHOOL?

Cascade Middle School offers unique opportunities that contribute to the overall success of the students and building programs. Some of Cascade Middle School's strengths include:

- ◇ Cascade Middle School staff continually demonstrates a strong commitment to a "student-centered" focus. The academic and building decision-making processes focus on "what is best for the student."
- ◇ Cascade Middle School has an extensive English Language Learner (ELL) program. This program addresses both the academic and social adjustment of the students. The ELL program enables the entire community to interact with students from a variety of cultures, providing important enrichment opportunities for all students.

- ◇ Cascade Middle School provides a wide variety of special student services to special education and disabled students. Students attend Cascade Middle School from all over the community to take advantage of these services specifically designed with the strength and ability of Cascade Middle School instructors.
- ◇ Cascade Middle School's PTSA consists of a very dedicated group of parents, students and staff who work together to provide a variety of programs for the student body, staff and parents. "With One Voice, Create Endless Possibilities".
- ◇ Cascade Middle School offers a comprehensive electives program for all students. The classroom curriculum provides a wide variety of enrichment programs including: art, family and consumer science, technology, yearbook, green team (environmental studies), orchestra, band and choir. Beyond the classroom, students have an opportunity to participate in a wide spectrum of clubs and activities including: Dance Club, Art Club, Jazz Club, Home Club, Cascade Drumline, Newspaper Club, Builders Club, Game Club, Y-Boys, Study Hub, and Associated Student Body, etc.

ACHIEVEMENT/AWARDS

Awards and recognition of achievement are granted through the district, state and national level for improvement, overall excellence and special recognition. Below are awards received by our building:

- 2014 Linda Cowan Schools of Distinction Award
- 2014 Recipient of 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant (allows us to provide after school programs for students)
- 2013 Linda Cowan Schools of Distinction Award

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

<i>Auburn School District Funds Spent Per Student for 2013-14</i>	
Total Expenditures (includes salaries)	\$10,518.73
Supplies and Materials	608.82
Equipment	16.37

<i>Cascade Middle School 2013-14 Budget Funds Spent Per Student (not including salary)</i>	
Books and Supplies:	
Basic Education	\$31.12
Special Education	39.77
Library	4.00
Field Trips	.90
Administrative Supplies	2.00

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Cascade Middle School
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“In a safe environment, all students will achieve high standards of learning in order to become ethically responsible decision makers and lifelong learners.”

915 Fourth Street Northeast
Auburn, Washington 98002

Board of Directors

Carol Seng
Anne Baunach
Laurie Bishop
Ray Vefik
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Dr. Kip Herren
