

Rainier Middle School

2014-15 School Performance Report

"Home of the Panthers"



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.

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:

- 2009 Linda Cowan Schools of Distinction Award

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

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 socio-economic level of the families in the attendance area for Rainier Middle School is diverse.

Student Information

Enrollment (October 2013)	881
Enrollment (May 2014)	886

Gender (October 2013)

Male	48.4%
Female	51.6%

Race/Ethnicity (October 2013)

American Indian/Alaskan Native	1.0%
Asian	9.4%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	1.2%
Black/African American	9.4%
Hispanic/Latino of any race(s)	16.1%
White	55.1%
Two or More Races	7.7%

Special Programs

Free/Reduced Price Meals (May 2014)	46.5%
Special Education (May 2014)	8.6%
Transitional Bilingual (May 2014)	5.2%
Migrant (May 2014)	0.1%
Section 504 (May 2014)	4.6%
Foster Care (May 2014)	0.3%

Other Information

Unexcused Absence Rate (2013-14)	0.9%
Mobility Rate (2013-14)	12.0%

OUR SCHOOL BUILDING

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, workroom 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.



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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

As evidenced by the steady increase in results of the MSP and EOC (End of Course) assessments, 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. The school places students in math classes where they are best able to benefit regardless of grade level. This means that 6th grade students may be placed in algebra classes, 7th grade students sometimes take geometry, and students who need instruction at an adjusted rate can take classes at their own level. Students who are struggling to succeed and are given specific learning supports including tutoring, modified instruction and special classes.

We now offer two sections of high school geometry and multiple sections of algebra, each of which are open to students regardless of grade level. Students in these high school level courses are required to take the state EOC and at least 98% of our students pass the test. This year, we also added two sections of high school biology for students ready to take advanced course work in science.

We are also in our third year of a structured study skills class aimed at reducing dropout rates modeled after the national program titled *Why Try?* In this class, students learn how to organize themselves for learning and reverse behaviors that previously resulted in academic failure.

This is the third year we've been able to add a math intervention teacher to help serve struggling students who do not receive other assistance through special education or the Learning Assistance Program. This year, a similar structure has been developed to help students who struggle in reading. At least 200 students receive services. Recently adopted reading curriculum over the last few 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. Rainier Middle School is also the host site for the Auburn School District's Adaptive Behavior program serving adolescents with identified behavioral disabilities throughout the district. Each of these programs demonstrates 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. This year we also added elective coursework in Robotics emphasizing background in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).

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, Robotics Club, Chess Club, Computer 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 three years, student participants have demonstrated measurable gains in math and reading.

Parent and community volunteers have been a critical link in ensuring opportunities for children after school. 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 2012-13 school year continued the fifth 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

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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. With the blessing of voter support for a capital projects bond, we recently added a new roof to the school, replaced the HVAC system, upgraded carpet in several areas, added a computer lab and renovated the library, and made several ADA modifications to make the school more user friendly for patrons with disabilities.

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 Middle School 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.

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

Administrators who encourage academic achievement and model instructional leadership. The principal is a community resident and both administrators are highly 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

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

Rainier Middle School 2013-14 Budget Funds Spent Per Student (not including salary)	
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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**Rainier 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.”

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