

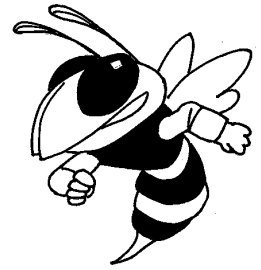
HORIZON MIDDLE SCHOOL

2671 Thornton Road

Ferndale, WA 98248

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www.ferndale.wednet.edu/horizon



ANNUAL SCHOOL PERFORMANCE REPORT

November 2004

A message from our school...

Horizon Middle School is committed to becoming a professional learning community which includes school, staff, parents and students. Providing an environment that encourages the building of strong relationships with and between students, parents, staff and community is a priority. A variety of student data is used to monitor academic improvement and to help teachers make instructional decisions to encourage success for all learners.

The primary focus at Horizon is to improve in the area of literacy. We believe that all students will be more successful in every subject area if they have the tools needed to read for comprehension and to write and communicate effectively. Offering students a more rigorous curriculum will help to prepare them for the rest of their academic training. Development of unit and course organizers that reflect clearly what students will learn and what is taught by the teacher will help to ensure content literacy. We continue to work on development of a positive school climate and to increase collaboration between staff and with the community. Using the principles of *Love and Logic* in our school-wide discipline program is a common sense way to deal with the choices students make.

MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

Our Vision: Horizon Middle School is a community oriented school dedicated to high academic standards, committed to nurturing positive relationships with and between students, parents, staff and community while focusing upon instruction that is technology rich, motivating, and concept oriented.

Our Mission: **To Teach—To Learn!** When home, school, students, and community pull together as one, students will become *well-rounded* citizens who are ready for their next educational step, the high school. With a continued focus on core academic areas and elective courses that allow students to explore other areas of interest, students will be successful learners.

STAFFING & ENROLLMENT

The teaching staff at Horizon Middle School consists of two administrators, 21 classroom teachers, half-time study skills teacher, two special education teachers, one librarian, one counselor, and an on-call part-time psychologist and nurse.

Our support staff consists of one secretary, 1.5 assistant secretaries, 10 full-time or part-time para-educators (library, classroom, hall monitor, tutor), one signer and 17 bus drivers.

There are the equivalent of 28 full-time certificated positions and the equivalent of 7.144 full-time classified instructional support positions.

STUDENT ETHNICITY

Black	1.2%
American Indian	17.3%
Asian	2.2%
White	71.1%
Hispanic	8.2%

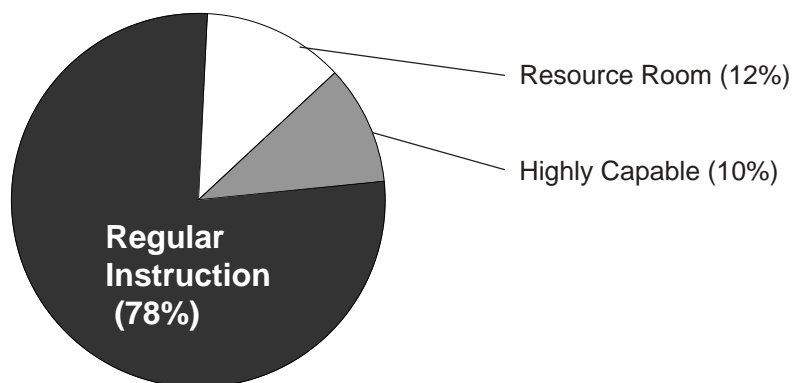
ENROLLMENT

Students Enrolled 2003-04	417
Average School Attendance	91%
Average Class Size	23.6*

*without music and excluding special programs

PARTICIPATION IN SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Students at Horizon Middle School participate in a variety of programs in addition to the regular classroom instruction. These programs address some of the unique needs which some students have. Special programs receive state and federal funding.



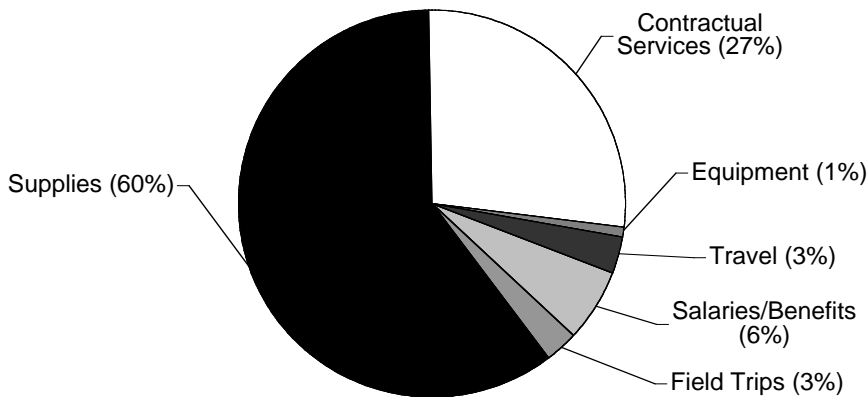
BUDGET

Districtwide

In 2002-03, Ferndale School District expenses for Basic Education activities were \$5,591.04 per student. The expenses for all activities including Transportation, Special Education, Gifted Education, etc., were \$7,399.49 per student.

Building

In 2002-03, Horizon Middle School's building budget expenditures totaled \$56,127. We spent our money in the following ways:



Note: 2002-03 is most current year budget information is available

SCHOOL FACILITY

Horizon Middle School is located at 2671 Thornton Road, Ferndale. The original 72,853 square foot building was constructed in 2001. Over the past year, we made the following improvements to our school:

- Purchased / installed two inch tack strips throughout building to display student work
- Installed fiberglass, reinforced panels in the boys' locker room
- Installed a moisture barrier under the gym flooring material to prevent trip hazards

ACHIEVEMENT DATA

Each year Horizon Middle School participates in state-mandated achievement testing. For 2003-04, results from the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) administered to seventh grade students in the areas of math, reading and writing, and administered to eighth grade students in the area of science were made available individually to each parent.

7th Grade WASL*					8th Grade WASL*	
	Math	Reading	Writing	Listening	Science	
2002	31.5	43.1	55.4	90.6	2004	42.8
2003	35.1	47.4	44.0	87.9		
2004	44.3	58.1	56.8	N/A		

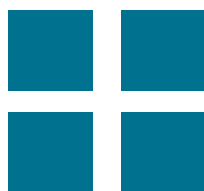
*Percentage of students who meet the Washington Essential Learnings' Standards

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As a result of the staff development opportunities provided over the past three years as a recipient of a Gates Foundation school grant, Horizon staff members have learned how to embed reading strategies into all content area classes. This deliberate focus on adolescent literacy continues as we work to ensure that all of our students have access to content specific information. This is being done through staff development directed toward continued reading strategy instruction, critical content mapping and teaching routines that facilitate student learning. These efforts are also being supported through our master schedule teaming model that provides opportunities for teachers to collaborate. What this means for our students is a rich variety of learning experiences designed to help all students achieve success. Additionally, a variety of performance assessments are used at school such as projects and presentations. Specifically, events such as the Spring Gala in 2004 was an example of students displaying their best work for the community and demonstrating their learning in a variety of ways.

Student Participation/Educational Programs: Natural Helpers Program • YMCA Adventure School • Awards Assemblies • Math Olympiad • Service Opportunities • After school sports—football, soccer, basketball, volleyball, wrestling and track • Peer Tutoring Opportunities • Marching Band • Field trips for all music programs • Yearbook • Teacher Assistant Opportunities • Enrichment clubs • Afterschool tutoring (academic intervention) • School dances • School Musical • Performance Opportunities and Contests-music programs • School newspaper, *The Stinger* • History Day • Science Club • Eighth grade bicycle trip • Jazz Band • Hands Against Hate • Native American Day activities • Cross Country Fun Run • Spring Gala – (Performance and demonstration of learning in every subject area) • Veterans' Day

Staff Development/Grant Related Opportunities: Critical Friends Group operating at Horizon to study and improve instruction practice • MAP training student assessment program to chart progress in reading and math • Compass Learning Computer training—individualized instructional computer based learning program • Reading in the Content area focus with on-going staff development training in effective reading strategies • Literacy Committee • Reading Study Group • Staff development of *Critical Questions and Concepts* for curriculum focus and alignment • Opportunity for parents to participate in our Building Council • Assess 2 Learn student assessments • use of Eddata Solutions data base for past assessment information to inform instruction • *Love and Logic* study group • Content Literacy Continuum, teaming inservice for all teachers to prepare for new team-based master schedule • *Reading for Understanding* training by WestEd • Differentiation in the classroom.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARENTS TO PARTICIPATE

Volunteers help out in various ways at Horizon Middle School. They are a vital component in making activities available for students. Examples of the various activities at which volunteers help are:

- New student orientation
- First day of school – assist new students
- School pictures
- Open house
- Magazine drive—our major fundraiser for ASB activities
- Vision and hearing screenings
- School dances
- Classroom help
- Love and Logic workshops
- School musical/ music programs
- Enrichment Clubs
- PTSO activities
- Classroom presenters as experts in areas related to the curriculum
- Parent Lending Library (Love and Logic materials)
- Chaperones on field trips

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Ferndale School District students and staff are strongly supported by the Ferndale Community. Community members and businesses provide volunteer time and monetary contributions to support a variety of Ferndale’s educational programs. This last year, schools received a total of over 146,000 hours of volunteer time. Alcoa Intalco Works was honored as Business of the Year Award for 2003-04.

In addition, our community consistently approves levy and bond issues which provide the district with needed financial resources to support the many programs offered to students, as well as to give students well-maintained facilities in which to learn.

Thank you to our community members for your support!

FERNDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

Ferndale School District, in partnership with families and the larger community, will educate each student to develop the knowledge, skills and character necessary to lead a self-reliant, socially responsible life.

NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND GOALS

The state report card which reflects the No Child Left Behind Accountability goals and Horizon School’s progress toward meeting these goals can be viewed at www.k12.wa.us under the state report card icon. Hard copies of this report are available upon request.





... Making A Difference

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HORIZON MIDDLE SCHOOL

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