

Ferndale School District No. 502

School Performance Report

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.

Horizon Middle

2671 Thornton Road, Ferndale, WA 98248, 360/383-9850
www.ferndale.wednet.edu/horizon

Mission and Vision

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.

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 strategic instruction that is technology rich, motivating, and concept oriented.



A message from our school

Horizon Middle School was honored this year with the national 2006 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School Award. We were one of seven schools in the state to be so honored. This award was as a result of our dramatic improvement in closing the achievement gap by showing strong and consistent improvements on our state reading and mathematics assessment since 2002-2003.

We would like to quote Governor Gregoire, *Horizon's recognition is well deserved, having made significant progress in closing the achievement gap among students and shown consistent improvement in state reading and mathematics assessments since 2002-2003. I firmly believe that all of our young people deserve a quality education and an opportunity to pursue their dreams, and I couldn't be more proud that Horizon is among the best in the nation for helping students improve their skills and achieve success.* To quote Margaret Spellings, Secretary of Education, *You have shown that it is possible for every student to be challenged. Your school is living proof that grade-level learning is the minimum standard for success and that students can acquire the kinds of advanced skills and knowledge they need to succeed in today's world.*

Horizon Middle School continues to be a caring, learning community of staff, parents and students. We have support from the Ferndale community in our efforts to provide a strong, supportive learning environment. Our efforts are student focused and data driven with great attention given to all the needs of each and every child.

Students at Horizon are continuously challenged to prepare for high school and beyond. Instruction is planned and designed to prepare students to be able to read, write and communicate effectively at the middle level and beyond. The challenges for specific, targeted instruction and learning are a collaborative effort for staff, students and parents.

As we work to ensure that our students are more literate and successful academically, our staff has continued to develop course and unit organizers to facilitate teaching and learning through these tools. Our focus continues to be on guiding students to make positive choices. We believe Horizon Middle School will continue to be a positive place for students to learn.

Community Support

Ferndale community members and businesses are commended for their strong support district staff and students. Many volunteer hours and monetary contributions are provided to the district in support of a variety of educational programs.

Thank you to our community members for your support!

School Composition

Enrollment
 Students Enrolled 2005-06 386
 Average Attendance 92%
 Average Class Size 24*
 *excludes music & special programs

Ethnicity

White	73.58%
American Indian	11.92%
Hispanic	10.62%
Asian	2.33%
Black	.78%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	.26%
Multiracial	.52%

Staffing

The teaching staff at Horizon Middle School consists of two administrators, 23 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 2.5 administrative assistants, 10 full-time or part-time para-educators (library, classroom, hall monitor, tutor), one signer and 17 bus drivers.

There are the equivalent of 27.4 full-time certificated positions and the equivalent of 5,668 full-time classified instructional support positions.

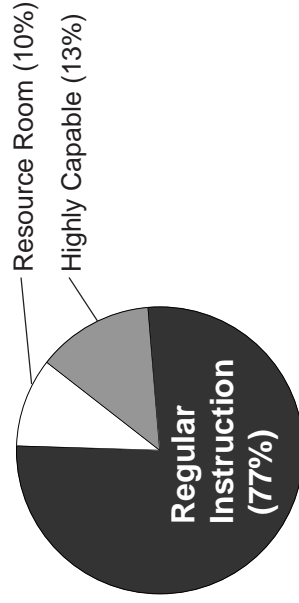
Opportunities for Families

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 – assisting new students find classes, lunchroom, library, etc.
- School pictures
- Open house
- Our middle school magazine drive – our major fund-raiser for ASB activities
- Vision and hearing screening
- School dances
- Classroom help
- School musical/music programs
- Enrichment Clubs
- PTO activities
- Classroom presenters as experts in areas related to the curriculum
- Parent Lending Library (*Love and Logic* materials)
- Chaperones on field trips
- After school sports

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.



Accomplishments

Horizon staff members continue 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. Our Spring Gala in May of 2006 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 • After-school tutoring (academic intervention) • School dances • School Musical • Performance Opportunities and Contests-music programs • School newspaper, The Stinger • History Day • Science Club • 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 • Cinco de Mayo activities • Project Wisdom –Character Building/Community Building • SIM – Strategic Instructional Model

Professional Development: Study Group with focus on adolescent literacy • 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 • use of Eddata Solutions data base for past assessment information to inform instruction • CLC – Content Literacy Continuum, teaming inservice for all teachers to prepare for new team-based master schedule • Differentiation in the classroom • WESPaC/Skyward technology training

Achievement Data

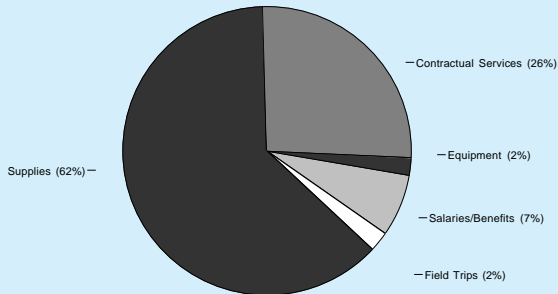
Each year Horizon Middle School participates in state-mandated achievement testing. Results from the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) administered to seventh grade students in the areas of math, reading and writing, and administered to eighth grade students in the area of math, science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

WASL is a standards-based test. Scores are percentage of students who meet the standard in each area.

Seventh Grade WASL				
	Math	Reading	Writing	Listening
2003	35.1	47.4	44.0	87.9
2004	44.3	58.1	56.8	N/A
2005	62.4	81.8	70.7	N/A
2006	51.5	64.1	67.2	N/A

Eighth Grade WASL			
	Science	Math	Reading
2004	42.8	N/A	N/A
2005	44.4	N/A	N/A
2006	46.7	59	75

Building expenditures were spent in the following ways



No Child Left Behind

The State of Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction provides on-line access to data required by the No Child Left Behind Act. District and school report cards can be accessed at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>. Once at the web site, select the school district and then the school. Printed copies of all reports may also be obtained at any Ferndale school office or administration office or by calling the district's public information office at 360/383-9207 or e-mailing tbengen@ferndale.wednet.edu.

Financial Information

In 2004-05, Ferndale School District expenses for Basic Education activities were \$5,486.13 per student. The expenses for all activities including Transportation, Special Education, Gifted Education, etc., were \$7,672.68 per student.

In 2004-05, Horizon Middle School's building budget expenditures totaled \$61,177.40.

Note: 2004-05 is the most current year that financial information is available.

Facility Update

Horizon Middle School is located at 2671 Thornton Road, Ferndale. The original 72,000 square foot building was constructed in 2001. No improvements were made this past year.