

News release



Everett Public Schools

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Jackson and Madison elementaries among only 57 schools to earn federal award ***Work to improve reading and math skills for three consecutive years earns \$5,500***

Jackson and Madison elementary schools will each have an additional \$5,550 dollars next school year to continue the good work they've done for the last three years to improve math and reading skills of their students and to close the achievement gap. Officially called *Title I, Part A Improvement Awards*, these recognitions for quality education come from the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Each school was selected based upon how well its students did on state tests. To be eligible for the award, schools must:

1. Make *Adequate Yearly Progress* (AYP) for three years (2007–08, 2008–09, 2009–10).
2. Be Title I-funded for the past three years (2007–08, 2008–09, 2009–10). Title I schools are those schools with at least 40 percent of their student families at or below the poverty level.
3. Show overall improvement in mathematics and/or reading proficiency and make significant gains to close the achievement gap.

Superintendent Gary Cohn congratulated both schools for demonstrating, "It is possible, with strategic work and strong community support, to help *each* student achieve. 'Each' student is at the heart of our mission. The entire community has reason to be proud of students and staff earning the award this year and those that have done so in the past."

This is the second time Madison and Jackson have been recognized with this Title I honor. Also earning the award in the past are Emerson, Whittier and Silver Lake elementary schools.

Madison Principal Mark Toland noted, "It is nice to receive this type of recognition, and we very much appreciate it. This helps validate the hard work our staff does with students each day."

This is Robin Imai's first year as principal of Jackson Elementary. "Jackson's families and staff have a strong history as a community of learners. It is no surprise that their work is once again being recognized as making such a difference for students. I'm pleased to be working with such an effective team and proud to continue supporting their good work."

Gayle Pauley, who oversees Title I at the state level said, "It is not often that I have the opportunity to provide a monetary award to schools for their outstanding efforts in working with our children. I thank you and your entire staff for the great work you have done in supporting your students." Only 57 schools across the state of Washington earned the award this year.

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