



Our Schools

.....

... where students achieve to high standards and learn to lead and shape the future.



Assessing success

SAT, PSAT for all

Free for students, during school day

Everett Public Schools first offered the PSAT during the school day for all sophomores in 2013 to remove any barriers (financial, transportation, time) that might prevent a student from taking the test. In 2015, the district began SAT testing for juniors during the school day.

These actions have greatly increased the numbers of students taking the tests. District Director of Assessment and Research Catherine Matthews shared, “It’s inspirational and aspirational for those students because many students don’t see themselves as college material, but taking a test like this can help them see, ‘Wow, I can really do this.’”

Additionally, more secondary students are taking more rigorous courses such as Advanced Placement (AP) and College in the High Schools. The number of students taking AP courses has doubled in the past six years. The number of students taking College in the High Schools has increased by nearly 700 in the past four years.

College in the High Schools

| 2012 | |
|----------|---------|
| Students | Classes |
| 2,048 | 6,128 |

| 2015 | |
|----------|---------|
| Students | Classes |
| 2,612 | 8,784 |

| 2016 | |
|----------|---------|
| Students | Classes |
| 2,733 | 7,550 |

SBA scores surpass the state

Everett Public Schools exceeds state scores in every subject

The hard work of students and staff members continues to pay off as Everett Public Schools student assessment scores in English Language Arts (ELA), math and science exceed the state in all areas tested.

Grades three through eight saw steady growth in all subject areas over last year, aside from a slight decrease in math in grades seven and eight. In grade 11, 82.4 percent met standard in ELA and 37.6 in math (due to lower participation rates mainly because many students had already met graduation requirements). More than 89 percent of 11th-graders met the assessment graduation requirement in ELA and more than 91 percent in math. See more details about Smarter Balance Assessment scores on the OSPI website at www.k12.wa.us.

District assessment scores compared to state

| | ELA | | Math | | Science | |
|----------|----------|-------|----------|-------|----------|-------|
| | District | State | District | State | District | State |
| Grade 3 | ✓ 61.3 | 54.3 | ✓ 63.7 | 58.9 | | |
| Grade 4 | ✓ 66.9 | 57.0 | ✓ 65.1 | 55.4 | | |
| Grade 5 | ✓ 72.5 | 60.1 | ✓ 58.0 | 49.2 | ✓ 76.2 | 65.3 |
| Grade 6 | ✓ 70.3 | 56.5 | ✓ 53.2 | 48.0 | | |
| Grade 7 | ✓ 74.7 | 58.5 | ✓ 56.4 | 49.8 | | |
| Grade 8 | ✓ 74.8 | 59.7 | ✓ 54.4 | 47.8 | ✓ 80.5 | 67.5 |
| Grade 11 | ✓ 82.4 | 75.5 | ✓ 37.6 | 21.8 | ✓ 77.9 | 72.2 |

Everett Public Schools’ assessment scores in English Language Arts (ELA), Math and Science compared to the average scores in Washington state.

The number of students enrolled in **AP classes** has grown from **784** in 2009-10 to **1,657** in 2015-16.



Three schools earn 2016 School of Distinction awards

Garfield Elementary, Whittier Elementary and Sequoia High schools recognized for continuous reading and math improvement

When schools show consistent improvement trends over a long period, that catches the attention of groups looking for exceptional educational practices. It also earns some of those schools the title School of Distinction. Last year, only 90 schools in the state met the criteria for the 2015 award – five years of students having continuously improved reading and math scores.

Garfield Elementary, Whittier Elementary and Sequoia High schools each earned a School of Distinction award for 2016.

"Improving scores one or two years in a row is an accomplishment," notes Superintendent Gary Cohn. "Holding and achieving that continuous improvement standard for five years is very difficult. Such a sustained improvement track record means the students, their families, the staff and the school system are in sync with quality instruction, high expectations and high support."

The Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE) is the organization that tracks state school achievement trends and is among those groups that give the School of Distinction awards. CEE President Greg Lobdell described the vast difference among the state's award-winning schools, "These schools are from all regions of the state, all sizes of towns, and with 2.7 percent to 100 percent poverty. Enrollment in these schools of English Language Learners is as high as 40 percent. These schools demonstrate the significant improvement occurring all across our state's diverse public schools."

To learn what each of the three schools are doing to help students succeed, read the full story at <http://bit.ly/2ddS37m>.

Below: Sequoia High School was one of three district schools to earn 2016 School of Distinction awards and be recognized at the Sept. 27 school board meeting.



Growing, growing, growing

Enrollment growth

What is it, what have we done to manage growth and plans for future

Enrollment in Everett Public Schools has increased by more than 1,100 students over the last decade and is continuing to climb. Enrollment is now over 19,700 and is projected to increase by nearly 1,500 students by 2024. The district has placed 107 portables at schools across the district (equivalent to approximately 4 elementary schools). By 2024, the district projects it will need to add an additional 37 portables to address growth, which would bring the district total to 144.

Enrollment growth is significantly impacting the southern and central regions of the district. Thanks to community support through the passage of a 2016 bond measure, the district is building a new elementary school in the south end that is slated to open in 2019. This will help to relieve pressure and balance enrollment at south-end elementary schools.

Increased enrollment at the high school level

As increased enrollment moves through the system, it will put significant strain on Cascade and Henry M. Jackson high schools. Current enrollment at Cascade High School is 1,774 and is projected to grow to over 2,100 by 2022. If no changes are made, the district will have to place an additional 12 portables at Cascade High School by 2022 to address growth. Current enrollment at Henry M. Jackson High School is 2,133 and is projected to grow to more than 2,400 students by 2022. Portables on the school site will double by 2024 from 14 to 28 (the equivalent to an elementary school) to address growth if no changes are made.

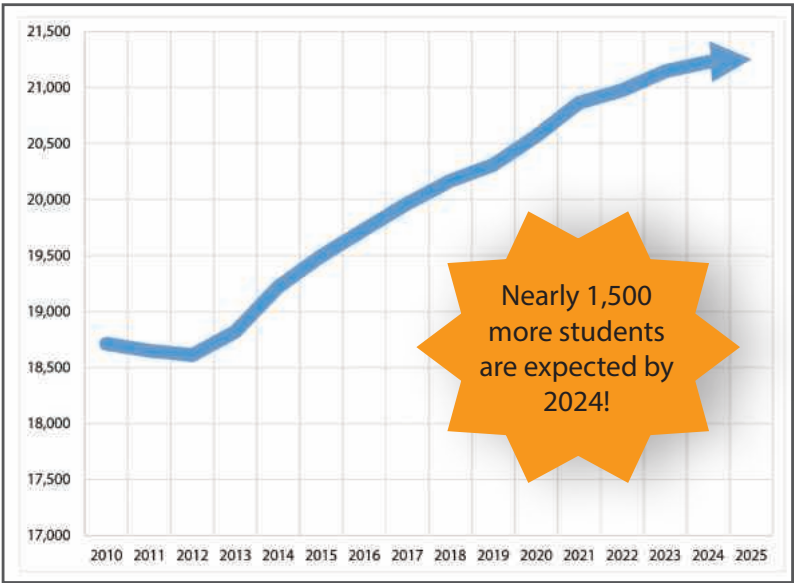
Increased student enrollment also puts additional stress on the infrastructure of the school (cafeteria, gyms, library, restrooms, etc.) and can limit access to academic and extra-curricular opportunities such as athletics and activities.

Historically, when a high school has reached an enrollment size of 2,300, the district has built a new high school:

- Cascade HS was built in 1960 when enrollment at Everett HS reached 2,353
- Jackson HS was built in 1994 when enrollment at Cascade HS reached 2,328

Construction of a new high school in the south end of the district would allow the district to balance enrollment at all existing high schools and accommodate continued long-term growth. It takes four years to open a high school, from design to completion. The school board will be making a decision in the coming year about plans moving forward.

Enrollment growth in Everett Public Schools



Enrollment has increased more than 1,100 over the last decade and is currently about 19,700 students.

Portables needed at Henry M. Jackson High School to help manage growth if no intervention

2016 14

2024 28

Bond and levy update

For more information visit www.everettsd.org



Bond and levy projects underway

More project updates to follow

As the projects funded by the 2016 capital bond and replacement levy approved by voters last April develop, we'll highlight one or two in each edition of *Our Schools*. More details on each project will be available on the district website.

Growth



New elementary school

Construction will begin on the yet-to-be-named elementary school in the summer of 2018. The new school is scheduled to open in fall of 2019 and will be designed to accommodate 550 students, the standard size of elementary schools in Everett Public Schools. Located on the southern border of our district along 180th Street SE, it will help ease overcrowding at nearby elementary schools in the south end of the school district.

Dykeman Architects was selected to design the new elementary school, which will likely be a two or three story school building. The district hired a geotechnical engineer to complete soil testing, which is part of the process to ensure there is a solid foundation for the school.

The education specification process for the school has begun, which establishes the requirements for the new educational facility and becomes a road map for the architectural and engineering team as they prepare drawings for a building that meets those requirements. Developed by a committee comprised of educators and other interested parties, the "ed specs" provide a detailed description of the educational program, instructional activities, functional, spatial, aesthetic and environmental needs of the school.

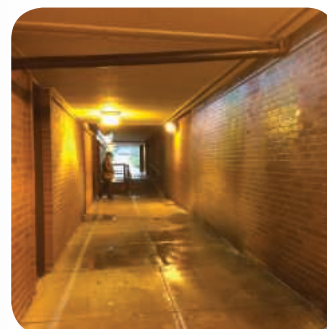
North Middle School

Construction will begin in summer of 2018 and is expected to be completed by Winter 2019.



Woodside Elementary School

Construction will begin in summer of 2019 and is expected to be completed by Fall 2020.



The new elementary school is scheduled to open in fall of 2019.

Growing consciousness

Cascade High students learn science by the shovel full

Reclaiming overgrown greenhouses, club creates aquaponic, self-sustaining crops



Every student wielded a shovel, a rake or carried concrete cinder blocks into the newly cleared greenhouse. Once inaccessible, completely filled with blackberry vines, the green houses at Cascade High School were getting an overhaul.

Cascade High's Environmental Arts Club and its advisor, Jack Mcleod, began the reclaim project in 2012 with one of two greenhouses. With the help of several grants, including Food Corp (Whole Foods), Everett Public Schools Foundation and Lowe's for building supplies. They also partnered with local nonprofit Farmer Frog. Then came raised beds outside the greenhouses. The second greenhouse was reclaimed last spring and the inner workings are still under construction.

The students are learning to build a self-sustaining food system," explained Mcleod. "The nitrogen-rich water from the fish tanks will feed the plants. As the water moves through the system, bacteria will naturally break down nitrogen compounds absorbed by the plants so the water can flow back into the fish tanks as clean water." Mcleod added they are in the process of adding sweetwater shrimp to the ecosystem. Both the fish and shrimp can be used as a food source as well as providers of nutrients to the plant crops.

In 2015, the club grew carrots which were served in the school cafeteria. They've also grown tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, lettuce, spinach, kale and other greens. For more more history of the project and photos of its progression, go to the *CHS Environmental Arts* Facebook page.

"Every year a new group of students steps up with energy and new ideas. It's joyful to see them take pride in building all these systems and

learning how to grow food. I've seen so many kids pick and eat fresh produce right out of the garden for the first time in their lives. And they're proud of doing community service."

Above: Cascade High School student, Jeremy Johnson, pulls Ozette potatoes from the school's raised beds. A portion of the crop was donated to a local foodbank.

Right: Cascade High School greenhouse went from overgrown blackberry vines to an aquaponic system featuring several varieties of vegetables and soon to include fish and sweetwater shrimp.





Miss Webster goes to Washington



Cascade High School teacher Melissa Webster packed her bags and trekked to Washington, D.C. in June after being selected as one of 60 teachers to participate in Supreme Court Summer Institute.

In addition to touring the halls and watching the Supreme Court in action, teachers also studied Supreme Court cases in detail and learned innovative ways to share their knowledge with students. Webster and her colleagues heard from Supreme court lawyers, reporters, scholars and educators during their stay. The

Institute was sponsored by Street Law, Inc. and by the Supreme Court Historical Society.

Shortly after her return to Washington state, Webster learned that she was selected by the American Geographical Society (AGS) as a 2016 AGS Human Geography Teacher Fellow.

Webster was one of 50 teachers across the United States who study and teach geography who were selected for this honor. The honorees will attend an all-expenses paid symposium at Columbia University in New York City in November as part of a grant. As a guest fellow at the symposium, Webster and her colleagues will be asked to apply their brains to help map the future of geography conservation, restoration and sustainability. They'll also bring cutting edge, critical thinking to share with their students.

Carmen Boggs

Evergreen Middle School Assistant Principal Carmen Boggs worked with Everett Public Libraries to foster a love of reading and access to books through libraries. The ice cream bars handed out at lunch for students who have gotten library cards adds to the excitement.



Above: Evergreen Middle School Assistant Principal Carmen Boggs doles out ice cream bars at lunch to students who acquired library cards. Photo by Dan Bates and used with permission from The Daily Herald, Everett, WA.



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Everett Public Schools shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without regard to race, color, national origin, creed, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, veteran or military status, the presence of any physical, sensory or mental disability or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a student with a disability.

Designated to handle inquiries about nondiscrimination policies are:

Affirmative Action Office – Carol Stolz,
cstolz@everettsd.org, 425-385-4106
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rseaberg@everettsd.org, 425-385-4104
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rballbach@everettsd.org, 425-385-4063
ADA Coordinator – Becky Clifford,
rclifford@everettsd.org, 425-385-5250
Address: PO Box 2098, Everett, WA 98213



Everett Public Schools is celebrating its 125th year. Share your stories and photos with communications@everettsd.org or on social media channels (Facebook: @EverettPublicSchools; Twitter: @EverettSchools). Use hashtag #EPS_125 to include your posts in the stream!

AVID students

Rotary Club of Everett partners to help support students

The Rotary Club of Everett kicked off its 100th anniversary celebrations on Sept. 28, boosting the club's Next Generation Project by announcing \$100,000 in grants and other support for college-bound students in the Everett Public School's AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) program.

Rotary President Ed Petersen announced the gifts before an audience of AVID students, parents and Rotary members gathered for an ice cream social at the district's Community Resource Center. The club has backed the AVID program since 2012.

AVID is an elective class designed to help prepare students for college. In addition to teaching the skills necessary to succeed in college classes, AVID helps students navigate the college admissions and financial aid process. Students have opportunities to take field trips to colleges and meet guest speakers in a variety of career fields. This is the 11th year of district engagement with AVID.

At Wednesday's gathering AVID students and their parents socialized with AVID students from Cascade, Sequoia and Everett High Schools, and meet Rotary members. They heard perspectives from current AVID seniors and students who have advanced to college.