

Garfield Elementary is a 2017 School of Distinction

Garfield earns academic honor for third year in a row



Garfield Elementary School is a state School of Distinction for the third year in a row

Everett, WA – Classrooms are busy places at Garfield Elementary School. When they are not filled with children, reading aloud, building with colored blocks, or writing, they are buzzing with teachers meeting to support struggling students.

More than seven out of 10 Garfield students qualify for free or reduced lunch. Nearly 20 percent speak a language other than English, and over 20 percent qualify for special education.

So when those in the school learned they were one of 98 schools in the state to earn a 2017 School of Distinction award, it was big news.

So what does it mean to be a Washington State Schools of Distinction? It means that for the last five consecutive years, students have continued to improve in their math and language arts skills. Garfield has earned this award three years in a row! It also means Garfield is in the state's top-performing five percent state elementary schools. Only 96 schools in the state are Schools of Distinction this year.

In a congratulatory message to Principal Monique Beane Superintendent Cohn wrote, "Congratulations to you and the entire Garfield team for what you are doing to increase your students' life opportunities by building their academic skills and learning capabilities."

Beane cited Helen Keller's quote, "Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much."

Garfield isn't a stranger to recognition for their academic success. Earlier in 2017, Garfield earned a [National Title I, Part A Academic Achievement Award](#) from Office of Superintendent Public Instruction (OSPI).

[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.

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