



Happy Valley Elementary School

BELLINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Welcome to Happy Valley Elementary School. Our mission at Happy Valley is to actively engage students in learning experiences that emphasize teamwork and civic responsibility through school and community partnerships.

Vision

Happy Valley Elementary students demonstrate excellence as:

- Critical Thinkers
- Problem Solvers
- Quality Workers
- Collaborators
- Citizens in our Community and School



Core Beliefs

We believe that meaningful learning experiences result from community partnerships by:

- **Creating opportunities for community members to share their expertise**
- **Extending educational opportunities with our neighbor, Western Washington University**

We value children who appreciate others, put others first and accept one another by:

- **Recognizing positive traits children exhibit**
- **Demonstrating being helpful toward others**

We value a supportive school culture of learning through a balance of inquiry, the arts and civic engagement by:

- **Promoting responsibility for learning and quality work**
- **Integrating technology into all areas of learning**



Principal's Message

KAREN TOLLIVER



Happy Valley continues to be a high-achieving school that offers a rich variety of learning opportunities. We believe it is imperative

that all students receive engaging lessons. This helps them to learn at high levels about the world through science, math, technology and the arts. Our strong partnership with Happy Valley families, our community and Western Washington University allows us to excel at preparing students for an ever-changing world. We realize that it takes all of us working together to ensure that students not only learn the necessary academic skills that will allow them to be successful in the workplace, but also the social skills that will empower them to be productive global citizens. Examples of this past year's accomplishments include the building of our new Happy Valley School Community Garden, standing-room only at our performances of The School House Rock Musical, and continuing to receive recognition in the areas of mathematics and science. For more than a half a century, Happy Valley has maintained high standards, a strong sense of community and a commitment to each child who

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DEMOGRAPHICS

Happy Valley

Oct. 2010

Bellingham
School
District

Oct. 2010

Student characteristics

Total Enrollment	335	10,919
Class Size Average		
Grades K-3	21.8	22.5
Grades 4-5	25.6	25.3
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	1%	1%
Asian/ Pacific Islander	9%	6%
Black	2%	3%
Hispanic	9%	14%
White	79%	76%
English Language Learners (ELL)	26	600
Highly Capable	4	206
Title I	0	642
Special Education	49	1,380
2010-11 school year		
Unexcused absences	0%	0.5%
Discipline*		
Suspensions	2	
Expulsions	0	
Free and Reduced Meals (May 2011)	28%	40%

*This data represents the required incidents reported to the state in specific behavioral categories.

Student-to-computer ratio: 4 to 1

Expenditure per pupil

In 2009-10, the per student expenditure rate was approximately \$9,310. About 72.3% of the district budget was spent on teaching and teaching support, well above the state average of 69%. Funding sources: 64.3% from state based on enrollment; 21% from local taxes supported by the maintenance and operations levy; 10.4% from federal; and 4.3% from other sources such as donations and investment earnings.

2009-10 is the latest year data is available.

2010-11 Highlights of Progress

Learn

- Created a schoolwide focus on science, determined power standards, aligned instruction across grade levels.
- All certified staff received training in:
 - Response to Intervention:** Academic and behavior intervention and enrichment designed to provide effective assistance to children.
 - Thinking Maps:** These eight visual patterns (similar to graphic organizers) are based on thinking processes that can be used in combination across every grade level and curriculum area as tools for life-long learning.
 - Write from the Beginning:** This K-5 writing program utilizes Thinking Maps to teach students to be effective writers.
 - Technology:** Teachers received an I-PAD 2 and an opportunity for training to support use of this tool in their classroom.

Personalize

- Problem-Solving Team implemented: Staff met weekly to determine strategies in academic or behavior areas that support student success. A notebook system to document information will be accessible to teachers.

- Interventions and Enrichment provided to students:
 - Used data to determine half-time kindergarten students who would benefit from attending kindergarten daily. The identified students received additional small group support on alternative kindergarten days.
 - Grade levels provided targeted interventions and enrichment in math and reading by utilizing all staff and a block schedule.
 - The Highly Capable Learners' Program included enrichment opportunities in math, science and art.

Engage

- Partnered with AmeriCorp, our neighborhood association and families to create the Happy Valley School and Community Garden. Teamed with Western Washington University, Big Brothers, Big Sisters Program to provide individual and small group support for students in both social and academic areas.
- Received Allied Arts grant to create garden art from recycled materials for Happy Valley's School garden.
- Student initiated fundraiser for Japan Tsunami relief.



Happy Valley Programs

- Full time kindergarten
- Before and after-school programs sponsored by Happy Valley Parent Teacher Association:
 - Art Classes
 - Performing Arts-Musical Performance
 - World Language Classes including Spanish, French and Chinese
 - Geography Club
 - Intermediate Choir
 - Chess Club
- Enrichment opportunities provided during school day in partnership with WWU, PTA and community:
 - Art enrichment classes with resident artist
 - Reflections art show
 - Math enrichment
 - Geography Bee
 - Science Fair
 - 5th Grade Mt. School
 - Back on Track Plus reading support
- Individual classroom community service projects, ie: WWU Outback Garden, Happy Valley Neighborhood Association's Earth Day cleanup project and the Salmon Enhancement project
- PTA-annual family social events:
 - Sock hop
 - Fun Run fundraiser and Ice Cream Social

HAPPY VALLEY'S MSP DATA

Percentage meeting or exceeding standards

	Grade 3			Grade 4			Grade 5		
	School 2011	District 2011	State 2011	School 2011	District 2011	State 2011	School 2011	District 2011	State 2011
Reading	88%	78%	73%	87%	75%	67%	80%	74%	68%
Writing	—	—	—	85%	66%	61%	—	—	—
Math	74%	64%	62%	77%	63%	59%	80%	67%	61%
Science	—	—	—	—	—	—	83%	69%	56%

Washington uses the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP), given to students in grades 3-8, to measure how students in the district and state are progressing in meeting state academic standards.

Happy Valley's Plan to Improve Learning, 2011-12

- Utilize learning meetings to create agreements and align instruction of science concepts using Thinking Maps, Write From the Beginning, the district's Literacy Adoption, and technology as instructional tools.
- Continue using Professional Learning Communities and Problem-Solving Team to determine behavior and academic challenges and possible interventions; utilize notebook and excel spreadsheet to document individual student plans.
- Explicitly teach Happy Valley Golden Rule "Always do your best" and our three commitments to be Safe, be Responsible, be Respectful.
- Create a plan for informing families of grade-level expectations, student progress, interventions and enrichment.
- Continue partnering with our families and community to use Happy Valley's School and Community Garden to build background knowledge in science, maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

Dear Families,

As part of the "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB) legislation of 2001, schools and school districts are considered to be making "Adequate Yearly Progress" (AYP) if they meet targets in various categories, including those listed below. Academic progress in reading and math must be measured for: All Students, American

Indian, Asian, Black, Hispanic, White, Special Education, Limited English, and Low Income. Missing the target in any one category causes a school or district not to make "Adequate Yearly Progress" overall. **Happy Valley made AYP in all its required categories for 2010-11.**

AYP CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

The district made AYP in 61 of its 67 required categories. It did not make AYP at elementary level for reading proficiency in the categories of all, white, special education and low income. At the middle school level, the district did not make AYP in reading proficiency in the categories of all and low income. At the high school level, the district made AYP in all of its required categories.

Sanctions for not making "Adequate Yearly Progress" affect schools and districts receiving federal Title I funding. For more information about "No Child Left Behind," visit <http://www.k12.wa.us/ESEA/>



ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS STATUS

AYP Indicators	Happy Valley 2010-11	Elementary Schools in District 2010-11
Sufficient percentage of elementary students who met state testing standard	In Reading YES In Math YES	In Reading NO* <i>(All, White, Special Education, Low Income)</i> In Math YES
At least 95% of elementary students participated in state testing	In Reading YES In Math YES	In Reading YES In Math YES
No more than 1% of students' absences were unexcused	YES	YES
Met AYP	Overall YES	Overall NO

PERFORMANCE REPORT

The annual School Performance Report, required by federal and state law, provides access to information on the educational programs in each school so families and community members can make informed decisions about the schools in their district. The Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) also provides online access to more detailed data required by the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). District and school report cards can be viewed at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>. Select "Bellingham School District" or the name of the school to view further student achievement and demographic information. Printed copies of the reports are available at schools, district offices and the Bellingham Public Library.



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walks through the doors of our school. As the principal of Happy Valley, I feel a great sense of pride in not only having received a state achievement award for maintaining academic excellence three years in a row, but honored to be a part of a dedicated learning community that truly cares about each child.



Kèm theo đây là giấy tờ bao gồm các chi tiết quan trọng về nhà trường của con em quý vị. Xin đưa những chi tiết này cho người nào đó có thể giải thích cho quý vị hiểu càng sớm càng tốt. Cảm ơn.

Прилагасмый документ содержит важную информацию из школы ваш его ребенка. Пожалуйста, попросите перевести вам эту информацию как можно скорее. Спасибо.

Adjunto se encuentra un documento que contiene información importante de la escuela de su hijo. Por favor solicite que le traduzcan esta información tan pronto como sea posible. Muchas gracias.

ਨੱਥੀ ਕੀਤਾ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਬੱਚੇ ਦੇ ਸਕੂਲ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਦੇਖਦਾ ਹੈ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਇਸ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਦਾ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਜਿੰਨੀ ਜਲਦੀ ਹੋ ਸਕੇ ਕਰੋ। ਧੰਨਵਾਦ।



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Go to <http://bellingshamschools.org/schoolmessenger>

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