

Granite Falls School District Board Members

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LEARNING IS



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Granite Falls Middle School

Our Accomplishments

The **Navigation 101 Advisory Program**, Tiger Stripes: Earning your Stripes, is for students to establish an ongoing, meaningful connection with a member of the Middle School staff. Teachers, secretaries, custodians, counselors and administrators had advisory groups of less than twenty students.

The advisory groups met for 45 minutes every two weeks and the meetings focused on various topics including academic goals, planning for high school, money management, and career goals.

Every student developed their own Navigation 101 portfolio and the year concluded with Student Led Conferences. Late March students presented their portfolios in front of their parents and advisors.

Other accomplishments include:

- **National Junior Honor Society** - 44 new members were inducted into the Mt. Pilchuck Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society at the annual ceremony held in March.

- **Community Service** - Leadership students served as tutors for students at Mountain Way Elementary.
- **Incentive Program** - the Principal's Incentive Program was successful again this year. Events attended included Mariners games and the introduction of the "Paw Pride" cards.
- **Yearbook Production** - seventh and eighth grade students helped produce the Granite Falls Middle School yearbook and five editions of the Tiger Times newspaper.
- **Parent Advisory Group (PAG)** - this parent group supported students and staff through sponsoring a book fair and the Principal's Incentive Program. They also supported staff at fall and spring Parent Conferences, the Community Coalition, and end-of-year student activities.
- **Seventh grade student Aakash Sethi** finished fourth out of 53 contestants in the King and Snohomish Counties Regional Spelling Bee at Town Hall in Seattle on March 30.
- **Eighth grade student Sam Porter** won the Granite Falls Middle School GeoBee sponsored by the National Geographic Society.

- **Athletics** - the Middle School wrestling team and seventh grade boys basketball teams captured the league championship and Rhiannon Alexander finished first in the Cascade League Cross Country championship.
- **Mentor Program** - in the fall of 2007, the District was awarded a three-year grant from the US Department of Education to develop and support a mentoring program. The goal of the program is to match youth in grades 4-8 with caring adult mentors in one-on-one relationships. Our goal is to see the students improve in areas of academics, attendance, and attitude towards school. This year, 33 students were matched with mentors.
- **Staff members Jon Thompson and Nancy Kawasaki** were honored as the 2008-2009 Staff Success in Education award winners.
- **History/geography teacher Randy Cash** was selected to the Northwest History Consortium.
- **The Advanced Choir** attended the Mount Pilchuck Music Educators' Association choir festival and received three superior ratings

Granite Falls School District
2008-09 Performance Reports

About Our School

Granite Falls Middle School serves students in grades 6, 7 and 8. The school has 28 full-time certificated staff and 14 full-time support staff members who work directly with the students to meet their diverse abilities.

Basic education is the foundation of the curriculum which is enhanced by a variety of support programs for both special needs and highly capable students. Elective classes are offered in problem solving, Fitness for Life, math games, applied technology, creative writing, WASL prep, physical education, art, drama, band, choir, leadership, Spanish, yearbook/journalism, and study skills. Co-curricular activities include cross country, soccer, football, volleyball, basketball, wrestling, and track.

Parents provide a vital link by supporting educational functions, helping supervise student activities and volunteering their time by providing assistance to students and staff.

Our Vision

The middle school vision rocks:

- Respect
- Opportunity
- Community
- Knowledge
- Service

Our Mission

Students, staff, and parents of Granite Falls Middle School collaborate to maximize academic improvements and personal growth through high, consistent standards and meaningful learning opportunities.

Our Learning Improvement Plan

Goals Accomplished

Under the direction of the 2008-2009 Granite Falls Middle School Learning Improvement Team, the following goals were accomplished:

- Provided additional study support classes in reading and/or math for those students not passing sections of the WASL.
- Continued implementation of the LifeSkills Training Program (which addresses substance abuse risk factors) in health classes at all three grade levels.
- Implementation of a 90-minute after school program two days a week with teacher assistance in the core areas (reading, language, and math) at all grade levels.
- Implementation of four reading intervention and ten math intervention classes to help meet individual Student Learning Plan goals.

Goals for 2008-2009

Goal One: Improve the academic performance of all students focusing on the essential learnings, expanding alternative/remediation/enrichment programs, and curriculum alignment among the intermediate, middle and high school levels.

Goal Two: Continue to expand programs and activities including, but not limited to, the Navigation 101 Advisory Program and Mentor Program that teach positive social skills, decrease negative student behaviors, and prepare students to be responsible citizens in a sustainable world.

Goal Four: Continue to ensure an emotionally and physically safe learning environment for all students and staff.

Goal Five: Continue to ensure the successful transition of students from elementary to middle school.

Goal Six: Continue to cooperate with the Granite Falls High School in the development and implementation of a transition plan to facilitate the successful academic and emotional transition of middle school students to the high school.

Learning Improvement Team Members

The vision for school improvement is led by a team of students, staff, parents, and community members who meet on a monthly basis. Team members for 2008-2009 included:

- Dave Bianchini -- Principal
- Leslie Ivelia - Assistant Principal
- Linda Carstens -- LSC
- Rebecca Delaney -- Counselor
- Lee Ann Draggie -- Recording Secretary/Classified
- Marilyn Bradt - GFEA
- Mollie Estes -- 6th Grade Team
- Bob Cory -- 8th Grade Team
- Jon Thompson -- 7th Grade Team
- Sarah Bates -- 7th Grade Parent
- Tiffany Wyatt -- 6th Grade Parent
- Arun Sethi -- 7th/8th Grade Parent
- Sharon Sheppard -- 7th Grade Parent
- Aakash Sethi -- ASB Vice President
- Pooja Sethi -- ASB President

School Data

Enrollment by Grade	
6th	177
7th	177
8th	187
TOTAL	541

Ethnic Enrollment	
Multi	12
Asian	9
American Indian	14
Hispanic	29
Black	7
White	468
Not Provided	2

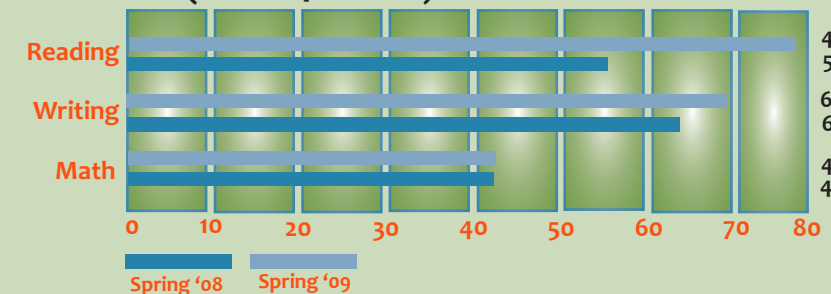
Attendance

The average daily attendance for the 2008-2009 school years through May was 93%.

Dropout Data

The 2008-2009 dropout rate was less than 1%.

Test Scores (Grade 7 WASL)



Condition and Use of Our Building

In 2002, it was necessary to add two new portable classrooms to the 14 classroom addition completed the previous year. The Commons area is the centerpiece of our school and is used extensively for lunches, concerts, class meetings and for various community events. Six original works of art were obtained from the Washington Arts Commission through new construction funding and are on display in the Commons and main office. The Middle School building and grounds are used extensively by the community throughout the school year and summer.

Report to the Community

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), also known as No Child Left Behind Legislation, requires school districts to annually report on progress outlining specific information and include Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) test results.

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has compiled all the data required by the ESEA law. Information on the Granite Falls School District can be found at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/>

If you cannot access the report online, contact Kathy Grant at 360-691-7717, for a hard copy.

Participate in Our School

Parent and community involvement is the key to our success. Opportunities to become involved include:

- After school activities
- Parent Advisory Group (PAG) monthly meetings
- Volunteer for tutoring, dances, office help, library/technology center, athletics
- Parent and Student Led Conference
- Learning Improvement Team
- Attend school functions: Open house, athletic events, Social Studies Fair, assemblies
- Internet access and library resources
- Assist with student clubs
- Assist with Leadership class
- "Walkabout" Volunteer Program

About our Financial Resources

Granite Falls Middle School Budget 2008-09	
Supplies	93%
Travel	1.6%
Contract Services	5.4%
Granite Falls School District Budget 2008-09*	
Salaries	59.1%
Benefits	18.9%
Contract Services	17.2%
Supplies	4.4%
Travel	0.3%
Equipment	0.1%
*All numbers approximate.	