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## 2012 SCHOOL OF DISTINCTION

# Granite Falls High School

[www.gfalls.wednet.edu](http://www.gfalls.wednet.edu)

### Our Accomplishments

#### ACADEMICS:

- GFHS was recognized as 2012 School of Distinction. The US News High School Rankings for 2013 has rated our school as 48th in the state, 3rd in the county.
- Over 9,000 hours of Community service were completed.
- Success in Education student winners included; SEMIRA KERN, HUNTER THERIAULT, MEGAN DAVIS, BRIAN BEARD, RACHAEL MOW, JESSE LITTLELIGHT. Aakash Sethi was selected to participate in the Washington Aerospace Training and Research Center summer program.
- Knowledge Bowl team "Ecce Sketche" made it to the regional playoffs
- 38 students attended advanced technical training at Sno Isle Skill Center
- 21 students qualified for the State Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competition and 5 students Pooja Sethi, Aakash Sethi, Katelyn Campbell, Alaina Vanderhoff and Jeremy Miller qualified for the National competition.
- 35 students attended Running Start programs; five students completed their Associates degree as well as their high school requirements.
- College credit was awarded to students who successfully completed Tech Prep, Running Start and Honors programs.
- The food drive brought in 20,389 items and

- almost \$13,500, which supplied food and gifts to 150 families.
- Our Counseling Department once again provided a successful College and Career Fair: 8 colleges & universities, 7 technical colleges, 9 community resources and 4 military groups were represented.
- At the 2013 Shell Eco Marathon in Texas, the *UrbanAutos* team finished 2nd with a new school record of 244mpg; the ShopGirls finished 4th with a respectable 478mpg
- The ShopGirls and a group of Monte Cristo 5th graders were showcased in the international film "The Road to Houston-The Brightest Road", a 7-minute documentary Film about the educational outreach of the eco car program to the middle school.
- By invitation from Shell, Michael Werner attended the European Shell Eco-marathon in Rotterdam, Holland to continue the discussion about integration of the eco car program into elementary and middle school.
- Nancy Matlack, Science teacher represented the district w/ OSPI for "Biology Content Review and Collection of Evidence Writing and Review." Students participated in the Collection of Evidence Process by piloting scenarios.
- All Manufacturing/Shop Classes have (once again) been accident free.

- The HS Band provided 33 performances this year for our schools, community and on our concert tour to Eastern Washington.
- #### ATHLETICS:
- WIAA Distinguished Team Scholarship:  
 3.0-3.49 Team GPA
- Boys & Girls Cross County, Varsity & JV Girls' Soccer, Volleyball and Basketball
- 3.5 + Team GPA
- Varsity Tennis
- All Conference Individual Awards:  
 1st Team
- Soccer-Courteny Loesche, Rhiannon Alexander
  - Baseball-Riley Larsen
  - Softball- Caitlyn Munce, Lauren Harding
  - Golf- Austin Berg
  - Basketball- Riley Larsen
- 2nd Team
- Cross Country-Ryan Nash, Rachel Mow
  - Football-Trae Poplin, Tanner Peep
  - Soccer-Kaila Green, Courtney Young
  - Baseball-James Barnard, Tyler Hamilton
  - Softball-Kelsey Bechtholdt, Chelsea Myntti
  - Golf-KC Spencer
- State Academic Champion-Riley Hansen  
 Everett Herald "Prep Athlete of the Week"-  
 Kyle Everett

Granite Falls School District

2012-13 Performance Report

## About Our School

Granite Falls High School serves 575 students in grades 9-12. It is a comprehensive high school offering College in the High School, Running Start (Everett Community College) and Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes, as well as providing outstanding basic education classes. Through this wide variety of student choices, athletics, and school activities, students are prepared for the work place of the future. The High School has two administrators, 33 certified instructors, two counselors and 16 support staff. We are very proud of being recognized as a 2012 School of Distinction. In addition, the US News High School Rankings for 2013 has rated our high school 48th in the state, 3rd in the county.

## The Mission of Granite Falls High School

The purpose of Granite Falls High School is to provide all students the opportunity to reach their potential through high expectations, academic rigor, accountability, and relationships in a safe and supportive learning environment.

## Survey Results

An educational reform bill passed by the Washington State Legislature in 2010 required that school district seek feedback from parents and community members and summarize the responses in the annual performance reports. The survey was conducted in December 2012 and provided the following results: The District scored highest (based on a five point scale) in making visitors feel welcome, communicating about school news, and maintaining the schools and grounds. The top issues included classrooms keeping up with technology, starting career and technology classes at the middle school and high school, and updating curriculum materials regularly. Full survey results can be obtained by calling Elizabeth Holderman at 360.691.7717.

## Our Learning Improvement Plan

### 2012-2013 Goals

Goal #1 - Improve the Instructional Core (the connection between teachers' knowledge and skill, students' engagement in their own learning, and academically challenging content):

- Develop common language within the building and departments
- Use their knowledge and skill in providing staff learning opportunities
- Use intentional instruction to promote ownership of learning through applied learning opportunities

Granite Falls High School recognition for 2012 School of Distinction Award @ ESD - A great honor and testament to the hard work of the staff to improve student learning!

Steven Howell and Nancy Matlack took students to the University of Washington to tour the Health and Science departments for exposure to technology and career opportunities.

Goal #2 - Sustain and build on our collaborative culture among students, parents, community, and staff:

- Use technology to effectively communicate with all stakeholders
- Invite stakeholders to participate and celebrate student learning and achievement

The General Advisory Council (GAC) met to network w/ our business community to ensure our students are receiving the skills to compete for high-demand careers. 16 adults and 6 students were in attendance.

Nov. 9th our leadership students honored the veterans in an assembly followed by a brunch.

Annual Food Drive- Eric Dinwiddie & Crosby Carpenter lead the student coordinators to a huge success (20,389 items in 2012 and \$13,500.00 in 2012, gifts for 312 children in 2012. In addition, donations were made to 4 community food banks)

May 7th, seniors presented their senior culminating projects. Once again there was a great celebration of learning!

Even though this a graduation requirement, it allows students to choose an interest and pursue it at a deeper level. The topic of interest creates a foundation to extend learning and possibly confirm a decision on what path to pursue after High School.

Goal #3 - Support the Instructional Core by maintaining and providing the necessary structures and systems:

- Develop and implement common assessments (formative/summative)
- Focus collaboration time to implement Target #1 as defined by calendar
- Continue to revisit or revise interventions for students

Our Homework Center continues to be a resource of support for students. 1/3 of our student body participated in the Homework Center to be tutored or to complete assignments. These students served 1,452 hours of time. This is an area of emphasis as we move forward to encourage students to take ownership of their own learning.

3 key components for a successful yr: SAFETY -- LEARNING -- RESPECT

### Department Leaders

In collaboration with administration, the department leaders are coordinating the efforts of their department members to achieve department goals as well as building goals.

- ARTS- Mary Karns, COUNSELING- Ginny Schlegel, CTE- Crosby Carpenter, ENGLISH- Stefanie Reistad-Schwartz, FITNESS- Tracey Bechtholdt, MATH- Mark Neuma, SCIENCE- Nancy Matlack, WORLD STUDIES- Susan Black, SPECIAL EDUCATION- Cindy Blakeslee



## School Data

Enrollment by Grade	
9th	195
10th	165
11th	165
12th	142
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>667</b>

Ethnic Enrollment	
Pacific Islander	0
Asian	15
American Indian	19
Hispanic	47
Black	7
White	567
Multi	12

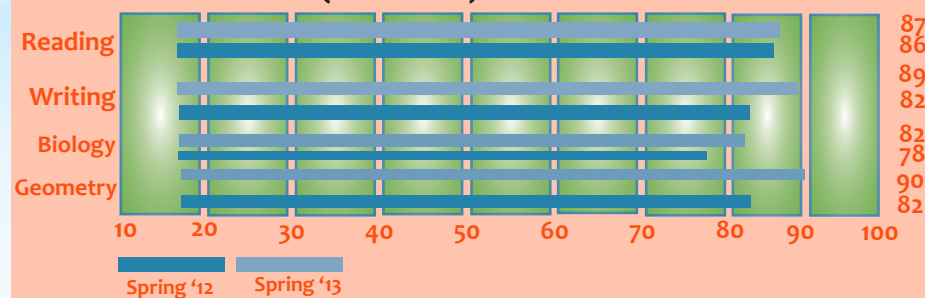
### Attendance

The average daily attendance for the 2012-2013 school years through May was 97.05%.

### Graduation Rate

The 2012-13 graduation rate was 88% (rates determined by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction for federal reporting purposes).

### State Test Scores (Grade 10)



### Condition and Use of Our Building

Granite Falls High School opened in December 2007 thanks to the community support of a bond issue passed in 2006. The school showcases natural light and 38 state-of-the-art classrooms. The school includes: five science labs and a greenhouse, three business labs, a library/media technology lab, a performing arts center, gymnasium with three courts, wrestling/aerobics rooms, weight room, track/football field, and eight tennis courts. The site has views of the Cascade Mountain range with outdoor courtyards designed as meeting places.

## 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 state assessment results.

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) has compiled all the data required by the ESEA law including schools identified for improvement. 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 Elizabeth Holderman 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:

- Tutor students in academic subjects
- Attend school functions
- Assist students with Community Service projects
- Booster Club
- Parents Interested in Education (High School Parent Group)
- Judging Senior Culminating Projects
- Parent Conferences
- Career and Technical Education Advisory Groups
- Career Counseling Committee
- Assist with student clubs (Drama, Art, FBLA, FFA, etc.)

## About our Financial Resources

Granite Falls High School Budget 2012-13*	
Travel	3.4%
Supplies	89.3%
Contract Services	7.3%
Granite Falls School District Budget 2012-13*	
Salaries	57.7%
Benefits	21%
Contract Services	16.4%
Supplies	4.7%
Travel	0.2%
Equipment	0%
*All numbers approximate.	