

WASHOUGAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2017 Annual Report



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Jemtegaard Middle School students participated in Red Ribbon Week to show their support for drug and alcohol prevention.

Message from the Superintendent



DEAR WASHOUGAL PATRONS,
Our Annual Report this year is full of updates on some of the great things happening in the Washougal School District.

In February 2015, voters approved a capital facilities bond to improve the safety and security of our schools, alleviate overcrowding, and build capacity for future growth.

This bond supported construction of a new district transportation facility, located just behind the District Office on Evergreen Way. It opened at the end of March and allows our transportation department to run even more efficiently,

“We are very excited to welcome students and staff to the new Columbia River Gorge Elementary and replacement Jemtegaard Middle School this fall.”

provides ample bus parking and creates less traffic congestion on local roads.

We are very excited to welcome students and staff to the new Columbia River Gorge Elementary School and replacement Jemtegaard Middle School this fall. This new facility has capacity for 550 elementary and 600 middle school students and will provide an outstanding learning environment for students today and into the future.

The new Excelsior building will also be open this fall and will feature exciting high school program changes to support student success.

Also of interest in this report are test scores, revenues and expenditures and other key statistics about our growing and thriving school district.

I think you will agree that this is an exciting time for Washougal Schools. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,
Mike Stromme

Dr. Mike Stromme, Ed.D.

OUR MISSION

Creating a supportive and welcoming environment for student success, our schools and community will collaborate to ensure all students become self-reliant, well-rounded, and productive citizens through a broad range of opportunities.

OUR VISION

Together, entrusted with and accountable for the success of each student.

OUR BOARD MEMBERS

- Teresa Lees, District 1
- Elaine Pfeifer, District 2
- Jaron Barney, District 3
- Cory Chase, District 4
- Ron Dinius, District 5

Fiscal responsibility

2015-16 GENERAL FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Our fiscal year begins September 1 and ends August 31.

Revenue

State Funds: \$24,901,980

- Apportionment (FTE enrollment)
- State Levy Assistance
- Transportation Funds

Federal Funds: \$2,099,844

- Special Education
- Vocational Education
- Title I, Title II
- USDA Commodities

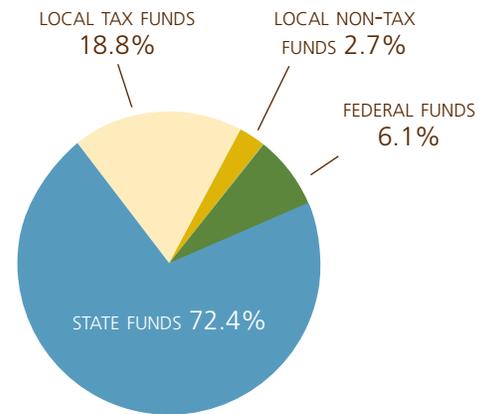
Local Tax Funds: \$6,449,125

- Maintenance & Operations Levy

Local Non-Tax Funds: \$926,067

- Facility Rentals/Community Ed.
- Donations
- Grants
- Library Fines
- E-rate Funds
- Non-High Participation

TOTAL: \$34,377,016



Expenditures

Basic Education: \$17,682,053

This category includes a majority of salary and benefits for teachers, classified support staff, and administrators in school buildings. This also covers the cost of instructional materials, textbooks, classroom supplies, and professional development.

Special Services: \$4,268,230

Used for educating students with special needs.

Vocational Instruction: \$1,219,041

Used to provide approved high school and middle school courses in career and technical education.

Other Instructional: \$1,658,709

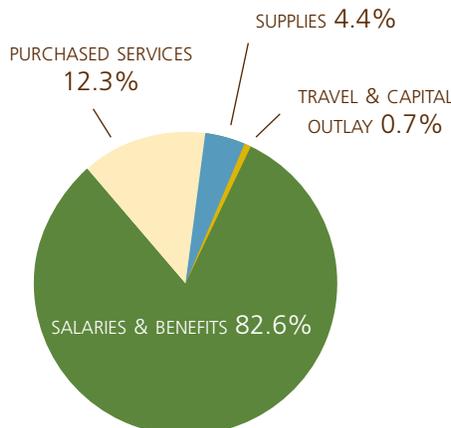
Includes costs for educating students in Title I, Learning Assistance, bilingual programs, and Highly Capable programs.

Support Services: \$7,125,779

Used for purchased services and other non-instructional expenses.

Transfers for Other Fund Commitments: \$211,950

TOTAL: \$32,165,762



Evidence of Excellence in Financial Management

BUDGET

Beginning fund balance:	\$6,346,858
Revenue:	\$34,377,016
Expenditures:	\$31,953,812
Transfers:	\$211,950
Ending fund balance:	\$8,558,112

ENDING FUND BALANCE DETAIL

6% Minimum fund balance (Board Resolution)	\$1,929,946
Inventory & prepayments	\$97,987
Assigned to contingencies	\$3,000,000
Assigned to other purposes	\$685,738
Restricted carryover	\$135,513
Building toward other needs	\$2,708,928
Total:	\$8,558,112



Washougal High School students create products for customers during the Advanced Woods and Carpentry class.



High school wood shop students visited school construction sites to get a first hand look at the building industry.

Preparing students for College

Washougal School District has a strong tradition of offering Career and Technical Education classes and other opportunities that provide academic and technical skills, knowledge and training to succeed in future careers and become lifelong learners.

Career and Technical Education

Washougal School District's CTE programs offer opportunities for students to explore career paths so they can make informed decisions about their future.

"An important message we have for students and parents is there are many ways for graduates to become prepared for gainful employment," said Margaret Rice, WSD CTE Director "and it is not always through a university path. We believe it is important for our students to explore as many options as

"There is a famous quote by an anonymous author that states 'Choice, not circumstances, determines your success,' and that is what we want for all WHS students; to determine their own personal pathway to career success."

—Margaret Rice, Career and Technical Education Director

they can so they can make an educated decision about which path they should take to reach their career goals."

Washougal class pathways include STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math), Business and Marketing, Family and Consumer Sciences, Finance, Construction, Health and Human Services, Industrial Arts and Technology, Transportation, and Information Technology. "Besides teaching core academic skills, these career pathway classes also teach students technical skills related to the workforce



Gause students explore a variety of jobs, including the K-9 law enforcement unit, at the school's career day.



WHS students put their culinary and business skills to the test during the Food Truck Face Off.



Elementary school students get up close and personal with science thanks to a partnership with the Lower Columbia River Estuary.

and Career

as well as valuable life and career skills,” said Rice. “Our students learn creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, communication and collaboration, quality and craftsmanship, teamwork, leadership and goal setting, all of which help them prepare for job attainment and success in the work world.”

Students are provided opportunities to see possible careers first hand through field trips to local businesses and technical training programs, guest speakers and even visits to the neighboring construction site of a new school facility to explore the variety of trades at work there.

Washougal students also have an opportunity to obtain industry certifications which demonstrates a higher level of proficiency in areas a potential employer is looking for. This helps students become employed quicker and many times at a higher rate of pay. Through partnerships with local community colleges, students also have the opportunity to gain college credit while in high school CTE Pathway classes, saving students’ time and money.

Career exploration begins early

As early as elementary school, students are exposed to a variety of career paths, through career fairs and classroom visits from working professionals who share details of potential careers. Washougal middle schools now offer more exploratory classes to ensure students have career and technical education experience at this level.

Colleges, universities, trade schools, apprenticeships and the military attend high school career fairs to help prepare students to choose their next step after high school.



WHS graduate Kyla Richey uses her American Sign Language skills learned in high school in her work interpreting for hearing impaired students.



Students learn about the Clark College admissions process at the Post High School Options Fair at WHS.



The new Jemtegaard Middle School will welcome students in fall 2017.



A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new transportation facility was held April 25, 2017 to mark the start of a new era for Washougal transportation.

Taking pride in our facilities

New elementary nears completion

For the first time in 42 years Washougal School District will open a new elementary school. This fall, Columbia River Gorge Elementary School will serve grades K-5 in a state-of-the-art facility.

Construction teams have worked diligently to prepare the school to open a full year ahead of the original timeline. This has allowed the district to take advantage of current building costs, rather than waiting for already rising market costs to increase further.

With a capacity of 550 students, CRGES will be the district's largest elementary. The school will share a library and commons with Jemtegaard Middle School. The close proximity of the two schools will allow for collaboration among elementary and middle school students, benefitting both groups.

Principal Tracey MacLachlan has been busy preparing for the school's opening as well. MacLachlan has met with staff, Booster groups, other principals and teachers to learn about Washougal traditions and what's important to the Washougal community, asking "What will we take from other schools and what will we do that's our own? I want to make sure that everybody feels like it's their place," she said.

"We have an amazing opportunity to be able to write the first chapter and build the story of Columbia River Gorge Elementary. We're building something from the ground up."

Jemtegaard Middle School replacement

The new home of the Jemtegaard Middle School Huskies is a far cry from the worn out, outdated and overcrowded facility it replaces. Dedicated in 1981, the former school building was designed in the then popular "pod system" where students walk outside to make their way to classes.

"I am excited that all of our classrooms are now inside," said JMS Principal David Cooke. "Our new building will be a lot safer and more practical."

Another feature Cooke is pleased with is the larger classroom size. "This will allow students to move around the room more easily with space to work in groups with their peers," he said.

With capacity to serve 600 students, the new facility will feature many enhancements to improve learning and efficiency. Among them: energy efficient LED lighting, large windows in every instructional space with lots of light, a courtyard that can serve as an outdoor learning space, classroom sound amplification built into each instructional space to help ensure students hear the teacher and each other via a pair of wearable microphones.

"A new building inspires school pride," Cooke pointed out. "When students are proud of their surroundings they will care for their school and their work inside its walls. The community has shown our middle school students how valuable education is by voting to fund construction of this new building."

Did you know?

These facilities improvements were made possible thanks to voters who supported a capital facilities bond in February 2015.



The new Excelsior facility is a vast improvement from the outdated portables that formerly housed the program.

improvements

Transportation facility

The new Washougal Transportation Facility opened in the spring of 2017, marking the start of a new era for Washougal transportation.

“We are proud of this facility and know that it is fulfilling the commitment made to voters,” said Joe Steinbrenner, WSD Director of Maintenance. The project came in on budget at \$2.3 million and on time, welcoming buses and staff on March 31.

With more than 5,000 square feet of space, the new building features one outdoor and three outdoor maintenance bays for service and repair of buses, an efficient heating and cooling system, clean and organized storage area, office space for bus dispatch, and ample onsite parking for 36 buses, 36 drivers and maintenance and dispatch staff. The new facility is tall enough so that buses can be lifted to work under them which increases both the safety and productivity for the maintenance of the buses.

“The facility has updated safety features such as hoses to catch, filter, and expel exhaust from idling engines, improved indoor lighting and the ability to lift buses for better mechanic access and even a bus washing apparatus with a water catch and treatment basin,” Steinbrenner said.

Located behind the Washougal School District Office at 4875 Evergreen Way, the new facility replaces the outdated and dilapidated 70-year-old former shop on E Street.

Excelsior program refresh

In fall of 2016, a team of teachers, counselors, community members, career specialists, and administrators initiated a review of the Excelsior program. Their goal was to consider how to best meet the needs of students through a more personalized path to earning their high school diploma. The team focused on three themes:

1. academic program
2. student support services (e.g. counselors)
3. school climate and culture

The committee met throughout the year to refine the program offering for students. The highlights of the new Excelsior program, which will be a component of Washougal High School, will focus on personalized support for students at different stages of their high school careers.

A Ninth Grade Academy will provide larger blocks of time for a smaller learning community. Research shows that freshmen who fall behind spend the rest of their high school career trying to get back on track.

This learning “family” will hold students accountable to the highest standards while providing academic, social and emotional support. The new program will feature a full time counselor and full time associate principal and will include options such as online learning and project based learning.

Excelsior “On Track” will offer a personalized learning program to support juniors and seniors who are credit deficient to help them meet their future goals.



Families of preschoolers enjoy story time at 1-2-3 Grow & Learn events.

Did you know?

Washougal class sizes are among the smallest in the region? Our goal is 25 or fewer students per class in grades K-3 and 28 or fewer in grades 4-12. This ensures that students receive a personalized education that nurtures individual interests and talents.

Supporting families to strengthen student learning

Family Resource Center

Sometimes students need support beyond classroom learning. Washougal School District's Family Resource Center aims to provide supports for children and families to help promote health and readiness to learn. Some of the resources provided through the Family Resource Center include: Friday backpacks; emergency food; computer use; shoes (35 pairs); clothing for families, including work attire for parents; counseling referrals; medical/dental assistance; eyeglasses; a car battery; holiday help arranged for 31 families; referral

to VHA Housing Choice Voucher program; school supplies at Back to School Night (75 students).

A fall Resource Fair helped provide support for families and students to begin the school year with the resources they need to be successful. More than 25 community agencies and individuals have provided donations and other support for families.

English language classes for families

In partnership with Clark College, the Washougal School District now offers English classes for adults. Classes are held at Hathaway and help parents from various backgrounds and different cultures learn English as their second language. The class meets twice a week and provides child care and other social services for families.

Play groups for early learners

The 1-2-3 Grow program supports children ages 0-5 and their families. The free parent and child play group provides early social and educational experiences that are aligned with state standards and lay the foundation for later school involvement.

Families participate in circle time, individual play time and a group activity. Take home resources include activities and tips for learning at home.

By connecting with families before children reach preschool or school age, staff are also able to identify early-on children who could benefit from developmental interventions.



Emily Thompson of Urban Style and first grader Izzabella Lucus during the Cuts for Kids Booster-sponsored event.

Preschools promote school readiness and socialization

Washougal School District offers preschool programs at each of its elementary school sites.

The district preschools are committed to educating the “whole child” in a developmentally appropriate manner including social, emotional, physical and academic instruction. Curriculum supports the Washington State Early Learning Benchmarks.

The WSD preschool programs work with elementary staff to promote school readiness and may also visit the kindergarten classrooms for partnering activities.

- » Classes serve students 3-5 years old.
- » Classes typically have 16 students with an 8:1 student/teacher ratio.
- » Family conferences allow staff to better understand the student, his/her family and their expectations for preschool and to review student progress.
- » WSD preschool programs work closely with district support staff, kindergarten teachers and site principals to promote kindergarten readiness.
- » Specialists are available for qualifying students requiring services such as speech, occupational therapy and physical therapy.
- » Students are included in elementary school-appropriate activities such as assemblies and music programs.
- » Vision and hearing checks are included annually. Dental checks are also provided to those without insurance.
- » Qualified volunteers may assist as needed.
- » Uses new CKLA district language arts curriculum.
- » First Note Music curriculum provided with Washington state legislative funding.
- » Second Step, a social/emotional curriculum, is used daily as a core for these early learning years.

Developmental Preschool

Developmental Preschool serves students 3-5 years old that qualify through Special Services. Students are evaluated through assessments to qualify for attendance.



Through partnerships with community organizations, Hathaway Elementary was able to purchase preschool-size play equipment.

Students are taught with developmentally appropriate curriculum that fulfills Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals.

Some students may attend a blended Community Education preschool classroom if it is determined to be the best setting for achieving specific IEP goals and projected student development.

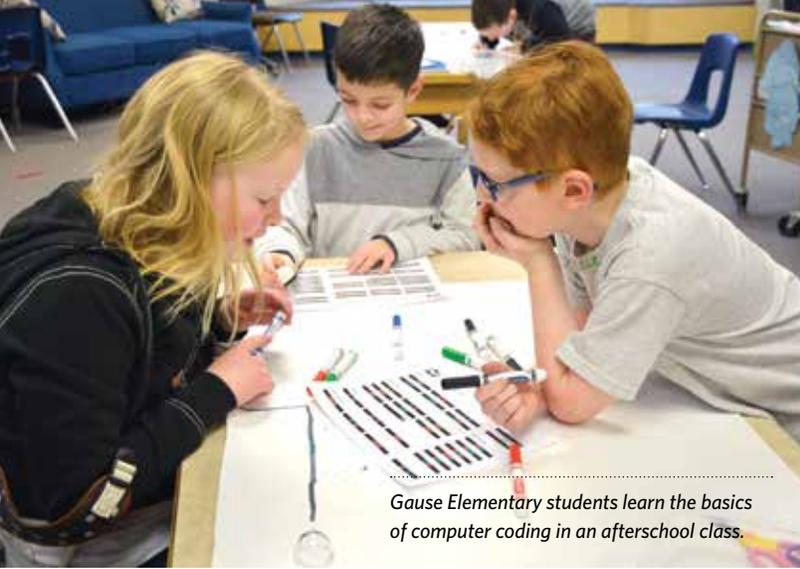
EOCF Preschool

EOCF (Educational Opportunities for Children and Families)/Head Start is located at Hathaway Elementary School. Eligible families must meet income criteria to attend this program.

EOCF serves students age 3-5 years old. A class of 18 students is taught by 2 Teacher/Family Advocates and 1 classroom aide. Classes may be blended to include students with an IEP.

Two home visits and 2 parent/teacher conferences are scheduled throughout the school year. Family advocacy is included with this program in addition to family volunteer requirements.

Head Start mandated curriculum is used to support academic and social/emotional development.



Gause Elementary students learn the basics of computer coding in an afterschool class.



Cape Horn-Skye Elementary third graders participate in a class discussion.

Curriculum and programs help all

Language arts curriculum adoption

First year of new K-5 curriculum a success

As they wrap up the first year of a new K-5 language arts curriculum, teachers have gained tremendous perspective on the materials that were selected by the curriculum team one year ago.

“The first year has been quite a learning experience for students and teachers alike,” said teacher Alice Yang. “At the beginning of the year, we knew that the curriculum was content-rich and that we would have much to learn and discuss with our classes.” In fact, Yang said the curriculum was so engaging, it was sometimes a challenge to adhere to the pacing guide suggested by the publishers, and to wrap up the in-depth conversations students and teachers were having throughout each unit. Yang’s fourth grade class was highly engaged in the subject matter and often did research outside of the classroom to learn more. “They are very interested in history and science, and we loved the opportunity to be able to explore these crucial subjects while teaching reading and writing skills,” said Yang.

“Parents tell me their children are going home and teaching them about things they’ve learned in class,” said teacher Emma Slabbert. “The Listening and Learning component is rich in vocabulary development and content,” she said. “I think the content and how it appears to be organized in a way that it’ll be introduced again in other grade levels is fantastic.”

One benefit of the curriculum is that starting in Kindergarten, students build foundational reading skills to continue their reading growth in the upper grades. Yang says it will be exciting to see that accumulation of skills in each class over the next few years. “Now that we’ve gotten our feet wet, we are looking forward to diving in next fall!” she said.

New secondary level curriculum adopted

In the fall of 2017, middle and high school language arts classes will look a little different. A new digital curriculum has been adopted for use in grades 6-8 and 9-12. The new curriculum for grades 6-8 is called Amplify, featuring lessons that are compatible with the iPads students are currently using. Tiffany McCormick, English Language Arts and Technology coach says that although this will be a change from the large textbooks of the past, it’s a very rigorous and exciting program that engaged students during pilot tests. “The most surprising thing is how engaged students are with the lessons,” said McCormick.

At the high school, the new curriculum is Pearson’s My Perspectives and is also a digital curriculum to work on Chromebooks.

Both new curricula were developed from the ground up based on Washington State Learning standards, rather than adapted from an existing curriculum.

The new programs were vetted by a team of 10 teachers and tested at all grade levels and all secondary schools. Staff training on the new system will begin in June.



WHS students make a game out of studying the atom with Atomic Model Boards thanks to a grant from the Washougal Schools Foundation.



Washougal elementary students put their culinary skills to the test at Sodexo's Future Chefs Challenge.

learners succeed

Highly Capable program

The Highly Capable program serves students who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared with others of their age, experiences or environments. This year, Highly Capable staff introduced an online program that allows K-12 teachers to access Highly Capable resources 24-7 and provide continuous support for students.

Activities included partnering with Northwest Gifted Child Association (NWGCA) to present a Saturday workshop "What Parents and Educators Need to Know About Smart Kids." Over 90 local parents and educators attended.

A three-hour refresher training was presented to the district's Highly Capable Multiple Disciplinary Selection Committee (MDSC) that focused on equity and best practices for the nomination, screening, and identification process.

Summer school programs

The district has several programs to help students focus on specific learning, avoid summer learning loss, and participate in enrichment programs. This year's features:

- » Ready, Set, K! program helps prepare incoming Kindergarten for success.
- » K-2 reading program emphasizes early reading skills.
- » Targeted third grade program for students who have been identified as needing additional support.
- » Credit recovery for high school students.
- » Fun family activities including visits from OMSI, the Reptile Man, and Jugglemania.

2016 STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT DATA

Standardized Tests

The Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) was introduced in 2015. It comprises two subjects: Math and English Language Arts (ELA). Students also took End-of-Course (EOC) Exams in Biology and Measure of Student Progress (MSP) exams in Science in 5th and 8th grade.

2015-16 SBA Results:

GRADE	WSD ELA	STATE ELA	WSD MATH	STATE MATH
3rd	65.4%	54.3%	70.4%	58.9%
4th	63.9%	57.0%	63.2%	55.4%
5th	69.1%	60.1%	52.1%	49.2%
6th	60.7%	56.5%	52.9%	48.0%
7th	63.7%	58.5%	50.9%	49.8%
8th	61.7%	59.7%	48.2%	47.8%
11th	65.3%	75.5%	19.6%	21.8%

2015-16 EOC Biology Results:

10th Grade: 72.1% (72.2% state)

2015-16 MSP Science Results:

5th Grade: 68.8% (65.3% state)

8th Grade: 73.0% (67.5% state)



Cape Horn-Skye students have fun getting fit at the school's Sport-a-Thon.

About Your School District

Teacher Statistics

Classroom Teachers	182
Average years of teaching experience	12.6
Teachers with at least a Master's Degree	65.4%
Total number of teachers who teach core academic classes	150
Total number of core academic classes	674

Percentage of classes taught by highly qualified teachers 97.5%

Student Demographics

Enrollment	3,158
Gender	
Male	52.0%
Female	48.0%
Ethnicity	
American Indian/Alaskan Native	.5%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.4%
Black	.7%
Hispanic	10.1%
White	81.1%
Other/Two or more races	6.2%
Graduation Rate	83.3%



Families enjoy special events that support learning and Washougal's commitment to a supportive community.

National Assessment of Education Progress

To access information about the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP), please visit the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's online Report Card: reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/ and click on the NAEP tab.

This report includes information from the 2016-17 school year. For more information, visit the OSPI website, k12.wa.us, click on School Report Card and select Washougal School District from the drop down menu.

Nondiscrimination statement: Washougal School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Bullying and Harassment Complaint Officer, Dr. Patricia Boles; 504 Compliance Officer, Dr. Rebecca VonDuering; ADA and Title IX Compliance Officer, Marian Young