HomeLink is a K-12 parent partnership program that works to enrich, expand and promote each child’s learning experience. We offer multi-age classroom instruction in all core academic subjects as well as in the arts, health and fitness, world languages and Career and Technical Education. Parents are encouraged to visit and participate in classes at any time with their children.

Our teaching staff works with parents to develop Student Learning Plans (SLPs) for each student based on the child’s learning strengths and weaknesses and assesses progress together monthly. Each student’s advisor provides guidance in setting learning goals, suggesting curriculum alternatives, recommending resources and helping assess progress. In addition, parents and students meet each quarter with the advisor to update the SLP and present a portfolio of student work and accomplishments.

About Our Students
High expectations are set and students are taught to be polite, responsible, independent thinkers who do their best and cooperate. They are taught what learners look like and do using our school-wide learner traits.

Academic Focus
HomeLink offers more than 60 classes for students and actively supports homeschool, Running Start, Sno-Isle Skills Center and other off-site learning experiences.

Inviting parents to attend class sessions and workshops helps parents become more familiar with grade level expectations and better understand the need to intentionally develop math reasoning and problem-solving skills; use the language and vocabulary of math and increase math facts and computation skills. The introduction of a new internationally-recognized mathematics curriculum program designed to improve the effectiveness of at-home instruction time has been well-received by the parents of elementary students.

The assessment plan for HomeLink includes diagnostic assessments for all new students in mathematics, writing and reading. This additional information helps parents and teachers design more effective initial SLPs.

Our Improvement Goals
HomeLink will increase course options for high school students to include a menu of online courses. Expanding the courses available will help high school students meet graduation credit requirements and respond to specialized student interests and abilities. These courses will be monitored and supported by school staff.

By adding the services of the Digital Learning Department, teachers will learn how to access a variety of teaching tools and resources to help them in planning and conducting lessons for a full range of subjects for secondary students.

How You Can Help
Parents are always welcome to attend classes as a visitor or a participant. All parents are expected to complete some volunteer activities each quarter, but extra help in the classroom, office, or gathering room is always appreciated. In addition to monthly meetings with teacher advisors, parents are invited to set up times to talk with instructors as needed.
Supplemental Programs
The following data reflects the percentage of HomeLink students benefitting from supplemental programs:

- Free or Reduced Meals .......................................... 27.4%
- Special Education .................................................. 3.4%
- Transitional Bilingual ........................................... 2.9%

Student Ethnic Composition
- Asian ................................................................ 6%
- Asian/Pacific Islander ........................................... 6%
- Black/African American ......................................... 1.7%
- Hispanic/Latino of any race(s) ......................... 7.8%
- White ................................................................. 86.1%
- Two or More Races .............................................. 3.9%

(Totals will not equal 100%)

A total of 18.9 percent of the revenue comes from the citizens of the community through the levy of voter approved taxes and various fees and donations.

Approximately 83.7 percent of the expenditures are used for payment of salaries and benefits for the employees of the district.

The balance of the expenditure budget is used in the areas of supplies and materials, purchased services, capital outlay and travel.

Communication with members of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) helps the program respond to the suggestions and ideas offered by parents and students. The PAC meets monthly to help develop the HomeLink School Improvement Plan, conduct activities, offer advice related to program operations and procedures, and provide input about the program schedule and classes.

Parents are encouraged to help their children be successful learners by:

- Ask for a packet of CCSS and other standards for the grade level of each of their children
- Getting to know the staff and the members of the PAC
- Attending monthly reviews, conferences, parent orientation sessions and workshops

About Our Staff
HomeLink’s staff includes 10 part-time certified teachers, one part-time paraeducator, one secretary and a full-time lead teacher. On average, HomeLink teachers have more than nine years of teaching experience. In 2013-14 all HomeLink paraprofessionals and teachers met the highly qualified designation as outlined by the federal No Child Left Behind law.

About Our School Building
HomeLink is located on the North Lake Middle School campus and occupies seven portable classrooms. Additionally, we utilize one science/art classroom, have use of the computer lab and use two rooms for teacher office space in the 500 building of North Lake. Currently we average 166 students in kindergarten through 12th-grade.

About Our Financial Resources
For the 2014-15 fiscal year the general fund budget revenue totals $80 million. The school board set a minimum budgeted ending fund balance of 5 percent of expenditures that is necessary to accommodate normal cash flow.

Approximately 75.1 percent of the revenue comes from the state for basic education and special programs. The state provides an average of $5,665 per full time student to Lake Stevens School District. All I-728 (class size) funding has been cut from the state budget.

State and District Assessment Plan
In the spring of 2014 most Lake Stevens School District students in grades three through five took the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP)—a standards-based assessment of reading, writing, math and science. Students must demonstrate proficiency or mastery in order to meet standards in each area. The tests use a combination of multiple choice, short answer and essay responses.

In the spring of 2014 students at Sunnycrest Elementary School and those in grades six through eight participated in a pilot of the new Smarter Balanced Assessment. The assessment, which is solely computer-based, will replace the MSP in 2015 and measures students’ progress towards being career and college ready as defined by the Common Core State Standards. As part of the pilot, student results were not published and the district did not receive scores.

Participating in the pilot allowed our students, teachers and administrators to get a “sneak peak” and learn what the assessment would entail; it also allowed our Information Technology staff to ‘test out’ our digital infrastructure and technology. Participation helped us learn that our district is going in the right direction in terms of materials, instruction, professional learning, and technology and infrastructure.

Very few technology glitches were experienced during the pilots, and our students reported feeling challenged but not overwhelmed by the piloted items.

In addition to state assessments, teachers monitor student learning in grades K-5 in reading, writing and math through district benchmark assessments. Information gathered from these assessments enable teachers to tailor instruction to meet the needs of each student. Progress on these skills is monitored over the course of the academic year.

Students in grade 10 took the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE), which measures students’ progress towards meeting high school reading and writing expectations. Students must demonstrate proficiency or mastery in order to meet standard, and students must pass this exam in order to graduate. Students also took End-of-Course exams in either algebra or geometry and in biology. Passing these assessments is also required for graduation.

To view detailed assessment results and reports, visit the district website and click on “Our District,” “Publications & Reports,” and “Washington State Report Card.” From there you can sort information by school.

Teachers and teacher teams engage in careful study of the student achievement data that comes from these state and district assessments. Each school has a Data Team made up of building teachers, support staff and administrators that analyze data around student performance and monitor student progress. Administrators and teachers use this data to make instructional decisions and changes when needed. The district has continued its professional development work around data and differentiation to help meet the academic needs of each student and will continue to do so in the years to come.

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