"A Community of Learners" is the motto that describes our belief that learning is an on-going process that continues throughout all of our lives. Consequently, North Lake Middle School is committed to providing all members of the school community a wide array of opportunities for academic, social and personal growth. Our number one focus at North Lake is on learning. The North Lake staff is excited to develop partnerships to help all students succeed academically. While academic learning and success are primary, students will also be supported as they learn how to get along with people from diverse backgrounds, differing interests and various dreams for the future. At North Lake Middle School we are committed to the 3 R's—Respect for Learning, Respect for People, and Respect for Property. By believing that our students can perform at high levels—and that it is our responsibility to support them as they grow and learn—we promote both high standards and high expectations for all. We look forward to working with you this year.

Academic Focus
At North Lake, we continue to focus on reading and math instruction so our students are able to effectively pursue their future endeavors. Our mission: “Community of Learners—Connected to each other and the world,” is evident as you walk into classrooms. If you were to walk into a classroom at North Lake, you would see:

- Lesson targets posted in every classroom stating the purpose of the lesson so students understand what they should know or be able to do by the end of class.
- Lessons promoting thinking and student engagement
- Daily formative assessment so teachers know where students are in their learning
- Teachers working amongst and conferring with students about their learning

Our Improvement Goals
In the 2014-15 school year we are focusing our attention on the following areas:

- Implementing performance tasks in the core content areas four times
- Preparing students to take the Smarter Balanced Assessment
- Focusing professional development time on learning how to differentiate instruction
- Integrating technology into the curriculum with students having access to a Chromebook at least once per day
- Improving communication among all stakeholders in the North Lake learning community.

How You Can Help
How can you help your middle school student be successful at North Lake? Here are some easy ways you can be involved in your student’s experience:

- Check your student’s agenda book nightly to see what he/she is learning in each class.
- Visit the North Lake Middle School website at www.lkstevens.wednet.edu/nlms and check out the teacher pages and newsletters.
- Use Family Access to check on your student’s progress. Call 425-335-1530 for information and passwords.
- Attend Curriculum Night and parent conferences in the fall and spring. Bring your child with you to parent conferences.
- Designate a time and quiet space for your student to do his/her homework.
- Volunteer at school—simply call us at 425-335-1530 and we’ll tell you all about our volunteer opportunities.

About Our Students
We believe that every student is capable and deserving of the best possible educational program. We do not retain, suspend, or expel students unless all avenues for success have been explored. We view the school as the place for each child to receive an excellent education and develop lifelong skills. We stress the importance of regular attendance, promptness, responsibility for work and decision making, and behaving in a positive and cooperative manner.
Supplementary Programs
The following data reflects the percentage of North Lake Middle School students benefiting from supplemental programs:
- Free or Reduced Meals ........................................ 26.6%
- Special Education .................................................. 11.8%
- Transitional Bilingual .............................................. 1.9%
- Average Class Size .............................................. 26 students

Library and music room. Our total building size is 78,146 square feet. We have an outside basketball area, a baseball field, a football/soccer facility, a large gymnasium and auxiliary gym that are used year-round by the students and community. There are 651 students attending North Lake Middle School.

Student Ethnic Composition
- American Indian/Alaskan Native ..................... .5%
- Asian ................................................................. 4.2%
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander .......... 8%
- Asian/Pacific Islander ......................................... 5%
- Black/African American .................................... 2.4%
- Hispanic/Latino of any race(s) ......................... 9.2%
- White ................................................................. 77.4%
- Two or More Races .......................................... 5.6%
(Totals will not equal 100%)

About Our Staff
North Lake has 34 certificated teachers and support professionals assisted by 20 paraeducators and support staff guided by one principal and an associate principal. Additionally, all district buildings are also supported by custodians, grounds, maintenance and technology personnel. On average NLMS teachers have 14 years of teaching experience and more than 79 percent have a master’s degree. All teachers meet the highly qualified designation as outlined by the federal No Child Left Behind law.

About Our School Building
North Lake Middle School was built in 1951 and additions were completed in 1955, 1960, 1967 and 1992. A bond issue was approved by the community in April 1999 for the complete modernization of the school. We now reside in a unified, aesthetically beautiful campus. The practical capacity for our building is 770 students in grades six and seven. We have 29 classrooms, a multi-purpose room, library and music room. Our total building size is 78,146 square feet. We have an outside basketball area, a baseball field, a football/soccer facility, a large gymnasium and auxiliary gym that are used year-round by the students and community. There are 651 students attending North Lake Middle School.

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.

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.

State and District Assessment Plan
In the spring of 2014 students 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.

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.

North Lake Middle School Contact Information
Brad Abels, Principal ........................................... 2202 123rd Ave NE
Lisa Sanchez, Associate Principal ............... 425-335-1530
Barbara Hall, Secretary ................................. Lake Stevens, WA 98258