North Lake Middle School

“A Community of Learners” is the motto which 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 other 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 2013-14 school year we are focusing our attention on the following areas:

- Improving reading instruction with specific focus on vocabulary instruction in all content areas.
- Utilizing short and medium term data to drive mathematics instruction, with emphasis on struggling learners.
- Focusing professional development time on learning and implementing the Common Core State Standards.
- Improving communication among all stakeholders in the North Lake learning community.

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. In 2012-13 we had an unexcused absence rate of .003 percent.

Supplementary Programs

The following data reflects the percentage of North Lake Middle School students benefiting from supplemental programs:

- Free or Reduced Meals: 27.5%
- Special Education: 11.2%
- Transitional Bilingual: 1.9%
- Average Class Size: 26

Student Ethnic Composition

- American Indian: .9%
- Asian: 3.3%
- Pacific Islander: .4%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 3.7%
- Black/African American: 2.4%
- Hispanic: 10.1%
- Two or more races: 6.5%
- White: 76.4%

(Totals will not equal 100%)

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. Just call us at 425-335-1530 and we’ll tell you all about our volunteer opportunities.
North Lake Bulldogs

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 15 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.

We have 671 students attending North Lake Middle School.

About Our Financial Resources

For the 2013-14 fiscal year the general fund budget revenue totals $74.9 million. The School Board has set a minimum budgeted ending fund balance of 5 percent of expenditures that is necessary to accommodate normal cash flow.

Approximately 74.1 percent of the revenue comes from the state for basic education and special programs. The state provides an average of $5,421 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 19.6 percent of the revenue comes from the citizens of the community through the levy of voter approved taxes and various fees and donations.

Washington State/District Assessment Plan

In the spring of 2013 students in grades six and seven took the Measurements of Student Progress in reading, writing and math; and students in algebra took End-of-Course Exams. These are standards-based assessments of students’ skills in literacy, 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. You may refer to the district’s website at www.lkstevens.wednet.edu and click on “Our District” and “Reports” for a comprehensive district and individual school report card.

Students in grades six and seven also participated in Measures of Academic Progress testing in math and literacy skills three times during the year. Additionally, students’ progress was monitored by quarterly benchmark assessments in math classes, and by using classroom-based assessments in certain health, fine arts and social studies classes. Teachers used information from all of these to help target their instruction.

North Lake Middle School Contact Information:

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

Measurements of Student Progress: Percentage Meeting Standard

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