Mt. Pilchuck Elementary

At Mt. Pilchuck, our mission is to empower and equip tomorrow’s leaders, today. Last year, our students were given the opportunity to write their own school-wide vision, and it is now on display on the walls of our front office: “Everyone who comes into this school needs to feel like they are part of the Best School in the World.” We strive to live up to this every day.

Our children actively use their academic and leadership skills to make a positive difference in our community. There is a lot of joy at our school. It is important to us that each child achieves to his or her full potential, has fun, and finds a purpose at our school.

We are a “Leader in Me” school. Leader in Me is a whole-school transformational model that is based on The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Kids. Incorporating the 7 Habits principles into lessons and school practices, our students acquire the self-confidence, discipline and interpersonal skills they need to thrive in the 21st Century.

Academic Focus

We are continuing our strong focus on reading, writing, math and science. Our students, staff and parents are educational partners. Together, we set rigorous student achievement goals, which are based on the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). We use data to help determine whether our instruction is meeting the needs of our students, and create targeted and intentional instruction for all students. To this end, our School Improvement Plan consists of:

- Continued understanding and application of the CCSS
- Data conferencing and analysis – to track academic programs and strategies, as well as individual students, and plan instruction to meet their needs
- Analysis and student conferencing of student writing
- Strong focus on reading instruction, primarily
  - Comprehension strategies
  - Phonics and phonemic awareness
  - Guided Reading strategies
  - Guided math instructional strategies
  - Scientific inquiry process

About our Students

We set high expectations for our students. Along with teaching the 7 Habits, our Pilchuck Panthers are taught to be Purposeful, Accountable, Welcoming and Successful (PAWS).

Mt. Pilchuck offers a variety of before, during and after school support programs and enrichment opportunities for students, including drama, leadership and knitting clubs, reading support, and our wildly popular Friday afternoon (student selected) “Sharpening the Paw” seminars.

Our Achievement Goals

- Mathematics: 80 percent of students meeting standard on the state Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) test.
- Writing: 80 percent of students meeting standard on the MSP.
- Reading: 87 percent of students meeting standard by the end of fifth-grade.
- Science: 75 percent of students meeting state standards for fifth-grade students.
- In addition, it is our school-wide goal for every child to be part of, at minimum, one leadership opportunity each year. By having positive experiences with personal goals, interpersonal goals and leadership opportunities, our students will be better prepared to become tomorrow’s community leaders.

For a complete look at our School Improvement Plan please visit our website and click on “School Improvement Plan.”

Connecting to and Involving Families and our Community

We take every opportunity to invite our families into our school, be visible in the community, and connect with the challenges in our children’s lives outside of school. Our goals include:

- Opening our school for weekly and monthly evening events so families can access academic and social support.
- Striving to meet our military families’ needs and providing a welcoming school climate.
- Awareness of the special needs of highly mobile families, families with absentee parents and learn skills and strategies to support all families.
- Assisting our children who are hungry on weekends, implementing Li’l Hungry Hearts program.
- Encouraging membership and outreach to our PTA and the Lake Stevens Special Education Parent Group.
- Encouraging parents to become involved in their child’s education—reading 20 minutes a night, practicing math facts, spelling words and attending school activities.
- Encouraging students to practice and teach The 7 Habits to their families. We support this through our 7 Habits University—parents are invited to school to learn about 7 Habits. In this way, our families can be more involved and our students can see the importance and consistency of these principles in their lives.

Student Ethnic Composition

- American Indian: 1%
- Asian: 2.4%
- Pacific Islander: .5%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 2.9%
- Black/African American: 3.9%
- Hispanic: 15.8%
- White: 70.2%
- Two or more races: 6.2%
(Totals will not equal 100%)

Supplementary Programs

The following data reflects the percentage of Mt. Pilchuck students benefiting from supplemental programs:

- Free or Reduced Meals: 46.1%
- Special Education: 16.2%
- Transitional Bilingual: 4.1%
- Highly Capable: 33
- Average Class Size: 24
In the spring of 2013 students in grades three through five took the Measurements of Student Progress. These are standards-based assessments of reading, writing, math and science. Students must demonstrate proficiency or mastery in order to meet standards in each area. All Mt. Pilchuck teachers and paraprofessionals meet the highly qualified designation as outlined by the federal No Child Left Behind law.

About Our School Building
Mt. Pilchuck was built in 1953 and received additions in 1955, 1959, and 1977. In 2007 it was closed for a total modernization and was reopened in the fall of 2008. The school sits on a 22-acre site, with the City of Lake Stevens leasing a portion of the site for Catherine Creek Park. In 1990 the community raised over $80,000 to build a Robert A. Leathers playground called The Kid’s Oasis, which is located on the Mt. Pilchuck property.

We presently have 593 students with a practical capacity of 549 students in grades kindergarten through fifth.

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.

About Our Financial Resources

All district students grades K-5 were assessed on reading, writing, and math target skills through benchmark assessments. Additionally, all elementary students participated in the Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills assessment to measure major literacy skills. Information gathered from these assessments enable teachers to tailor instruction to meet individual student’s strengths and growth opportunities. Progress on skills is monitored over the course of the academic year.

Washington State/District Assessment Plan

In the spring of 2013 students in grades three through five took the Measurements of Student Progress. These are standards-based assessments 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. 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.

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