



2007-2008 Annual School Report

Ridgetop Junior High

10600 Hillsboro Dr NW, Silverdale, WA 98383 (360) 662-2900/www.cksd.wednet.edu

Our Leadership Message



Bill Rosen, Assistant Principal
Barb Gilchrist, Principal

At Ridgetop Junior High School, we take our mission statement very seriously. Everything we do is about maximizing student achievement. Whether it's our rich and challenging curriculum, our strong athletic program, or our varied co-curricular opportunities, we seek to form a strong partnership with our involved and dedicated parents. This partnership has been essential in creating Ridgetop's legacy of excellence.

A wide variety of after school learning and co-curricular activities provides academic support and opportunities for student involvement. After Hours tutoring, Math and Science Academies, Chess Club, Math Olympiad, Destination Imagination, Color Guard, Marching and Jazz Bands, Cheer Squad, various sports, National Junior Honor Society, Reflections, and ASB—to name just a few—means Ridgetop buzzes with activity well beyond the close of each school day.

At Ridgetop, we are committed to keeping our students academically challenged in a safe environment. Along with our mission statement, we teach all students that "Ridgetop Raiders are Respectful and Responsible." Students and staff are actively involved in carrying out this guideline. Students are taught behavior expectations for each area of the school, with signs posted in common areas. Positive redirects are used to remind students when they stray from responsible or respectful behaviors. An active mediation program assists students in resolving differences peacefully.

Parents and families are encouraged to visit our school website at rjh.cksd.wednet.edu. There they will find helpful information, from the daily bulletin to links to teachers' email addresses, and much more.

Parents, students, and the community can be proud of Ridgetop Junior High School. We are dedicated to providing our students with a truly excellent education in a safe and nurturing environment.



Science teacher Jim Welsch works alongside a student learning principles of rocket trajectory.

Important Information about Ridgetop Junior High

Ridgetop Junior High opened in the fall of 1986. The two-story building served approximately 8800 students in 2007-2008 and is used for instruction from 7:25 a.m. to 2:05 p.m. during the school year.

Our school has an experienced instructional staff of 46 certificated teachers, 9 support staff, and 32 classified employees. All of our staff have specialized training in their subject areas and are involved in professional development on a continuing basis.

Ridgetop Junior High has two gyms, a library, two music rooms, four computer labs, support service spaces, and an office area. Adjacent to the building are playgrounds and athletic fields.

The school offers students a rich variety of elective courses, athletics, and co-curricular activities to enhance their learning experience. Some of the activities include the following: Multicultural Club, Intramural Sports, Chess Club, Color Guard, Dance Team, Family Career and Community Leaders, Honor Society, Media/Broadcasting, Destination ImagiNation, Jazz Band, Jazz Choir, Drama Club, Power Raiders, and After Hours tutoring.

How You Can Help Our School and Students Succeed

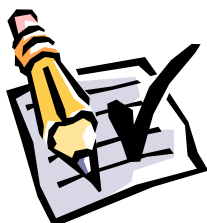


Ridgetop Junior High benefits from the volunteer services of many parents and community members. Our volunteers serve as tutors, chaperones, Shared Decision Team members, and in a variety of other support positions. Ridgetop and its students depend on the services of our community. Please join us in providing a quality education for the children in our school by calling our office at 662-2900.

Mission: *Staff, students, and parents work together to develop responsibility, respect, and lifelong learning.*

School Improvement Plan

Ridgetop staff continues to work toward the improvement of student learning. In the fall of 2007, staff members reviewed and revised our School Improvement Plan (SIP). The overall focus is to increase student engagement as evidenced by work completion, attendance, parent involvement, decreased discipline-related interruptions, and improved academic performance. Our 2007-08 SIP included effective strategies for helping all students reach high academic standards in five areas: math, science, reading, writing, and technology. During the year Ridgetop also renewed its accreditation through the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools.



Math teachers are working together to engage all students at high levels of learning. Students are able to take an additional period of math called *Math Lab* for extra assistance. Our students' 7th grade WASL scores have all increased significantly since 1998, doubling the number of students meeting WASL standards over the past decade, moving from 25 to 54 percent. Ridgetop students have outperformed other students in the state every year. The 2007 7th graders showed a 7% increase from the previous year--2% better than the state increase. Students at Ridgetop are learning math at higher levels than ever before and enjoying it!

Science teachers collaborate to address all of the Grade Level Expectations (GLEs) with a special focus on teaching investigative design over the last two years. They are working to address all of the GLE's in the classes that they teach.

An integral part of our plan is parent involvement. Parents serve on our Ridgetop Shared Decision Making Team and we have an active PTSA. Partnership Conferencing has parents, students, and teachers working together to set individual academic goals for students. Interested parents can access a weekly online newsletter at: *SchoolHouseTalk.com*.

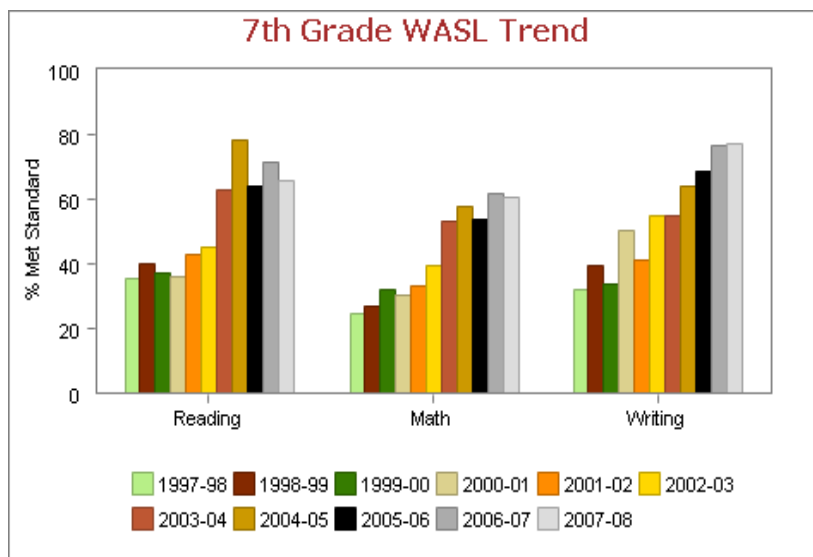
After-school academic support and computer access for students was provided through *After Hours* held in the Library four days per week. Busses run at 4:00 p.m., three days per week to provide students transportation home after these programs.

Ridgetop teachers are excited about teaching and learning. Their positive energy involves students actively in the process to make Ridgetop an engaging learning community!

Seventh Grade WASL Scores

Results from the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) tests show the percentage of seventh-grade students that met the standards this year.

The test is designed to measure how well each child is meeting the State's Essential Learning Requirements (EALRs) and allows students to demonstrate what they know and are able to do in reading, math, and writing.



Federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reports

Detailed reports on individual school WASL results are available on the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) website. Reports include the school's demographics, progress over time, gender, ethnicity, and special program information.

To access our school's report, please visit the OSPI website at: <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>.

If you do not have access to the Internet and would like a copy of Ridgetop Junior High School's report, please call 662-2900.

The reports are posted for parents and the community as part of the federal *Elementary and Secondary Education Act*.

Good Attendance Means Greater Success in School

Students who attend school every day are more likely to do better in school and less likely to drop out.

School Year	Attendance Rate
2007-08	92.84%

Volunteers and Partners are Making a Difference

Volunteers play an integral role in our students' learning. Our PTSA recruits volunteers to help in a variety of ways. They sponsor Parents on Patrol (POPS), staff and student recognition, our student store, grants for teaching materials, and special parent programs.

POPS helps keep the halls and cafeteria safe with an added adult presence. PTSA has been instrumental in helping ensure that Ridgetop is well-equipped in the event of an emergency. A fully stocked storage container is located on campus, water has been purchased for all classrooms, and additional supplies secured.

The students and staff appreciate the contributions of the PTSA and



Volunteers Lori Crow and Kim Johnson arrange a school display case.

other community volunteers who help make Ridgetop the best learning place possible. To volunteer, please call 662-2900.

Special Programs Give Students Choices

Our school offers a diverse program for special needs students. Two self-contained classrooms emphasizing daily living and job skills provide individualized instruction for students with multiple and significant handicaps.

Students with learning disabilities receive help through curricular adaptation, assistant support, and a study skills classes as appropriate to Individualized Learning Plans. The *Rewards* and *Soar to Success* programs provide intensive reading instruction for

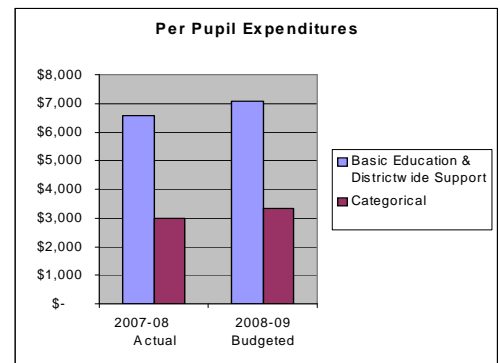
students needing to improve this essential skill.

Students desiring a challenge have access to advanced-level courses including: Humanities In-depth (HID), Exploration, Pre-AP English 9, Honors Physical Science, Introduction to Web Design, Computer Programming, Spanish, French, Japanese, American Sign Language, and a variety of mathematics options. Several students each year enroll concurrently in advanced courses taken at Olympic High School.

Ridgetop Demographics

American Indian/Alaska Native	1.7%
Asian	13.5%
Black	6.2%
Hispanic	4.1%
Pacific Islander	4.3%
White	60.5%

CK Budget Information



This year's District per student expenditure of \$9,458 includes \$6,568 for "basic education" and \$2,980 for District-wide "categorical" programs. Examples of "categorical" or "restricted" programs are special education, food service, transportation, learning assistance, etc. Funds related to these programs may not be directed to other programs.

The majority of District "basic education" costs are teacher and support personnel salaries, books, classroom supplies, and building operating costs such as utilities, insurance, and maintenance.

This year Ridgetop Junior High School was allocated \$65,929 for the purchase of books, supplies, printing, and materials; \$8,479 for library books and materials; \$11,000 to assist staff with student needs; \$2,615 for staff development; and \$8,815 to implement site-based decisions.

At each school a Shared Decision Team (SDT) is empowered to help make school decisions. The SDT is made up of staff, students, parents, and the school's principal.



Central Kitsap School District

PO Box 8, Silverdale, WA 98383

(360) 662-1610

www.cksd.wednet.edu

Annual School Performance Reports provide parents and our community with information about our schools and District. Central Kitsap's two highest priorities are student achievement and the efficient use of resources.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) requires that all students meet high standards. Student performance is reported by race, disability, limited English-speaking, and low income. The goal of this legislation is to ensure that all children in a school are learning at high levels.

The complex world of today demands that students learn more than facts. They must demonstrate they can use what they know to reason, solve problems, analyze data, think creatively, and conduct research. Students are preparing now for learning throughout their lives, both as students and adults.

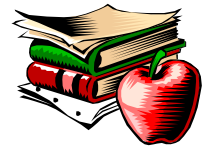
The District's standards-based education holds students accountable to high graduation standards, and the District holds itself accountable for high levels of student success.

Components of a standards-based education are:

- (1) Challenging state-wide learning requirements called Essential Learnings and Grade Level Expectations.
- (2) Instructional materials aligned to the learning requirements.
- (3) Teaching strategies aimed at achievement targets.
- (4) Multiple approaches to student testing and gathering student achievement data.
- (5) Student accountability based on high standards.

We invite you to join us in working toward our mission of *All Students Learning Well*. It is by working together as a community and focusing on student learning that our children will experience their greatest successes.

For more information, please contact your student's school, the Community Relations Office at 662-1620, or visit the District website at: www.cksd.wednet.edu.



Central Kitsap School District's Mission: *All Students Learning Well*

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