

Annual Report

A Summary of 2009-10

Accomplishments



SUPERINTENDENT LARRY FRANCOIS

I am proud to share with you this annual report of the progress being made in the Northshore School District to provide a world class education to over 19,000 young people we serve. Despite the continued challenges and lingering effects of the Great Recession, Northshore students continue to excel and demonstrate some of the highest levels of achievement in Washington State and the nation. The hard work of our students, the dedication of our staff, the engagement of our parents and the continued support of our community make this possible. The Northshore community remains a great place to live, work and raise a family because of this tremendous partnership.

“Northshore students continue to excel and demonstrate some of the highest levels of achievement in Washington State and the nation.”

LARRY FRANCOIS,
Superintendent

Board Goals

- Increase student achievement and success at grades Pre-K–12 and beyond
- Maintain high standards of performance
- Maintain fiscal stability of the district to support student learning
- Provide relevant communications and opportunities for community involvement

Northshore School District Board of Directors adopted 2010-11 goals and performance measures to guide the district’s ongoing improvement efforts:

Goal 1: Student Achievement and Success at Grades Pre-Kindergarten–12 and Beyond

Goal 2: High Standards of Performance

Goal 3: Fiscal Stability to Support Student Learning

Goal 4: Effective Communications and Community Involvement

Specific performance measures have been identified to support each goal and were strategically chosen to target the district’s time, energy and resources on high leverage outcomes aligned to the district’s mission and goals.

Academics

Curriculum

Northshore continued to invest in updating curriculum that better aligns with state standards. During the 2009-10 school year, the district piloted a new math curriculum for grades 6, 7, 10 and 11, and new science curriculum for grades 7-9.

Northshore implemented new math curriculum for grades K-5, 8th grade math and 9th grade algebra, and a new social studies curriculum for U.S. History grades 8 and 11 was adopted.

Common District Assessments

Having common district assessments allows teachers to measure a student’s ability to meet the state requirements. The district updated classroom-based assessments for health fitness, social studies and the arts to ensure district requirements match state requirements.

Northshore also adopted math benchmark assessments K-6 and emergent literacy assessments for kindergarten.

Quality Teaching

Northshore continued to focus on improving student learning through quality teaching. More than 68% of district teachers have an advanced degree. In addition, 15 teachers earned National Board Certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in 2009 and 20 earned theirs in 2010 bringing the district total to 70. National Board Certified teachers have met rigorous standards through intensive study, expert evaluation, self assessment and peer review.

Professional development, which supports effective instruction, focused on literacy and math at the elementary

Highlights

- District implemented math curriculum aligned to state standards.
- NSD developed assessments as part of comprehensive district assessment plan.
- 15 teachers earned National Board Certification.
- Lockwood Elementary School and Secondary Academy for Success earned 2009 “Great Schools” awards.
- Inglemoor High School and Woodinville High School earned silver medals in US News & World Report’s “America’s Best High Schools.”
- East Ridge, Sunrise and Wellington elementary schools earned Washington Achievement awards for 2009.
- Shelton View Elementary School and Timbercrest Junior High School named “Top School” for Washington in the 2009 Johns Hopkins University Center for the Talented Youth Talent Search.
- Graduated 1,596 students—Northshore Scholarship Foundation awarded Northshore graduates with \$160,900 in grants/scholarships. Overall, Northshore graduates received more than \$6.3 million in grants/scholarships.
- Community continued support for a Northshore bond and levies.

level and math and social studies at the secondary level. Principals worked with staff to develop training focused on instruction and school improvement planning.

Northshore School District received a waiver for a 175-day school year from the state Board of Education for 2009-10. The district used the waiver days to focus on school improvement review and planning and site-based teacher training in areas such as literacy, math and social studies. The 175-day calendar allows for better continuity of instruction, fewer partial student days, improved curriculum planning, staff development time for teachers and coordination of school improvement efforts.



Technology

The district continued to improve classroom technology to support effective instruction and student learning. This included training, hardware and software implementation, and the modernization of network and computing systems to ensure that classroom technology operates effectively to meet student learning needs.

Key projects:

- Installation of interactive whiteboards (bringing district classroom total to 80%)
- Data system to help teachers track student performance
- Technology training for teachers
- Network modernization



Demographics

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Elementary Schools | 20 |
| Junior High Schools | 6 |
| Comprehensive High Schools | 3 |
| Alternative High School | 1 |
| Early Learning & Home School | 2 |
| Enrollment (Oct. '09) | 19,707 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| American Indian/Alaskan Native | .8% |
| Asian | 12% |
| Pacific Islander | .5% |
| Black | 2% |
| Hispanic | 8.7% |
| White | 71.7% |
| Free or Reduced-Price Meals | 15.4% |
| Special Education | 13.4% |
| Transitional Bilingual | 4.7% |
| Migrant | 0% |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Unexcused Absence Rate | .1% |
| Annual Dropout Rate | 2% |
| On-Time Graduation Rate | 88.2% |
| Extended Graduation Rate | 90.7% |
| Classroom teachers | 1,158 |
| Average years of teacher experience | 13.8 |
| Teachers with at least a master’s degree | 68.1% |
| % of classes taught by teacher meeting NCLB highly qualified (HQ) definition | 99.6% |

Achievement

Student Achievements

A central district focus is on continuous improvement for all students. Northshore 12th graders who have taken the SAT have continually outperformed state and national averages over the past five years and the margin continues to widen. This is particularly noteworthy since Washington has the highest average SAT scores in the country for states in which over half of the students take the exam.



The ACT tests a student's ability to complete college-level work. Northshore has experienced a 30% increase in the number of students taking the ACT since 2008—333 students took the ACT in 2010. The average scores for Northshore continue to be higher than the national ACT composite score of 21.

There was also an increase in the number of students who took Advanced Placement (AP) courses or enrolled in the district's International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. In 2009-10, 749 students were enrolled in AP courses and 1,166 exams were taken with a 69% pass rate. In 2009-10, 87 students graduated with an IB Diploma. Inglemoor High School accounts for one third of the IB Diploma recipients in the state.

Northshore students consistently outperform their peers on state and national tests.

| 2010 SAT | NSD | State |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
| Reading | 554 | 524 |
| Writing | 541 | 508 |
| Math | 577 | 532 |
| # Tested | 880 / 1720* | |
| *Total number of high school seniors | | |
| 2010 ACT | SCORE | |
| Reading | 24.7 | |
| Math | 25.3 | |
| Science | 23.9 | |
| English | 23.8 | |
| All 4 | 24.5 | |
| Advanced Placement 2009-10 | | |
| Enrollment | 749 | |
| Exams Taken | 1,166 | |
| Passed | 69% | |

Learning Environments

School Projects

The district continued its master facilities plan and completed preventative maintenance to ensure school facilities safely meet the learning needs of students. Overall, construction and renovation projects were completed on time and under budget using funds from the 2006 bond and proceeds allocated from the sale of the downtown Bothell property. A \$149 million bond was passed in February 2010 to continue the district's master facilities plan.



| School | Budget | Actual Cost | Completion Date |
|---------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Fernwood Elementary | \$4 million | \$3.9 million | August 2010 |

Completion of a four-classroom wing, cafeteria, kitchen and commons

| Heating, Ventilation and/or Roof Updates | Budget | Actual Cost | Completion Date |
|--|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | \$4.2 million | \$4.2 million | August 2010 |

Updates to Crystal Springs, Bear Creek, Lockwood and Westhill elementary schools, Bothell High School and Administrative Center

| Secondary Academy for Success | Budget | Actual Cost | Completion Date |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | \$6.6 million | \$6.6 million | August 2010 |

Renovation of school from a converted warehouse after sale of downtown property

| Transportation Facility | Budget | Actual Cost | Completion Date |
|-------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | \$13.8 million | \$13.7 million | August 2010 |

Relocation of transportation facility due to sale of downtown property

Energy Efficiency

Northshore School District continues to be a leader in energy efficiency measures. In 2009, Northshore saved more than \$100,000 in utility costs. The district also partnered with Cascadia Community College to develop an Environmental Technology and Design program offering at the Secondary Academy for Success. The school building serves as a learning tool for students as they are able to monitor energy usage and systems as part of the academic program.

State Assessments

Two new tests replaced the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) in 2010: the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP) for grades 3-8 and the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) for grades 9-12. Northshore is required by state and federal law to administer these tests.

2009-10 MSP & HSPE DISTRICT (NSD) / STATE (WA) RESULTS

| GRADE | 3rd | | 4th | | 5th | | 6th | | 7th | | 8th | | 10th | |
|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | NSD | WA |
| READING | 82.6 | 72.1 | 80.4 | 67.2 | 81.9 | 69.6 | 84.1 | 64.6 | 75.7 | 63.4 | 80.7 | 69.4 | 91.6 | 78.9 |
| MATH | 76.7 | 61.8 | 69.9 | 53.7 | 70.6 | 53.6 | 79.2 | 51.9 | 70.3 | 55.3 | 75.5 | 51.6 | 66.4 | 41.7 |
| WRITING | | | 74.4 | 61.1 | | | | | 83.2 | 70.3 | | | 95 | 86 |
| SCIENCE | | | | | 52 | 34 | | | | | 69.3 | 54.5 | 66.9 | 44.8 |

standards in the following cells: grades 3-5, Hispanic math and reading and Low Income math and reading; grades 6-8, Hispanic math; and grades 10-12, Low Income math. Percentage of students not tested in 2009-10: .1% in reading and .2% in math at elementary; .2% in reading and .3% in math at junior high; and 1.6% in reading and 1.9% in math at high school.

In Northshore School District, 99.6% of classes are taught by teachers who meet the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) highly qualified definition. As part of the provisions of NCLB, you may request the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s) by contacting your child's school. You will be provided that information as soon as possible upon request.

Partnerships

Community Support

Northshore citizens have always recognized the value of a quality education, and families and community members support Northshore schools in a variety of ways. More than 500 businesses and individuals are involved through various partnerships; community organizations like the YMCA provide activities, childcare and programs at schools; and more than 8,500 parents and community members volunteer in schools. Thank you for your continued partnership and support!



Northshore Schools Foundation

The mission of the Northshore Schools Foundation is to support programs and partnerships that enhance learning opportunities for all Northshore students. The Foundation works in close partnership with Northshore School District to meet student needs.

The Foundation adopted five funding initiatives:

- Teacher Excellence
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Programs
- Advanced and Disadvantaged Learners
- Health, Fitness, Art and Music Programming
- Literacy Curriculum Enhancement



Strong family and community partnerships improve student achievement.

Finances

Northshore School District is the second largest employer in the local area with more than 2,000 employees and has an annual operating budget of \$178.9 million. As a result of the district's financial stability, Moody's Investor Service and Standard and Poors each awarded the district some of the state's highest bond ratings. These ratings make NSD bonds more marketable to investors resulting in a lower interest rate thereby lowering taxes for taxpayers.

The district's primary source of funding is from the state and is based on enrollment. This year, NSD enrollment was over 19,300 students which was a slight decline, about 140 students, from the 2008-09 school year. Long-term projections show enrollment should flatten in 2010-11 and slowly begin to increase after that.

Because of significant funding reductions from the state, the district made \$7.1 million in budget cuts and other adjustments required to develop a balanced 2009-10 operating budget. These budget decisions were made based on core mission priorities adopted by the board and developed with community and staff input.



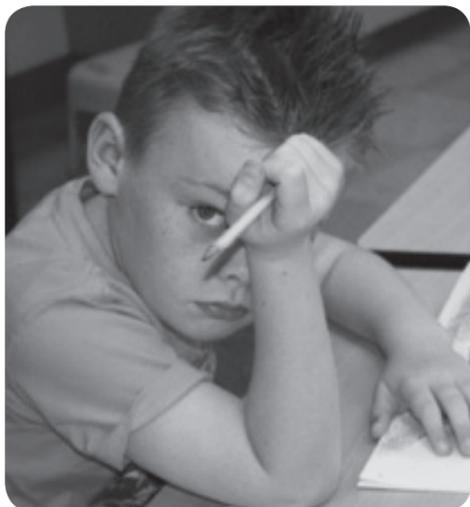
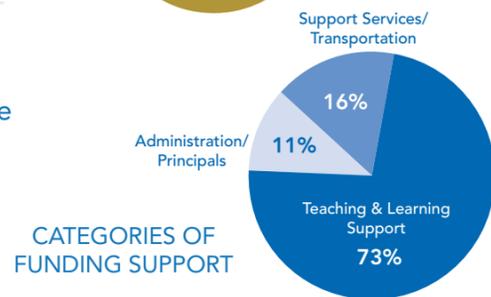
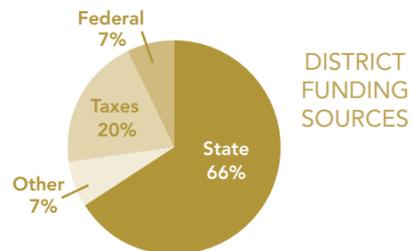
Thanks to our community, who again showed its commitment and support of education, the district passed a capital projects bond, renewal education operations support levy and renewal school technology levy in February 2010 and a supplemental levy in August. These levies and bond will allow the district to continue with its educational

programs, operations and facilities plan. The supplemental levy was a one-time measure approved by voters as a result of new state legislation allowing school districts to run a supplemental levy through 2017 to help mitigate the impacts of continuing state cuts in education funding.

REVENUES FOR 2009-2010

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| STATE | \$118,117,127 |
| FEDERAL | \$12,250,052 |
| TAXES | \$36,393,908 |
| OTHER | \$11,774,296 |
| TOTAL | \$178,595,383 |

Average per pupil expenditure per day is \$54.31.



RESOURCES ONLINE

Need homework help?

Resources are available online to help you help your child in a variety of subject areas.

www.nsd.org/familyresources

STUDENT SUCCESS

Northshore students earn various awards for such things as academics, athletics, leadership and community service. Check out the district Web site for updates on student awards and recognitions.

www.nsd.org/studentsuccess

PROGRAMS

Junior High Challenge Program Starts Next Fall

New Program Replaces Junior High Honors Program

Northshore will offer a Junior High Challenge program for English, math and social studies next school year. Challenge courses have higher academic rigor than standard core classes and will replace the district's current junior high honors program. These efforts align with the district's performance measures focused on increasing student achievement.

The program will help provide a seamless transition for students from junior high school to a high school Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) program.

Junior High Challenge courses available next year:

Seventh Grade
Challenge English 7
Challenge Math 7

Eighth Grade
Challenge English 8
Algebra
Challenge US History

Ninth Grade
Pre AP/IB English 9
Geometry
Pre AP/IB World History

Seventh and eighth graders must apply for entry to the program and will be selected through an assessment process, but ninth graders may self select for English and social studies. Notifications will be sent to families by June 30. Additional information is available online at www.nsd.org.

GRADUATION VENUE CHANGE

Northshore is moving the location for high school graduations to Comcast Arena at Everett in 2012. More information is available online at www.nsd.org/venuechange.



CONVERSATION WITH THE BOARD

Join the school board for a "Conversation with the Board" session prior to the board meeting Tuesday, April 26, 4:30-6:30 p.m., in the board room of the Administrative Center, 3330 Monte Villa Pkwy., Bothell, Wash. It is an opportunity for parents, community members and staff members to have conversations with board members about district priorities, goals, performance measures and budget.

calendar

2010 - 2011

APRIL

- 1 NON-STUDENT/NON-NSEA DAY
- 4-8 NO SCHOOL
Spring Break
- 26 CONVERSATION WITH THE BOARD
4:30-6:30 p.m., Admin. Ctr.

MAY

- 27 NON-STUDENT DAY
- 30 NO SCHOOL
Memorial Day

JUNE

- 22 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL



Emergency Make-up Days Added to End of School Year

Northshore's school year calendar has been revised and emergency make-up days have been added to the end of the school year.

The last day of school for AM/PM kindergarten is now Tuesday, June 21, and the last day for all other Northshore students is now Wednesday, June 22, which will remain an early release day.