

Mercer Island High School

Assessment Participation Rate Improvement Plan 2017-2018

Mission: Mercer Island Schools will deliver a 21st century education that prepares students to convert information into knowledge and create innovative solutions demanded by tomorrow's world.

Vision: Our students will thrive in the cognitive, digital, and global world while sustaining their passion and inspiration for learning.

Fundamentals of the Vision

1. Create a more personalized learning environment where student-centered education is responsive to students' strengths and learning styles, interests and passions.
2. Maintain the highest standards in the areas of fine arts; health/fitness; literacy – reading, writing and communications; mathematics; science; social studies, and world languages.
3. Develop self-awareness, empathy, emotional/social intelligence, responsible decision-making and citizenship.
4. Encourage and enable students to be academic entrepreneurs and risk-takers who can choose to pursue academic passions and interests beyond traditional curriculum and beyond the traditional classroom environment.
5. Cultivate and foster thinking and process skills such as analytical and critical thinking, cross-discipline thinking, creativity, innovation, collaboration, communication, problem-solving, and information and technology literacy in curriculum design.
6. Cultivate Global Awareness and understanding of real-world problems, issues, concerns, commonalities, differences and interdependence.
7. Foster and embrace diversity, inclusiveness, and equity with a focus on respect and acceptance of every student.

All seven fundamentals are thought of as essential to the vision we have for our students both as they move through our school district and when they move into careers and/or college experiences. Our district improvement plan aligns with our vision and mission and includes all of our students as cohorts and individual learners.

District and School Report Card Access: <https://www.mercerislandschools.org/domain/1959>

Contributing Factors to this Plan

As required under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESSA), OSPI informed the Mercer Island School District on November 7, 2017 that Mercer Island High School did not meet the 95 percent participation rate on the Smarter Balanced Mathematics Assessment (Figure 1).

Figure 1- MIHS Mathematics Participation Rate

	Participation	Expected Participation Rate	Differential
High School Math Participation	23.8%	> 95%	-76.2%

Overall, the 11th grade student data reveals only 21% scored proficient or above. This number is misleading because it reports a below proficient score for all students who opted out altogether. The reason for the high percentage of students opting out can be attributed to the fact that the SBA Math assessment is not a graduation requirement.

MISD further analyzed the data and asked, of the 23.8 percent of students who did take the Smarter Balanced Assessment, how did these students score? The data indicates that 91.7 percent of those students scored proficient or higher (Figure 2).

Figure 2- 2016-2017 Smarter Balanced Assessment Achievement Data (% proficient)

Grade Level	Math
*11 th Grade	21%
* The percentage of students meeting the proficient takes into account the students who opted out of the assessment. Thus, it should be noted that of the 23.8% of students who took the math assessment 91.1% were proficient.	

This district improvement plan focuses on the students most at risk of not passing the Smarter Balanced Assessment or making appropriate progress as designated by the district. Thus, the Mercer Island School District is committed to the following targeted areas based on student needs and our vision for 21st Century learners:

- Create a more personalized learning environment where student-centered education is responsive to students' strengths and learning styles, interests and passions.
- Maintain the highest standards in the areas of fine arts; health/fitness; literacy – reading, writing and communications; mathematics; science; social studies, and world languages.
- Foster and embrace diversity, inclusiveness, and equity with a focus on respect and acceptance of every student.

Goal 1- Create a more personalized learning environment where student-centered education is responsive to students' strengths and learning styles, interests and passions.

Action Steps

- MIHS will provide an equitable and accessible academic experience for all students, while maintaining a differentiated personalized learning environment.
 - Create common course outlines, prioritized standards, and at least two common assessments for each identified course with support and additional time from MIHS administrators
 - Engage Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) that focus on analyzing student achievement on the established common assessments using identified protocols for collaborative work

Goal 2- 95% of the current 11th grade students will participate in the Math SBA (Spring 2018)

- Promotional letters will be sent to parents to highlight the benefits of students taking the assessment
- Students will receive similar letters pushed out on each iPad
- Bulletin updates and announcement will be made to students this spring
- Students wishing to opt-out must make an appointment and meet with an administrator face-to-face
- Staff will be trained and provided information on the SBA assessment
- A specific page will be developed on the school website with SBA information