

# MERCER ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

2017-2018  
ANNUAL REPORT



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mercerislandschools.org



## THE MERCER ISLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Mercer Island School District Board of Directors are elected to four-year terms. Responsibilities include goal setting; employing the superintendent; setting district policy; adopting an operating budget; placing levies and bonds before voters; approving the instructional program; and ratifying contracts. Learn more at: [www.mercerislandschools.org/board](http://www.mercerislandschools.org/board)

Tracy Drinkwater  
2015 - 2019



David D'Souza  
2015 - 2019

Ralph Jorgenson  
2015 - 2019



Deborah Lurie  
2017 - 2021

Brian Giannini Upton  
2017 - 2021



Donna Colosky  
Superintendent  
Secretary of the Board

## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the Mercer Island School District's Board of Directors, our teachers, staff and students, I am pleased to present the 2017-18 Annual Report to the Mercer Island community.

Inside this report, you will learn more about the seven fundamentals (goals) of the District's 2020 Vision. The School Board is now beginning to study how the District can refine its mission, vision and values to build on our culture of academic excellence while at the same time meet the social and emotional needs of our students.






This past year was highlighted by the passage of the Replacement Educational Maintenance and Operations levy with 70 percent voter approval, the highest in King County, and the community's continued support for the Mercer Island Schools Foundation, PTAs and Boosters.

Please know that whether or not you have a school-age child, you are always invited to attend performances, concerts, and athletic events. Visit our website at [mercerislandschools.org](http://mercerislandschools.org) or follow us on social media for current listings of school events.

Sincerely,  
Donna Colosky, Superintendent

## POINTS OF PRIDE



-  The Mercer Island High School Marching Band has been selected to participate in the 130th Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif., on New Year's Day 2019. This will be the fourth Rose Parade appearance for the Mercer Island Band, with the most recent in 2012.
-  The Mercer Island High School girls soccer team, with first-year coach James Valles at the helm, won the 2017 state 3A championship. The boys tennis team, coached by Ryan Pang, also won the state 3A championship for the eighth consecutive year.
-  The Mercer Island Fine Arts Advisory Council was honored for community service by the District. For five decades, the Mercer Island Fine Arts Advisory Council has dedicated itself to supporting arts education as it partners with the MISD.
-  Mercer Island High School continues to receive a gold medal ranking among the nation's Best High Schools in the 2018 annual rankings by U.S. News & World Report for student achievement. Gold medal recognition was given to only 500 of the nation's high schools this year by U.S. News.
-  Dana Berejka, a 2018 graduating senior at Mercer Island High School, was selected as a U.S. Presidential Scholar. Berejka is one of 161 American high school seniors awarded for outstanding academic achievement, artistic excellence, leadership, citizenship, service, and contribution to school and community.



## WHO WE ARE

Mercer Island School District is composed of six schools located on Mercer Island, a community of 24,000 residents along I-90 in Lake Washington, between the cities of Seattle and Bellevue.

## ENROLLMENT

Districtwide.....	4,587
Island Park.....	421
Lakeridge.....	483
Northwood.....	495
West Mercer.....	517
Islander Middle School....	1,153
Mercer Island High School & Crest Learning Center...	1,519

## STUDENT ETHNICITY

American Indian/Alaska Native.....	0.1%
Asian.....	21.1%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.....	0.1%
Black/African American.....	0.9%
Hispanic/Latino.....	4.6%
Two or more races.....	9.4%
White.....	63.8%

## CERTIFICATED STAFF

American Indian/Alaska Native...	1.8%
Asian/Pacific Islander.....	5.7%
Black/African American.....	1.2%
Hispanic/Latino.....	2.4%
White.....	88.7%

## CLASSIFIED STAFF

American Indian/Alaska Native...	1.4%
Asian/Pacific Islander.....	15.8%
Black/African American.....	6.0%
Hispanic/Latino.....	4.2%
White.....	72.5%

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Free/reduced-price meals....	3.2%
Special Education.....	10.0%
Transitional Bilingual.....	4.0%





Class of 2017, 4-year graduation rate **94%**


**87%** at 4-year colleges, 8.7% at 2-year colleges, 4.3% other programs


**38%** attending in-state colleges **62%** attending out-of-state colleges


Students from the Class of 2018 are attending **125** colleges and universities

 KMIH 889 The Bridge won the General Excellence award for the second consecutive year in the Washington State High School Broadcasting Awards. Thirteen student staff also received honors at the international Golden Microphone Awards.

 Mercer Island High School student Andrew Lustig won second place in the Chinese Bridge Speech Contest for U.S. High School Students. Andrew won a scholarship to study in China for two weeks this past summer.

 Mercer Island High School is the only school in the world to have four students attain a perfect score on the spring 2017 AP exam in macroeconomics, according to the College Board. All four students—Zack Gottesman, Alex Mueller, Adam Tucker and Bryan Zhao—had the same teacher, Kim Schjelderup.

 Northwood Elementary on Mercer Island was selected as one of only five projects to receive the national Award of Excellence for facility design by the American Institute of Architects.

 A combined 45 Mercer Island High School and Islander Middle School students in band, orchestra and choir were selected to participate in the 2018 Washington Music Educators Association All-State honor groups.



1

Create a more personalized learning environment where differentiated instruction and student-centered education are 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.



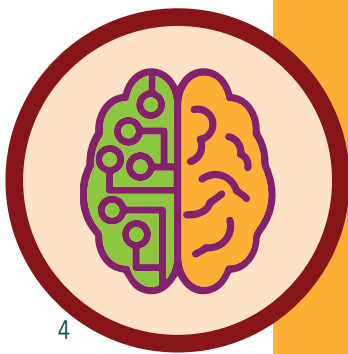
3

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, leadership, collaboration, communication, problem-solving, and information and technology literacy in curriculum design.



**THE SCHOOL BOARD ANNUALLY MONITORS** these seven fundamentals (goals) for progress. As part of this monitoring, the School Board reviews qualitative and quantitative indicators gathered by our instructional and learning services teams. These indicators range from descriptions of classroom projects and student activities to scores such as testing and survey results. During 2017-18, the School Board successfully monitored all seven fundamentals of our 2020 Vision. This report contains samples of the indicators used to monitor these fundamental goals.

- Based on the most recent Educational Effectiveness Survey (EES) data, students, parents, and staff continued to share a collectively positive perspective of the District.
- Students responded strongly positive that “they get help from teachers, counselors, or other adults when they need it” and to challenges provided by lessons and activities.

- Parents perceive the schools to be doing a better job celebrating the success of students and doing well with family and community engagement.
- Staff feel positive about student engagement, the systems for celebrating student successes, and a greater perception of accountability for student learning.

- The percentage of 11th grade students who met Smarter Balanced Assessment English Language Arts standards for graduation continues to be high.
- The percentage of 11th and 12th grade students enrolled in honors and AP course increased.

- English Language Learners (ELL) students are making excellent progress.
- The District continues to compare favorably with area school districts on the English Language Arts and Math assessments at all grade levels.

**Social Emotional Learning (SEL)**

SEL is designed to help students succeed in class, connect with peers and staff, and develop/promote a safe and respectful school climate. Each elementary school is continuing the implementation and use of Second Step SEL and Bullying Prevention in all K-5 classrooms.

**Positive Behavior Intervention Strategies (PBIS)**

PBIS is a school-wide system of support that includes proactive strategies for defining, teaching and supporting appropriate student behaviors to create positive school environments. Through public posters, assemblies, classroom discussions, positive interventions and public recognitions, students become aware of and internalize desired behaviors.

**Crest Horticulture Plant Sale**

The MIHS horticulture classes at Crest host an annual plant sale for the community to enjoy. Each student is responsible for raising the plant from a seed until it is ready to be sold at the sale. Additionally,

students must establish reasonable prices for their crops based on the cost of seeds, soil, and pots used to produce their crops. The annual plant sale starts the first Saturday of May and continues for two following Saturdays.

**3rd - 12th Grade 1:1 iPads**

All Mercer Island classrooms in grades 3 to 12 participate in a 1:1 iPad program. With a dedicated iPad for each student, teachers are able to engage their classes on a new level. Particularly powerful is the ability for students to have timely access to online research.

All students in grades 6-12 are provided an iPad they can use during school and at home to enhance their learning. For students, the iPad not only provides an organizational tool, but it also opens up new opportunities for students to personalize their own learning and explore topics of their own interest outside of class time.



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.



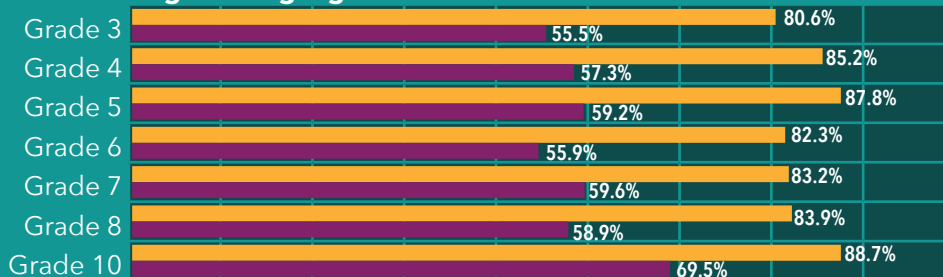
## STANDARDIZED TESTING DATA

### 2017-18 RESULTS

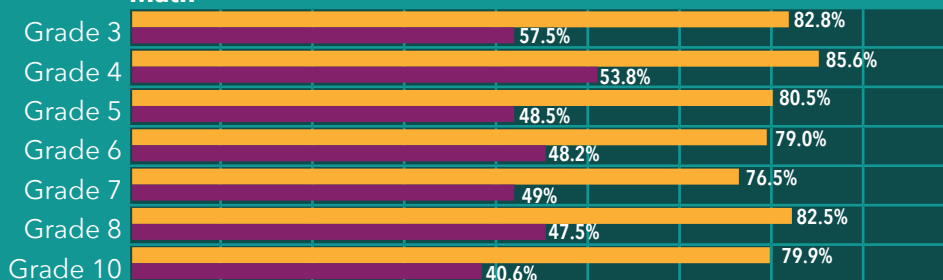
Smarter Balanced Assessment and the Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science



#### English Language Arts



#### Math



#### Science



For more information, including school-specific demographic and testing data, visit the OSPI website, <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/>, select Mercer Island School District from the drop down menu.

### 2018 AP RESULTS



955 Tests taken

AP Scores of 3 and above 854

72 AP Scholars

AP Scholars With Honor 48

60 AP Scholars With Distinction

AP National Scholars 10

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS CLASS OF 2019



11 Semifinalists

Commended Scholars 32

### Elementary Green Teams

Elementary school students participate in work as part of a Green Team throughout their K-5 careers. Students learn about recycling and composting every day in the lunchroom as they sort their refuse from lunch. As students get older, they begin to engage more in the

recycling work of the building by learning about and supporting the whole-school efforts of thoughtfully using and managing classroom resources and collecting and managing recycling. In addition, students receive environmental education through classroom learning and a variety of field trips and speakers.

### Equity Advisory Council

The District continued to focus on equity, access, and inclusion of all stakeholders. The former Superintendent's Diversity Advisory Committee has been reorganized as the Equity Advisory Council with increased participation from the school community. Each of the District's six schools also has its own equity team.

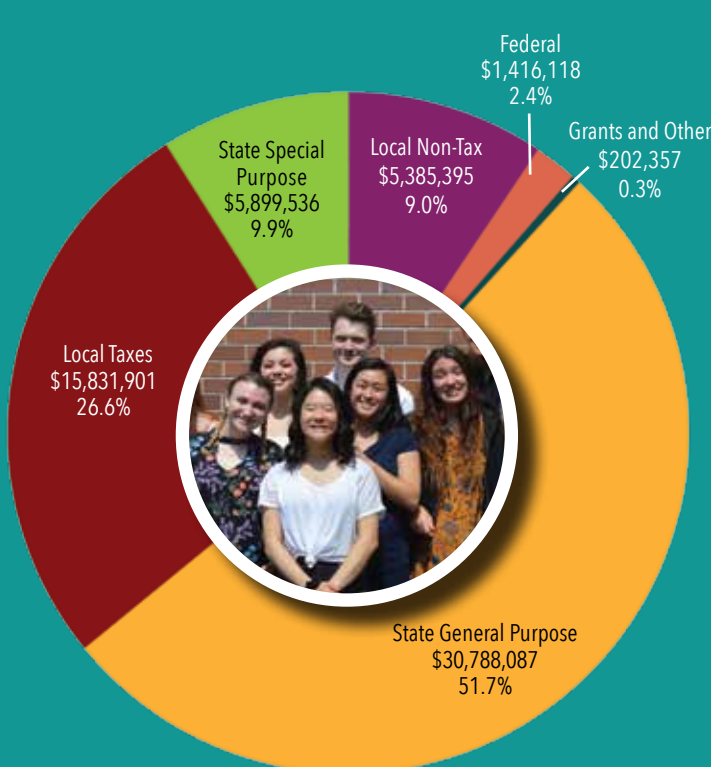
### Great Kindness Challenge

Elementary schools participated in the Great Kindness Challenge. At Northwood, all students tried to engage in as many acts of Kindness as they could as a way to make theirs a safe, accepting, and inclusive school. At IMS, the social justice elective course examines the role that identity and privilege play in everyone's lives.

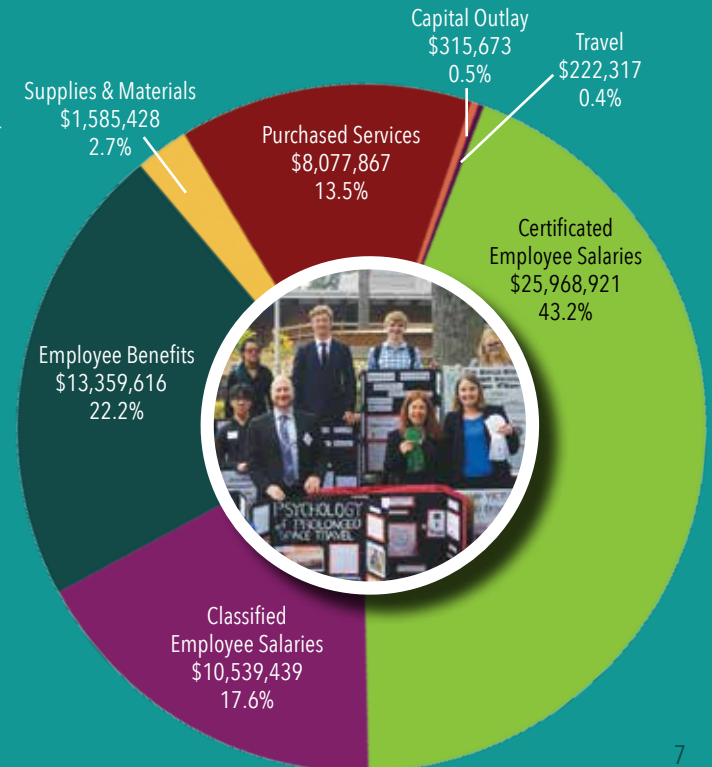
## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

The Mercer Island School District uses the funds entrusted to it by the community and the state to fulfill its mission to educate and prepare students for the future. The charts below show how much revenue comes from each source and how it is spent. Mercer Island students benefit from nearly \$2 million in annual donations to the PTA/PTSA's and the Mercer Island Schools Foundation. For more information on the Mercer Island School District finances, visit [www.mercerislandschools.org](http://www.mercerislandschools.org).

### TOTAL REVENUE



### TOTAL EXPENDITURES





Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit 19  
Mercer Island, WA

## Mercer Island School District No. 400 2017-2018 Annual Report

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## 2018 PATHFINDER AWARDS

The Mercer Island School District presented its third annual Pathfinder Awards to four graduates of Mercer Island High School whose achievements, strength of character, and citizenship inspire and challenge today's youth to make significant contributions to humankind.



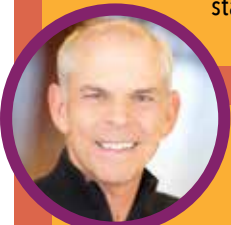
**Mary Lindquist**  
CLASS OF 1967

Mary taught English and Social Studies for 36 years at MIHS, and rose through the ranks to become the president of the Washington Education Association, the statewide teacher union.



**Joel McHale**  
CLASS OF 1991

Joel may be the most well-known Mercer Islander alive, with 3.5 million followers on Twitter. He has made a hugely successful career as an actor and stand-up comedian.



**Marty Lott**  
CLASS OF 1968

CEO and founder of SanMar Corporation, the largest supplier of imprintable apparel in the U.S., Marty is delivering sustainable products and taking action to reduce its environmental impact and make a difference in the lives of people worldwide.



**Dawn Bennett**  
CLASS OF 1982

Dawn has been an advocate for children and teens throughout her career. She co-founded the Multicultural Education Rights Alliance (McERA) to promote socially and racially just, and equitable education.

Nominations for the 2019 Pathfinder Awards close January 31, 2019. To nominate a distinguished MIHS graduate, visit [mercerislandschools.org/alumni](http://mercerislandschools.org/alumni).



## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTIFICATION

The Mercer Island School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following people have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

**Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Coordinator:**

Erin Battersby, Executive Director  
206-230-6227  
[erin.battersby@mercerislandschools.org](mailto:erin.battersby@mercerislandschools.org)

**Title IX Compliance Coordinator:**

Erin Battersby, Executive Director  
206-230-6227  
[erin.battersby@mercerislandschools.org](mailto:erin.battersby@mercerislandschools.org)

**Section 504 & ADA Coordinator:**

Nova Williams, Assistant Director  
(206) 236-4510  
[nova.williams@mercerislandschools.org](mailto:nova.williams@mercerislandschools.org)

**Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator:**

Erin Battersby, Executive Director  
206-230-6227  
[erin.battersby@mercerislandschools.org](mailto:erin.battersby@mercerislandschools.org)