

Stevens Supports Student Success

For the past three years, Stevens Middle School's scores on the writing and math portion of the WASL have been increasing! We want all students to be successful on the WASL and have concentrated even more resources within the school to make that happen. We are determined that No Child (will be) Left Behind (NCLB)!

Stevens teachers have been involved in the CQI (Continuous Quality Improvement) process all year which focuses on using eight steps. One key step is providing tutorials to students who need extra support and time to relearn so that they can master what they didn't master the first time. Here are a list of activities and programs that we have implemented to help those students who have demonstrated the need for support.

For the past year and a half, those students who need extra help in language arts have been able to spend an extra period a day with their teachers in a smaller, intensified language class specifically designed to improve their reading and writing.

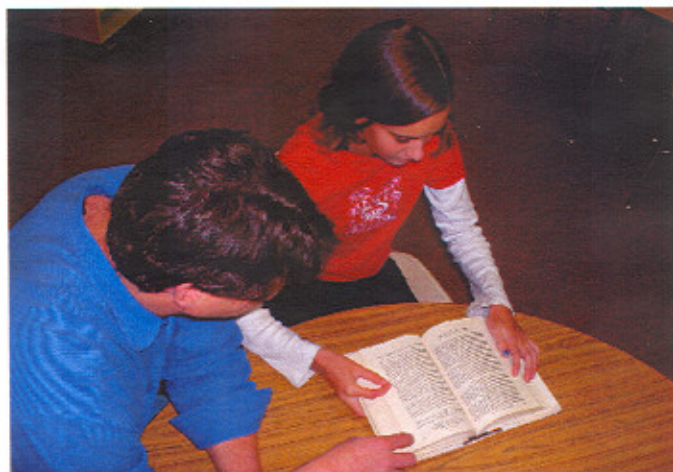
We have created small reading groups managed by trained parent volunteers who spend time weekly working with those students who need to bring their reading levels up.

Every Tuesday after school, sixth graders who need to improve their speed in computational math work are spending time with a volunteer who has been trained to play specific math games. These math games are played using cards and dice and are a fun way to have students practice skills that they are weak in.

This year, our 7th and 8th grade math teachers, one special ed math teacher, and two 6th grade teachers were chosen to be the recipients of a grant from OSPI worth \$60,000. The grant provided each teacher with a laptop, boxlight, and Elmo. These teachers have been able to work monthly with two experienced math teachers from the ESD who have been concentrating on Best Practices. These mentor teachers will teach a lesson while our teachers observe and then will watch and provide valuable feedback as our teachers then teach their own lesson. Collaboration between math teachers has increased dramatically and students are benefiting from the extra pair of eyes observing.

During the past five weeks, we added an intensified WASL refresher math class. Small groups of students were able to attend an extra class for four weeks to raise their skills in attacking word problems. Statistics show that those students who are successful on the 7th grade math portion of the WASL are usually successful on the 10th grade math WASL.

At Stevens, we are determined to have all students be successful and we are providing the support needed to make the NCLB more than just a statement.



Brian O'Donnell works with students one-on-one to improve reading levels.



Students practice their math skills using dice.



Without the help of our dedicated volunteers, none of this would be possible. Pictured here are Ruth Harrison and Patty Smith.

Article and pictures: Monique Flickinger

Our Vision: All Port Angeles School District students will reach high standards and graduate prepared with knowledge, skills and abilities to choose a successful future.

Good News About Staff

Krista Winn was presented the PE Teacher of the Year award by OSPI. Now, she has a year-long process of activities to qualify for 2005 National PE Teacher of the Year. Krista was selected for this honor by members of the Washington Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, and the state association for physical education.

Amity Butler was chosen as the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year for 2003. Amity received a check for \$1,000 to be used for Dry Creek School programs.

Ron Jones was named the WIAA/WMEA Washington State Music Educator of the Year for 2002 and was one of sixteen national recipients of the NFHS Outstanding Music Educator award for 2002-03.

Doug Gailey was named the North Olympic Music Educators Most Outstanding Educator. Doug is the band instructor at PAHS.

Diann Lavik received the 2003 Golden Apple Award. Diann is an active participant in every phase of the daily routine at Franklin. She knows every student by name and has introduced a variety of innovative programs to motivate them through positive experiences.

The Real Joy of Teaching

Ideas and dreams tumble out
When you open a child's mind.
Wonder and magic, hope and delight,
Are some of the things you'll find.

But it takes a special person—
With patience and wisdom to share—
To unlock the treasure awaiting
Within children everywhere.

Although some days are exhausting,
And others are tough to get through,
Remember, your students are lucky
To have a teacher like you.

And you, are blessed by teaching,
Whether it's reading or the arts.
For the real joy of your profession
Comes from touching children's hearts.

-Joan Zatorski (1954-) Teacher

Upcoming Events

March 16	General Admin Meeting	3:30 p.m.	CSB
March 17	Autism Video	9:00 a.m.	CSB
March 18	Librarian Meeting	3:30 p.m.	CSB
March 18	Absolutely Incredible Kid Day		
March 20	First Day of Spring		

Board Briefs—March 8, 2004

- Board met at 7:00 p.m. in the CSB Board Room. Meeting was moved to Vern Burton in order to accommodate the large audience and reconvened at 7:15 p.m.
- Minutes of February 23 special and regular board meetings and special board meeting on February 27 were approved.
- The resignations of **Claudia Elkhart** (para-educator/Jefferson), **Bert Fletcher** (head custodian/Monroe), **Judy Fletcher** (secretary/Dry Creek), **Pat Capouch** (teacher/Franklin), **Rebecca Gundersen** (teacher/Roosevelt), **Dale Gustafson** (teacher/Franklin), **Jean Heikila** (secretary/LPC), and **James Neale** (bus driver) were accepted.
- Approved leave of absence for **Kathy O'Connor** (para-educator/Roosevelt).
- Extra-curricular assignments were approved for **Leo Campbell** (NJROTC Color Guard), **Mike Wilson** (vocational extended days), and **Maya Zeller** (assistant track coach).
- The 2004-05 school year calendar was approved.
- Approved award of architectural contract to Hays Architects for design of the NOPSC Industrial Technology Labs.
- The acceptance of J & J Construction and Primo Construction work at the NOPSC was approved.
- Vouchers and budget reports were approved.
- Board adopted resolutions proclaiming March 8-12 *Classified School Employee Week* and March 15-21 *School Retirees Appreciation Week*.
- **Diana Tschimperle** was recognized for completion of the requirements for Associate Degree, Option II, certificate.
- **Doug Gailey** was honored as the North Olympic Music Educators' Most Outstanding Educator.
- **Patty Hannah**, vice president of the Port Angeles Education Foundation, provided a report on PAEF activities, including financial and grants updates. She shared information on the annual dinner scheduled for May 21, with guest speaker **Graham Kerr**.
- **Ron Spanjer** shared information on the 8th Annual School District Potlatch scheduled for Thursday, March 18 at the Lower Elwha Tribal Center. **D.J. Vanas**, an international motivational speaker, will deliver the keynote address.
- Thirty minutes was provided for community comments. The PTA/PTO presidents from Fairview and Monroe each spoke on the issue of school closure.
- **Ron Spanjer** provided a brief overview of the Student Tutorial Summary, which is an integral part of each Continuous School Improvement Plan. **Doug Hayman** and **Michelle Reid** shared the key elements of their schools' educational program that have been identified to support the ongoing remediation and acquisition of skills by students who are demonstrating a measured level of delay in the attainment of defined standards.
- **Mary Ann Unger** presented copies of high school special education mathematics texts recommended by the Instructional Materials Committee. The board will consider adoption of these texts during the next board meeting.
- **Jim Jones** reported that March enrollment shows a decrease of 28.2 FTE. With two count months left, the average is projected to drop to 4,290 FTE, which is 48 better than budgeted.
- Board adopted, in the best interest of the district, Policy No. 9400, Closure of Facilities, effective immediately.
- Board proposed to close Monroe School effective June 30, 2004. Pursuant to Board Policy No. 9400, public hearings on this proposal are scheduled for April 6 and April 8. After those hearings and after receipt of any further information determined by the board to be necessary to its decision, the board will meet on June 14, 2004 (which is more than 90 days after the date of this motion) to make final decision on whether to close Monroe.
- Next board meeting - 7:00 p.m.—March 22 at Stevens.