



Community Relations

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Did You Know?

fast facts about Renton Schools

- 91% on-time high school graduation from three comprehensive high schools (other students take addition credit courses in summer to earn diploma)
- 89% of high school graduates report they will immediately attend college or university (others plan to attend school later and/or will initially join workforce, military, etc.)
- \$6 million garnered in student scholarships
- 70% of teachers hold advanced degrees
- Number of teachers who earned National Board Certification doubled in 2009
- Average years of teaching: 11 years
- Active PTSAs at every school
- All 13 elementary schools and one middle school are newly built. Renovation of other sites is complete or in progress
- All construction projects completed on time, on budget
- Technology Presentation Stations for teaching/Internet access in every classroom
- Ongoing, in-depth technology training for every classroom teacher
- 87 languages spoken by students and families
- More than 250 local businesses employ students through worksite learning programs
- Good stewards of taxpayer dollars (district budget spending): 78% school learning, teaching & administration; 8% maintenance & operations; 7% central administration; 3% transportation; 2% food services; 2% other

2008 WASL test results

- Renton's three comprehensive high schools saw increases on all sections the state WASL test: reading, writing and mathematics
- Lindbergh and Renton high schools were among the top five schools in the region with largest WASL gains in reading and mathematics, respectively
- African-America and Hispanic high school students increased in the number exceeding WASL standards in mathematics, science, reading and writing
- Students in English Language Learner (ELL) programs—students whose family's first language is not English—realized substantial gains in WASL reading, writing and mathematics tests

Student success:

- 81% on-time high school graduation from three comprehensive high schools (other students take addition credit courses in summer to earn diploma)
- 80% of high school graduates report they will immediately attend college (others plan to attend school later and/or will initially join workforce, military, etc.)
- Students earned nearly \$6 million in scholarships.

2008 Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) highlights:

- Renton's three comprehensive high schools saw increases on all sections the state WASL test: reading, writing and mathematics.
- Lindbergh and Renton high schools were among the top five schools in the region with largest gains of students meeting and exceeding standards in reading and mathematics, respectively.
- African-America and Hispanic high school students increased in the number exceeding standards in mathematics, science, reading and writing.
- Students in English Language Learner (ELL) programs—students whose family's first language is not English—realized substantial gains in reading, writing and mathematics.

Employees:

- 70% of teachers hold advanced degrees
- Average years of teaching: 11 years
- About 2,100 total employees (including temps., subs., others)
- Less than 80 administrators including principals and asst. principals (only about 3% of staff)
- 6 bargaining unions

Student population:

- More than 14,000 students
- Diversity: African-American 19.90%; American Indian 1.19%; Asian, 25.13%; Caucasian 36.39%; Hispanic 17.39%
- About 2,050 students come from homes where English is not the family's first language
- 87 languages spoken by students and families

Community Support:

- Renton voters have overwhelmingly approved school funding measures by more than a 60% supermajority for more than two decades.
- Renton citizens have significantly supported school funding issues to rebuild all 13 elementary schools, McKnight Middle School and substantially renovate other middle and high schools.
- Voters overwhelmingly approved a Technology Levy in March 2008 and a bond issue that included technology in May 2003 to place 21st Century technology in every classroom and provide extensive technology training for teachers and staff.
- The district has held true to its promise to not increase tax rates as a result of approving these measures.

Schools/technology/facilities:

- All 13 elementary schools in the Renton School District have been completely rebuilt (Renton is the only district in the state with all new elementary schools)
- Other schools have had/or are scheduled for classroom improvements and renovations
- Every classroom has innovative technology that allows teachers to augment instruction by seamlessly switch lessons from books to overhead writing to the Internet to document cameras.

Transportation:

- Renton's 99 school buses travel nearly 800,000 miles each year, transporting about 6,500 students on 69 routes.
- Buses use more than 140,000 gallons of diesel fuel each year (nearly \$500,000 in fuel costs)

Food Services:

- The district serves about 1.2 million meals each year.
- About 50% of students qualify for free or reduced meals.

Budget:

- District annual budget is more than \$120 million
- 66% comes from state
- 10% comes from federal
- 24% comes from local taxpayers which must be approved by voters every four years
- Good stewards of taxpayer dollars (district spending):
 - 78% school learning, teaching & administration
 - 8% maintenance & operations
 - 7% central administration
 - 3% transportation
 - 2% food services
 - 2% other

School Enrichment Courses include:

Accounting	Advanced Quantitative Reasoning	American Sign Language	AP Biology
AP Calculus	AP Chemistry	AP English	AP Physics
AP Statistics	Automotive	Business Law	Computer-aided design/Networking



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			technology
Construction	Culinary Arts	French	Gifted grades 2-8
Horticulture/Landscape design	Japanese	Journalism	Leadership
Robotics	School Newspaper	Spanish	much more
Sports including: Basketball; Football; Golf; Softball; Swimming/Diving; Tennis; Track; Wrestling			