



Annual Report – Year in Review 2012-13

The beginning of the 2012-13 school year was much anticipated. Lake Washington School District high schools now had four grades, nine through 12. Junior highs reopened as middle schools, grades six through eight. And elementary schools opened without sixth grade for the first time. This grade configuration shift was in the works for several years and it came to life on the first day of school.

This reconfiguration was accomplished for educational reasons. Given that ninth grade students are earning high school credit for graduation it makes sense for them to be in a high school. But the added benefit of making this shift was to free up space in the elementary schools, where larger numbers of students have been entering each year.

The increase in elementary students was particularly pronounced at **Rosa Parks Elementary**, which needed immediate relief from overcrowding. A community process led to a new temporary boundary, which moves some of the Rosa Parks students to **Wilder Elementary** beginning with the 2013-14 school year.

High School buildings expand to accommodate Ninth grade

High schools had some space to receive this additional cohort of students but some additional high school space was needed. Additions to **Eastlake and Redmond High Schools** increased the space available at those schools. The new **Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) High School** started the school year in classrooms at Eastlake High School but moved over the winter holidays into their own building. **Northstar Middle School** moved from space in **Lake Washington High School** to its own set of modular buildings on the **Emerson Campus** in Kirkland.

The need for space at high schools did mean the district can no longer have an open enrollment policy at high schools, allowing students to enroll at any neighborhood high school in the district. Enrollment at the high school in a student's own neighborhood is always guaranteed.

New buildings replace old schools

While the high schools were expanding, thanks to a 2011 tax levy passed by district voters, three elementary schools reopened in new buildings, funded by a 2006 bond measure. **Keller, Sandburg and Muir Elementary Schools**, all in Kirkland, started the school year in new buildings that are designed to support student learning. **Rush Elementary**, in Redmond, moved into new classrooms mid-year. Their new gymnasium and cafeteria were completed for the start of the 2013-14 school year.



Online at home and school

All middle and high school students received **district-issued laptops**, for use in school and at home, for the first time. Pilot programs in previous years preceded the roll-out. Teachers spent time learning how to incorporate laptops into their teaching. The use of computers can engage students more deeply in learning and provide them with skills that will be needed in college and the workplace.

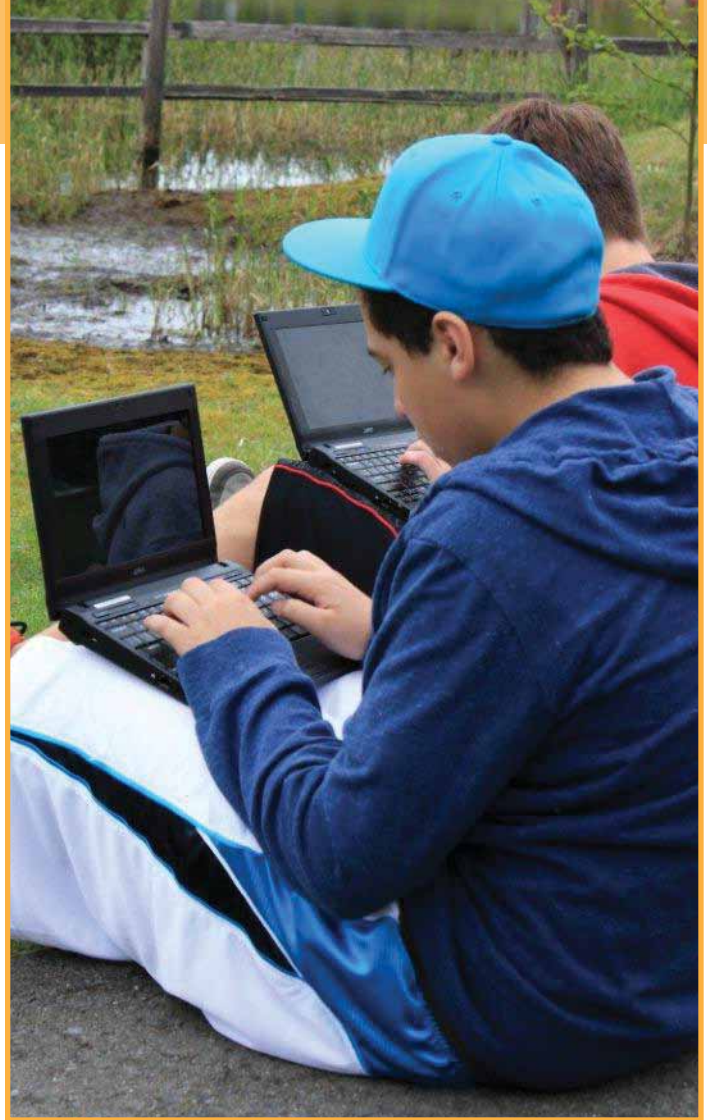
In conjunction with the new computers, teachers and students got access to **Haiku**, a learning management system. Haiku connects teachers and students online. Class announcements, assignments and calendars can be posted online and students can access them from home as well as school. Students can turn in assignments online. Class discussions and projects can be done online as well.

Unfortunately, a devious computer virus disrupted both student and staff use of computers, for learning and for school district business, for part of the school year. The district technology operations group devoted thousands of hours to eradicating the "Goblin" virus. Additional equipment and programs have been put in place to protect district computers and network.

Preparing for college and the workplace

Even with students and teachers moving between buildings and new buildings taking the place of old, student learning is always at the center. The high schools prepared for a new graduation requirement of at least **two years of world language** for graduation. A district-wide survey gauged interest in taking specific world languages. Some schools offered Mandarin Chinese and American Sign Language for the first time.

All tenth-grade students district-wide took the **PSAT** test, the first time that every student in that grade took the test. The test provides students with feedback on their strengths and weaknesses on skills necessary for college study, helps prepare them for the SAT and enters them into competition for scholarships. They also gain access to an online college and career planning tool that takes into account their test results.



Looking to the future

The district sought input from its community during the spring of 2013 regarding what funding measures it might put on the ballot in February 2014. Two levies, the Educational Programs & Operations levy and the capital projects levy, are both up for renewal: that funding will end if new measures are not proposed and passed before the end of 2014. Any new classroom space to meet the growing enrollment needs would require a bond measure, as would funding to replace aging schools. In August, the Board voted to place three funding measures on the ballot.

Celebrating the present

Although much of the work in 2012-13 focused on ways to increase learning, there were many opportunities to celebrate the learning that is going on in our schools now. Standardized test scores from state tests were generally higher, especially in math. Four schools were named Schools of Distinction, an award that honors sustained improvement in reading and math over five years. Twenty schools won 2012 **Washington Achievement Awards**, recognized as top performers in the state in different categories. The district also made the **AP District Honor Roll**, for increasing access to Advanced Placement coursework while ensuring students succeed.



Academic Performance

Lake Washington students score above state and national averages on standardized tests including the statewide Measurement of Student Progress (MSP), High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) as well as college-readiness tests (ACT and SAT).

2013 MSP/HSPE Scores

Lake Washington School District student math scores improved in five grades and two high school end of course exams and fell in parallel with state scores in grade six. For full test results for grades 3-10, go to the OSPI website: www.k12.wa.us.



MSP/ HSPE	Reading		Math		Writing		Science	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
4th - LWSD	85.2%	86.7%	80.2%	81.5%	80.1%	80.4%	*	*
4th - State	71.5%	72.5%	59.4%	62.5%	61.4%	62.2%	*	*
5th - LWSD	86.3%	88.8%	81.5%	81.9%	*	*	87.0%	87.9%
5th - State	71.1%	72.7%	63.8%	62.7%	*	*	66.3%	66.6%
7th - LWSD	87.6%	84.1%	80.9%	84.3%	88.8%	87.4%	*	*
7th - State	71.3%	68.8%	59.2%	63.8%	71.0%	71.1%	*	*
8th - LWSD	83.6%	83.3%	73.1%	74.9%	*	*	85.1%	82.9%
8th - State	67.3%	66.4%	55.5%	53.3%	*	*	66.4%	64.9%
10th - LWSD	92.4%	92.7%	See EOC chart	See EOC chart	95.2%	93.7%	See EOC chart	See EOC chart
10th - State	81.3%	83.6%	See EOC chart	See EOC chart	85.4%	85.0%	See EOC chart	See EOC chart

*Subject not tested at this grade.

End-Of-Course (EOC) Exams

EOC*	Math 1		Math 2		Biology	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
LWSD	70.1%	65.7%	82.7%	87.6%	81.3%	86.1%
State	56.6%	53.1%	70.4%	76.5%	64.3%	68.6%

*EOC exams are given in any grade in which the course is offered.

Graduation Rates

On-time graduation rate (Class of 2012): 91.9%
 Extended graduation rate (Class of 2011): 92.9%



Photo by: David Paisley

SAT Scores

Lake Washington School District students scored on average five points higher on the SAT reading test and six points higher on the SAT writing test from the previous year, contrary to state and national trends. State average scores fell in both reading and writing, while national scores were flat in both reading and writing. District scores in math averaged five points lower than in 2012, when scores took a nine point leap over the previous year. Washington state scores also dipped in math, by seven points over 2012 scores, while the national average stayed the same.

SAT Scores	Critical Reading		Mathematics		Writing	
	2012	2013	2012	2013	2012	2013
LWSD	560	565	581	576	554	560
State	519	515	530	523	503	499
National	496	496	514	514	488	488

ACT Scores

Lake Washington School District students' average composite score on the ACT remained the same at 25.5 from 2012 to 2013. Both state and national composite scores fell in 2013. State composite scores dipped from 22.9 in 2012 to 22.8 in 2013. The national average dropped from 21.1 to 20.9.

ACT Scores	2012	2013
LWSD	25.5	25.5
State	22.9	22.8
National	21.1	20.9

2012-13 Financial Report

The 2012-13 financial report for Lake Washington School District reflects sound financial management and stewardship of public funds. For this fiscal year, there were no major increases in revenue or expense, either from the budget or from past years. Some smaller changes are listed in this report.

This sound financial report was achieved in a year that was very eventful. The district opened the school year in a new grade configuration. The new configuration features grades K-5 in elementary schools, 6-8 in middle school and 9-12 in high schools. Some one-time expenditures were built into the budget. These items helped ease that transition for students and families.

General Fund

The main story for the financial report is the general fund. Revenue for 2012-13 was higher than budgeted. A significant reason for greater revenue was an increase in enrollment. There were 281 more students in LWSU schools in October 2012 than at the same time in the previous year. That increase in students generated more funding from the state.

Other major differences in revenue include:

- \$835,000 more in grants/donations and self-supporting programs;
- \$439,000 more in funding for students with high learning needs

The Lake Washington Schools Foundation has been an excellent partner in helping secure the additional grant funding. For example, the Foundation was instrumental in securing a \$225,000 grant from Waste Management. These funds will help establish Signature Programs in science, technology, engineering and math. Other major donations include:

- \$180,000 from The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation for programs at the STEM School
- \$71,795 for the LINKS volunteer program from Lake Washington Schools Foundation



More students = more expenses

Expenditures also increased as student numbers rose. There were some savings as well. Major differences include:

- \$1.0 million more spent on special education services, including transportation.
- \$1.4 million more spent on the new K-5 literacy curriculum adoption. (Funds from both 12-13 and 13-14 were spent in 2012-13 for this major curriculum introduced to students in the fall of 2013.)
- \$393,000 saved on utilities as a result of energy conservation efforts.

The bottom line

Expenditures were slightly higher than revenues, by \$450,000 or about one fifth of one percent of the budget. The ending fund balance was \$22.2 million. That fund balance represents 9.5% of revenue, more than the 5% required by board policy. The board of directors had approved spending some of the fund balance, which has been growing in recent years with careful financial management.

Careful Accounting

The district carefully tracks all revenue and expenses. All state and federal regulations are followed. Processes are in place to ensure that restricted funds are used only for the intended purposes. As a result, the district had no findings on either the [Accountability Audit Report](#) or the [Financial Statements and Federal Single Audit Report](#). Both are available from the Washington State Auditor's Office.



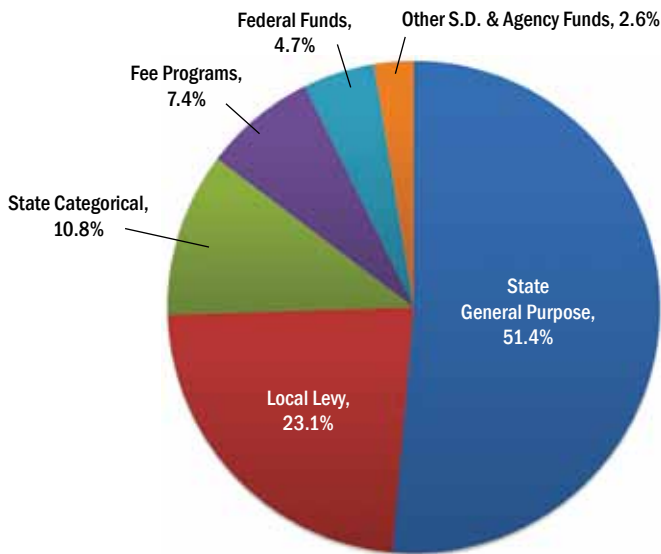
Where the money goes

The two pie charts show where the district's funding comes from and where it generally goes.

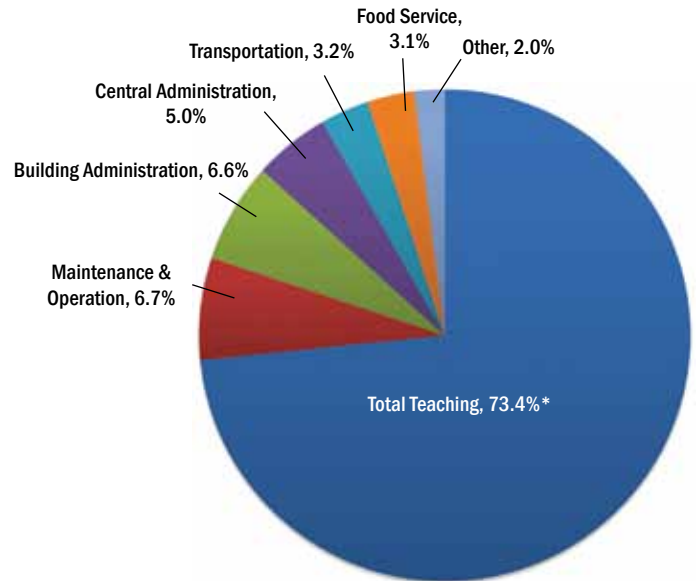
Where the money is spent reflects an organization's philosophy and priorities. In Lake Washington School District's case, a comparison with similar school districts shows that spending money on teaching is a high priority. Among large school districts in Washington, those with 20,000 or more students, LWSD spent the most on teaching as a percent of its budget, at 62.2%. Among suburban school districts on the east side of Seattle, only Northshore spent a higher percent of its budget on teaching, at 62.5%. Conversely, Lake Washington was among districts spending the least on central administration.



Revenues 2012-13 (Where the money comes from)



Expenditures 2012-13 (Where the money goes)



*Total Teaching = Teaching and Teaching Support

All Funds 2012-13	Beginning Fund Balance	Revenues	Expenditures	Ending Fund Balance
General	\$22,671,087	\$233,110,479	\$233,561,591	\$22,219,975
ASB	\$807,446	\$2,952,294	\$2,753,963	\$1,005,777
Debt	\$7,900,619	\$42,106,103	\$37,235,424	\$12,771,298
Capital	\$146,390,588	\$37,921,360	\$135,013,490	\$49,298,458
Transportation Vehicle Fund	\$2,007,049	\$859,152	\$645,061	\$2,221,140

Safe and Efficient Transportation

The Office for the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) released [transportation efficiency ratings](#) for school districts around the state. School district transportation operations were evaluated for efficiency using a statistical process. Among the data included in the analysis is the number of students transported between home and school and the location of each school bus stop and related destinations.

The Lake Washington School District's rating was 100 percent.



To ensure efficiency, the department employs the most widely-used specialized school bus routing software, Versatrans. All transportation office staff are fully trained in its use and receive updated training periodically. Transportation staff members attend quarterly meetings to share best practices with transportation staff from other school districts in the area that use the same software.

The transportation department also works hard to ensure that the buses used to transport students are safe and in good condition. On Wednesday, December 4, 2012, the Washington State Patrol (WSP) appeared at the Lake Washington bus yard for its annual surprise school bus inspection. The WSP inspection team randomly selected 36 buses and found no out of service defects.



Keeping up buildings

In 2012-2013, the district's facilities department issued and accomplished 7,250 preventive maintenance (PM) work requests. These types of requests are pro-active. They extend the useful life of varying building and site equipment. They also reduce unexpected or premature equipment failure.

Keeping the promise of modernized facilities

In 2006, Lake Washington School District's voters authorized a bond measure that provided funding to modernize 10 school buildings in the district. In the fall of 2012, several schools funded through that measure reopened in new, modern buildings. **Helen Keller Elementary** (Kirkland), **John Muir Elementary** (Kirkland) and **Sandburg Elementary/Discovery Community School** (Kirkland) all opened on time and on budget in the fall of 2012. **Rush Elementary** (Redmond) opened in January 2013.



In each case, a study of costs showed that renovating a building would be 90% or more of the cost of completely rebuilding the same school. In some cases, renovation was actually the more expensive option than building new.

Thanks to a 2011 capital projects levy, additional high school space was added to help district schools accommodate another grade (ninth) in the high schools. **Redmond and Eastlake High Schools** opened in the fall with additions. The new **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) High School** (Redmond) started the year in classrooms at Eastlake High. The school moved into their own building in January.

In addition, two of the district's choice middle schools, **Renaissance School of Art and Reasoning** (Sammamish) and **Northstar Middle School** (Kirkland) moved to new locations in fall 2012. Renaissance had been housed inside Eastlake High School. Renaissance moved to its own set of portable modular buildings on the Eastlake campus. Northstar Middle School had been housed at **Lake Washington High School** (Kirkland). Northstar moved to its own set of portable modular buildings on the **Emerson High School** (Kirkland) campus.

Awards & Achievements

International Community School (Kirkland) was ranked number 22 out of the top 100 high schools in the nation in U.S. News and World Report magazine's America's Best High School ratings, and was ranked number two in Washington state. It was given a gold medal ranking. **Eastlake High School** and **Lake Washington High School** both achieved silver medal rankings and ranked 28 and 26 in the state (respectively).



The **LWSD transportation department** scored a 100 percent efficiency rating from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). School district transportation operations were evaluated for efficiency using a statistical process. Among the data included in the analysis is the number of students transported between home and school and the location of each school bus stop and related destinations.

Lake Washington School District (LWSD) has been recognized as one of King County's "Best Workplaces for Waste Prevention and Recycling" for the fifth consecutive year. The district was recognized for efforts to implement and expand recycling and waste reduction programs. As of this past year, composting programs have been introduced to all but five schools. **Finn Hill Middle School** (Kirkland) has made the switch from Styrofoam food trays to compostable ones and yard waste from every school is now composted. Every classroom, office and cubicle in the district is now equipped with a recycling bin and all surplus electronics are either donated or sent back to the manufacturer to be recycled. Students play a huge role in the waste prevention efforts, including many environmental clubs or "green teams" that encourage efforts among students.



Twenty-five LWSD teachers achieved National Board Certification in December 2012. LWSD ranked 21st in the nation for the number of new National Board Certified Teachers, and Washington state ranked fourth overall in the nation for the total number of National Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs).



Four schools in LWSD were named "Schools of Distinction" by the Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE): **Explorer Community School**, **Kirkland Middle School**, **Redmond Elementary** and **Smith Elementary**. Ninety-seven schools state-wide were given this award for showing a five-year improvement trend on the state's Reading/Math index test scores for students.

Julie Hembree, the librarian at **A.G. Bell Elementary** (Kirkland), was named the runner-up in the area of Collaboration in Microsoft's Partners in Learning U.S. Forum. She is one of 16 educators around the country who have been selected as winners of the forum. The annual event recognizes innovative teachers and school leaders who creatively and effectively use technology in their curriculum to help improve the way kids learn and to increase student success.



Twenty LWSD schools were recognized with 2012 Washington Achievement Awards from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the State Board of Education (SBE). These schools included: **Audubon Elementary** (Redmond), **Blackwell Elementary** (Sammamish), **Carson Elementary** (Sammamish), **Discovery Community School** (Kirkland), **Eastlake High School** (Sammamish), **Environmental & Adventure School** (Kirkland), **Explorer Community School** (Redmond), **International Community School** (Kirkland), **Juanita Elementary** (Kirkland), **Juanita High School** (Kirkland), **Kirk Elementary** (Kirkland), **Kirkland Middle School** (Kirkland), **Lake Washington High School** (Kirkland), **Mann Elementary** (Redmond), **McAuliffe Elementary** (Sammamish), **Northstar Middle School** (Kirkland), **Rockwell Elementary** (Redmond), **Rosa Parks Elementary** (Redmond), **Rush Elementary** (Redmond) and **Wilder Elementary** (Woodinville).



LWSD Annual Report

Lake Washington School District 2012-2013 Annual Report

This annual report from Lake Washington School District summarizes highlights from the 2012-2013 school year. For budget reasons, we've chosen to spend less money on printing and distributing our annual report. If you do not have Internet access or would prefer a printed copy of the Lake Washington School District Annual Report, please contact the communications department at (425) 936-1300.

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