



Mercer Island School District

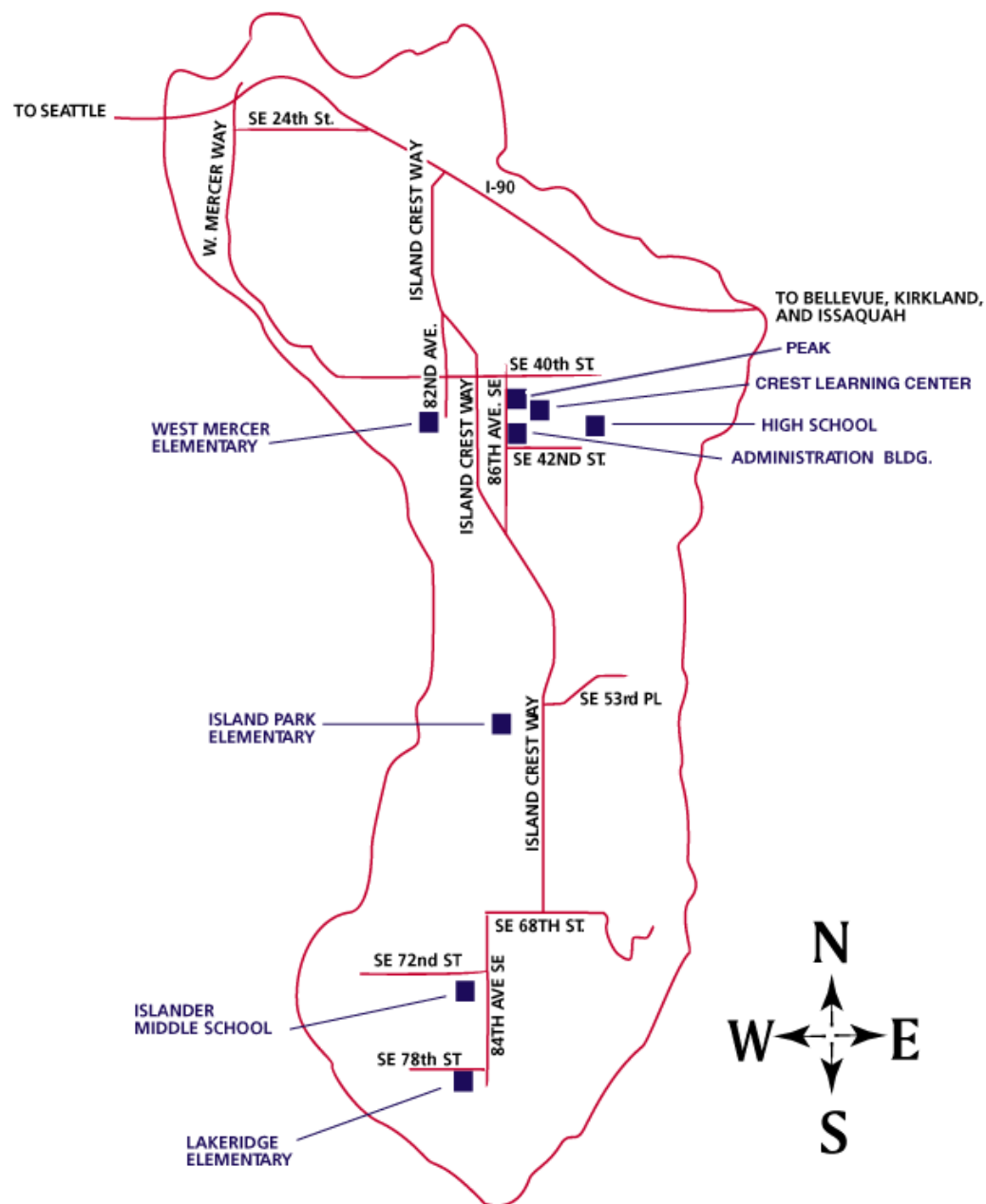
About this district

The Mercer Island School District is made up of one high school, one middle school, three elementary schools and an alternative program. The district is located on Mercer Island, a 13-square mile suburban community of nearly 24,000 residents in the middle of Lake Washington. It is within a 10-minute drive of both Seattle and Bellevue, accessed by Interstate 90.

The district has a K-12 student population of approximately 4,300 and enjoys a wide-spread reputation for quality and excellence, combining academics, cultural expression and athletic achievement. This tradition of excellence is the most significant factor for many families that make Mercer Island their home. Achievement test scores at the elementary, middle, and high school levels are consistently the highest in the state. The district maintains a graduation rate of more than 96 percent.

The district employs a teaching and support staff of nearly 500 and has an annual operating budget of approximately \$43.4 million. The Mercer Island Schools Foundation, in partnership with the schools' PTAs, contributes more than \$2.4 million to maintain teaching positions and instructional support in light of statewide reductions in funding.

The district invites all members of the community to participate in school activities and to help in measuring impact in the community.



On behalf of the Mercer Island School District Board of Directors, our teachers and staff, and our more than 4,300 students, I am pleased to present the Mercer Island School District Annual Report for the 2012-13 academic year.

It is our mission to ensure our students will have the skills to thrive in a cognitive, global and digital world. As economic boundaries shift and our students advance to institutions of higher education and careers where they will face global competition, our role in preparing them for that future grows both more challenging and more essential.

Viewed through the lens of our school district mission, I continue to be amazed and impressed by the accomplishments of our students and staff. Our teachers and other support staff do an incredible job in an era of reduced funding and higher expectations.

I would like to express our appreciation to many of you who have helped to provide additional resources in the wake of the K-12 education funding reductions from the Washington State Legislature. In the 2012-13 year, the **Mercer Island Schools Foundation and community partners contributed nearly \$1.85 million and the PTAs contributed another \$575,000.** Their financial support has been critical to our students' success as funding from the state has remained below expectations.

In 2012 the Washington State Supreme Court ruled that Washington state is not amply funding basic education under the state Constitution. The legislature was widely credited with making a \$1 billion down payment on a \$4 billion promise, but **a review of that state funding demonstrates that the 'down payment' was really closer to \$151 million** when basic education reductions and budget restorations (backfilling promised funds that were not delivered over

the past half-decade) are factored in. As a result, the burden of funding our schools has rested on the shoulders of this community.

In addition to funding the operational budget for 2012-13, the past year was focused on an extensive and intensive stakeholders' discussion around the district facilities needed for our current and projected student populations. The district conducted a number of community outreach efforts, including: three research-based telephone surveys; an in-depth educational specifications process; listening sessions in May, June and August; invited citizen comment by email and through social media; and conducted a traffic impact analysis in neighborhoods around new and improved district facilities.

As the end of 2012-13 year approached the school board was poised to unanimously support a bond proposition to fund three overcrowding solutions, which they did the following month.

Even though we marched through another year of challenges and opportunities, our district maintained its standing as one of the highest performing public school systems in Washington state. Thank you to each and every one of you for making that possible.



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Gary Plano". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Dr. Gary Plano
Superintendent

Vision and mission

About this document

As a public school district, Mercer Island School District is accountable to its students, parents, community members and local, state and federal taxpayers. This document, required by state law, is intended to highlight important work and achievements, financial details and district demographics during the 2012-13 academic year.

Vision

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

Mission

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



“As economic boundaries shift and our students advance to institutions of higher education and careers where they will face global competition, our role of preparing them for that future grows both more challenging and more essential.”

Dr. Gary Plano, Superintendent

2012-13 Board of Directors

The five members of the Mercer Island School District Board of Directors are elected to four-year terms by Mercer Island voters.

Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to: planning and goal setting; employing and evaluating the superintendent; setting district policy; adopting an annual operating budget; making decisions about placing levies and bonds before voters; approving the instructional program; and ratifying contracts negotiated with the local bargaining unit.

Janet Frohnmayer, 2011-15 term

President

janet.frohnmayer@mercerislandschools.org

Pat Braman, 2011-15 term

pat.braman@mercerislandschools.org

Dave Myerson, 2013-17 term

dave.myerson@mercerislandschools.org

Brian Emanuels, 2011-15 term

Vice President

brian.emanuels@mercerislandschools.org

Adair Dingle, 2013-17 term

adair.dingle@mercerislandschools.org

Dr. Gary Plano, appointed 2008

Superintendent

gary.plano@mercerislandschools.org

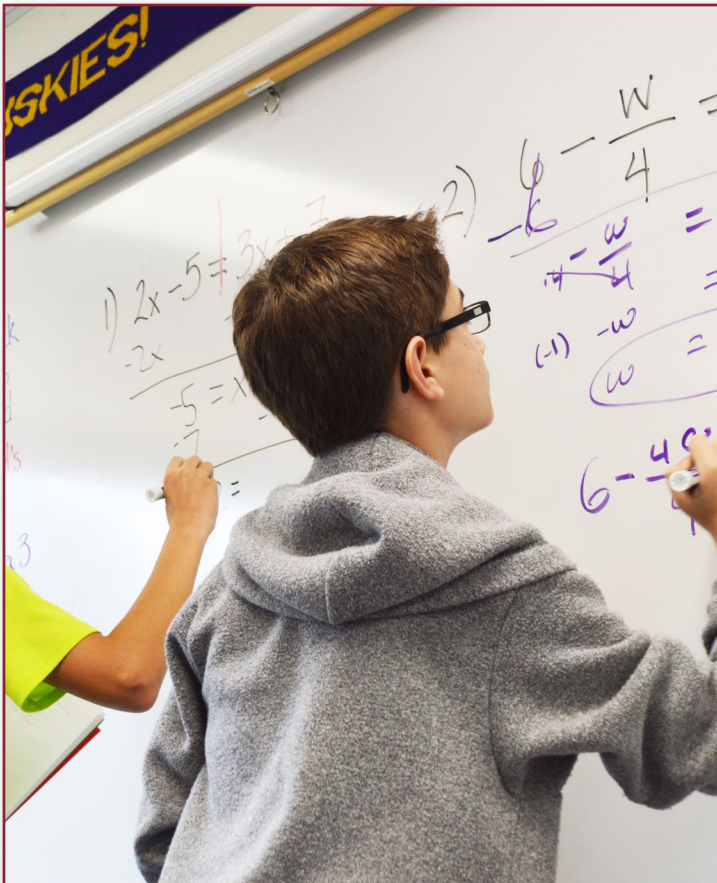


Financial overview

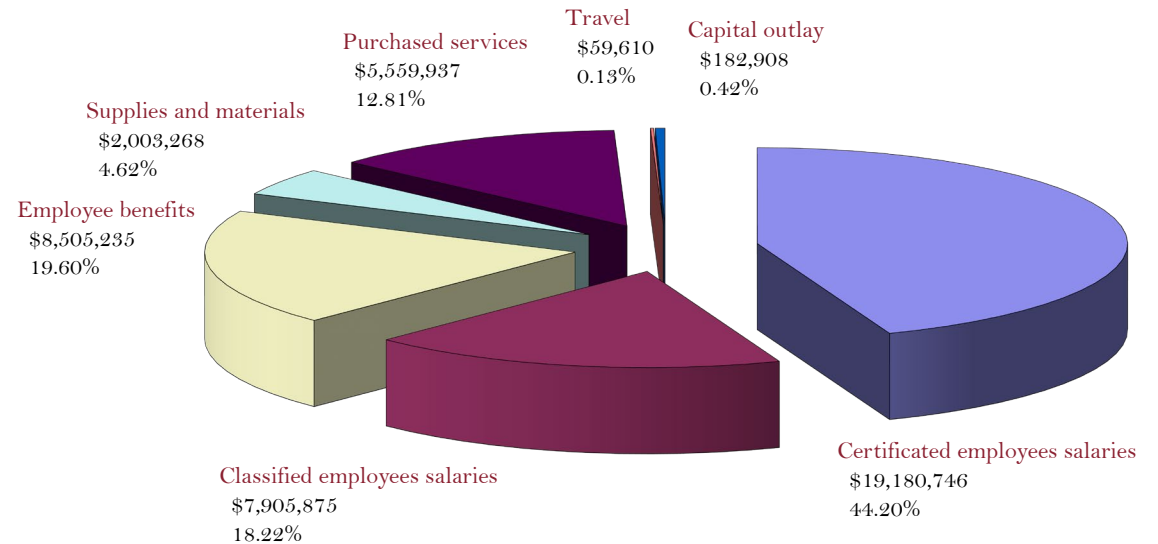
During the 2012-13 academic year, the Mercer Island School District had approximately \$43.4 million in expenditures, including salaries, benefits, supplies and materials, services, travel and capital outlay.

The district spent a total of \$10,125 per student, including local, state and federal funding and grants.

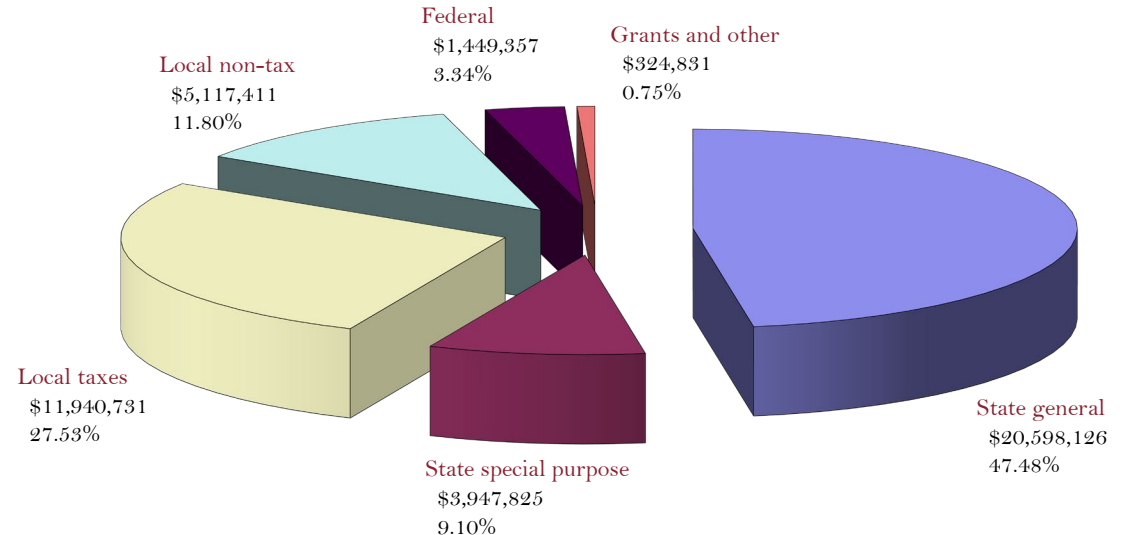
The state portion of that funding was about \$5,725.



Total expenditures



Total revenue



Enrollment

Enrollment is reported on a monthly basis, with the first official figures available each October.

May 2013 enrollment 4,285

Demographics

American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.3%
Asian/Pacific Islander	18.8%
Black/African American	1.2%
Hispanic/Latino	3.6%
White	71.5%
Two or more races	4.6%

Special programs

Free or reduced-price meals	4.0%
Special education	10.6%
Transitional bilingual	2.4%

Attendance

The 2012-13 district unexcused absence rate was 0.8 percent.



Individual school enrollment

Island Park Elementary	563
Lakeridge Elementary	600
West Mercer Elementary	675
Islander Middle School	1,035
Mercer Island High School and Crest Learning Center	1,412

Continued outstanding academic achievement

On Nov. 25, 2013, Washington State Superintendent of Public Instruction Randy Dorn released the results of the grades 3-8 Measurements of Student Progress, the High School Proficiency Exam and the End-of-Course standardized testing in mathematics and biology for the 2012-13 academic year. Mercer Island School District students continue to outscore the state average and their peers across the state.

“Not only are Mercer Island students exceeding their peers locally and statewide in standardized testing, but also during the 2012-13 year we had an exemplary graduation rate of 96.3 percent.”

Jennifer Wright, Executive Director of Learning and Technology Services



2012-13 Measurements of Student Progress				
	Reading	Math	Writing	Science
Grade 3	<u>95.0%</u>	<u>89.4%</u>		
WA State	73.1%	65.3%		
Grade 4	<u>89.1%</u>	<u>85.5%</u>	<u>88.2%</u>	
WA State	72.5%	62.5%	62.2%	
Grade 5	<u>89.0%</u>	<u>83.6%</u>		<u>88.8%</u>
WA State	72.7%	62.7%		66.6%
Grade 6	<u>90.5%</u>	<u>90.3%</u>		
WA State	71.5%	59.4%		
Grade 7	<u>90.0%</u>	<u>88.8%</u>	<u>94.3%</u>	
WA State	68.8%	63.8%	71.1%	
Grade 8	<u>82.6%</u>	<u>84.0%</u>		<u>88.3%</u>
WA State	66.4%	53.3%		64.9%

2012-13 End-of-Course		
	EOC Math Year One	EOC Math Year Two
Mercer Island	<u>86.9%</u>	<u>99.3%</u>
WA State	53.1%	76.5%
	EOC Biology	
Mercer Island	<u>88.7%</u>	
WA State	68.6%	

2012-13 High School Proficiency Exam		
	Reading	Writing
Grade 10	<u>90.4%</u>	<u>92.2%</u>
WA State	83.6%	85.0%

Graduation rate

The Mercer Island School District boasts a graduation rate of **96.3 percent**. The remaining 3.7 percent includes students who have dropped out of school or moved away from Mercer Island schools and the district has been unable to verify enrollment at their next institution.

Graduation rate

Washington state schools	78.9%
Mercer Island School District	96.3%
Bellevue School District	92.8%
Lake Washington School District	92.9%
Northshore School District	91.6%
Issaquah School District	93.3%



Mercer Island college placements

After graduating, the students of the Mercer Island High School class of 2013 headed to many institutions of higher education, including:

Amherst College, Arizona State Univ., Bard College, Barnard College, Bates College, Baylor Univ., Bellevue College, Belmont Univ., Beloit College, Bentley Univ., Berklee College of Music, Birmingham-Southern Univ., Boston College, Boston Conservatory, Boston University, Brigham Young Univ., California College of the Arts, California Lutheran Univ., California Maritime Academy, California Polytechnic State Univ., Carleton College, Carroll College, Case Western Reserve Univ., Central Washington Univ., Centre College, Chapman Univ., Claremont McKenna College, Colby College, Colgate Univ., Colorado Christian Univ., Colorado School of Mines, Corban Univ., Cornell Univ., Dartmouth College, Drexel Univ., Duke Univ., Eastern Washington Univ., Eastman School of Music, Eckerd College, Embry-Riddle Univ., Grinnell College, Haverford College, Indiana Univ., Johns Hopkins Univ., Kenyon College, Lawrence Univ., Lewis & Clark College, Loyola Marymount Univ., Loyola Univ., Macalester College, Marquette Univ., Maryland Institute College of Art, Massachusetts Institute of Tech., McGill Univ., Miami Univ. of Ohio, Middlebury College, Montana State Univ., Mount Holyoke College, Mount Olive College, New England College, New York Univ., Northeastern Univ., Northern Arizona Univ., Northwestern Univ., Oberlin College, Ohio State Univ., Oregon State Univ., Pacific Lutheran Univ., Pitzer College, Pomona College, Purdue Univ., Quest Univ., Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst., Rhode Island School of Design, Rice Univ., Rochester Institute of Tech., Rollins College, Rutgers Univ., Santa Clara Univ., Sarah Lawrence College, Seattle Pacific Univ., Seattle Univ., Southern Methodist Univ., Saint Mary's College, Stanford Univ., Stony Brook Univ., Texas Christian Univ., Tufts Univ., Pacific Univ., Univ. of Tulsa, Univ. of Alabama, Univ. of Arizona, Univ. of British Columbia, Univ. of California, Berkeley, Univ. of California, Davis, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara, Univ. of Central Florida, Univ. of Chicago, Univ. of Colorado Boulder, Univ. of Denver, Univ. of Hawaii, Univ. of Idaho, Univ. of Mississippi, Univ. of Missouri, Univ. of Notre Dame, Univ. of Oregon, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Univ. of Pittsburgh, Univ. of Portland, Univ. of Puget Sound, Univ. of Redlands, Univ. of Rochester, Univ. of San Diego, Univ. of Southern California, Univ. of Utah, Univ. of Vermont, Univ. of Victoria, Univ. of Washington, Univ. of Wisconsin, Ursinus College, Vancouver Film School, Washington State Univ., Wesleyan Univ., Western Michigan Univ., Western Washington Univ., Westminster College, Wheaton College, Whitman College, Whittier College, Willamette Univ., Wingate Univ.

Making our schools stronger through community feedback

Every year during the spring, each Mercer Island School District school participates in the Education Effectiveness Survey to help measure how it performs relative to the nine characteristics that lead to effective schools. These characteristics, as measured using parent, student and teacher input are: a clear and shared focus; high standards and expectations for all students; effective school leadership; high levels of collaboration and communication; curriculum, instruction and assessments aligned with state standards; frequent monitoring of learning and teaching; focused professional development; a supportive learning environment; and high levels of parent and community involvement. In surveys over the past five years, the district has continually improved in almost every measured category. To learn more, please visit www.MercerIslandSchools.org and review Ends Monitoring under the School Board section of the website.

School improvement plans

Each district school completes annual school improvement plans. While each school has different specific targets, goals include increases in feedback scores in targeted areas on the Education Effectiveness Survey and higher scores in the state Measurements of Student Progress. To learn more, please visit www.MercerIslandSchools.org and review School Improvement Plans under the About Us section of the website.



Notice of nondiscrimination & prohibition of harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB)

The district shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, religion, age, veteran or military status, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability or non-program-related physical, sensory or mental disabilities. District programs and activities shall be free from sexual harassment and unlawful discrimination. In addition, the District provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. The district is committed to a safe and civil educational environment for all students, employees, parents/legal guardians, volunteers, and patrons that is free from harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

HIB Coordinator:

Dr. Gary Plano
Superintendent
206-236-3300

Title IX Compliance Coordinator:

Dean Mack
Chief Finance/Operations Officer
206-236-4522

Section 504 and ADA Coordinator:

Lindsay Myatich
Assistant Director of Learning Services
206-236-3326

Affirmative Action and Civil Rights Coordinator:

Mark Roschy
Director of Human Resources
206-236-3439

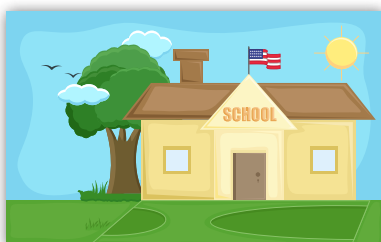


Two Blue Ribbon Schools: Mercer Island High School (2006) and Islander Middle School (2003) have been designated Blue Ribbon Schools by the U.S. Department of Education.

High graduation percentage: A Manhattan Institute study ranked Mercer Island High School number one nationally for the percentage of students who graduate on time.



Achievement in testing: District schools have received the Washington School Achievement award for high performance on state assessments.



Outperforming district: Council of Chief State School Officers and Standard & Poors have identified Mercer Island as an Outperforming District.



Nationally recognized: *Forbes* magazine ranks the Mercer Island School District among America's 25 best school districts for your housing dollar and among the top 10 districts in small cities across the country.





2012-13 ANNUAL REPORT

Mercer Island School District

4160 86th Ave SE

Mercer Island, WA 98040-4121

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ECRWSS

Residential Customer



Contact your school

District Administration

Superintendent: Dr. Gary Plano
(206) 236-3300

Mercer Island High School and Crest Learning Center

Principal: Vicki Puckett
(206) 236-3350

Islander Middle School

Co-principal: Mary Jo Budzius
(206) 230-6161
Co-principal: Aaron Miller
(206) 236-3407

Island Park Elementary

Principal: David Hoffman
(206) 230-6280

Lakeridge Elementary

Principal: Andy LaBadie
(206) 236-3418

West Mercer Elementary

Principal: Rich Mellish
(206) 236-3433