



Mercer Island School District

**Balancing the academic, intellectual
and personal needs of each and
every student.**

Simply 
Exceptional

Annual Report 2006-2007

Compiled in January 2008

Simply Exceptional



Mercer Island School District 2006-2007

- **Outperforming district:** Council of Chief State School Officers and Standard & Poors has identified Mercer Island as an “Outperforming District” for performing at a level that significantly exceeds statistical expectations.
- **High graduate percentage:** Manhattan Institute study ranked Mercer Island High School #1 nationally for the percentage of students who graduate ‘on time.’ 94.9% of students who enter the ninth grade at MIHS graduate in four years. Seattle area schools: 73%; WA state schools: 66%.
- **Best at college preparation:** The Seattle Times School Guide rated MIHS the #1 public high school in Washington for quality of college preparation for students.
- **High college attendance:** 94% of MIHS graduates go on to colleges and universities.
- **Chess State championships:** MIHS Chess Team, West Mercer Chess Team.
- **Scholastic Awards:** MIHS Wind Ensemble was selected as the WIAA 3A Washington State Academic Champions for 2006-2007 for having the highest average GPA. MIHS was awarded the 3A WIAA Scholastic Cup in 2006.
- **DECA state and national championships:** The MIHS DECA Team has, over the past 10 years, consistently sent approximately 30 students to state and 12-15 to national level competitions.
- **Drama awards:** Mercer Island High School’s 2006-2007 production of “Anyone Can Whistle” received 5 nominations from Seattle’s Fifth Avenue Theatre High School Musical Theatre Awards program.
- **2 Blue Ribbon Schools:** Mercer Island High School (2006) and Islander Middle School (2003) have been designated “Blue Ribbon Schools” by the US Department of Education.
- **Sports State Champions:** MIHS Boys’ Waterpolo, Boys’ Tennis, Boys’ Swim.

Table of Contents

Superintendent’s Message.....	Page 1
Highlights of 2006-2007	Page 2
School Board.....	Page 2
Student ENDS Policies	Page 3
Student ENDS Instructional Improvement Planning.....	Page 3
District Information	Page 4
Assessment.....	Page 5-6
Elementary Schools	Page 7-9

Island Park Elementary	Page 8
Lakeridge Elementary	Page 8
West Mercer Elementary	Page 9
Islander Middle School	Page 10
Mercer Island High School ..	Page 11-12
Student Services.....	Page 13
Grants & Commendations.....	Page 13
Giving to Our Schools	Page 13
District Financials	Page 14
(ESEA) No Child Left Behind..	Page 14
Nondiscrimination Statement....	Page 14
District Contact Information	Back

Superintendent’s Message

We are
very
pleased

to present the
Mercer Island
School District’s
Annual Report
for 2006-2007.



In these pages you will read that our students continue to perform extremely well on state tests and college examinations. This data and the outstanding success of our graduating seniors is a powerful measurement of the level of excellence in education in our district. But we know that our true measure of success is in how well we balance the academic, intellectual and personal needs of each and every student. We are immensely grateful to our School Board and to Dr. Cyndy Simms, our outgoing superintendent, for their leadership and commitment to the Student ENDS in Academic Achievement and Citizenship and Personal Development. I would also like to acknowledge the work of our teachers in implementing the district’s instructional vision of Building Powerful Learning Communities.

Finally, no where is the statement, “it takes a community to educate a child” more evident than on Mercer Island. From our amazing teachers, administrators, support staff, parents and volunteers, to the powerful network of our hard-working PTA’s and the tremendous fund-raising success of the Mercer Island Schools Foundation, our students succeed because of the partnerships we enjoy with you, our community. Thank you.

Dr. Gary Plano
Interim Superintendent

Student *ENDS* Exceptional Work

Highlights of 2006-2007

- Aggregate scores on the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) positioned our students first statewide in all areas tested: 86% of 4th graders, 82% of 7th graders, and 89.5% of 10th graders met all three standards in writing, math and reading. In science, Mercer Island schools had the highest percentage of students at standard – 5th grade 78.5%, 8th grade 84.8%, 10th grade 81.3%.
- Among the 349 graduating seniors in the class of 2007 at Mercer Island High School, 15 are National Merit Finalists, 13 are National Merit Commended Scholars and 21 are Washington State Principals Scholars. 154 students received the Presidents Award for Educational Excellence.
- New courses were added to the middle and high school: 7th Grade Washington State History, 8th Grade US History, 11th Grade AP US History, 12th Grade Revised Humanities Course, AP Psychology, Honors Algebra I at IMS, Honors Geometry I, Honors Algebra II, Honors Pre-Calculus.
- Our district partnered with the Boys and Girls Club to create a new facility for island youth: PEAK.
- Our district partnered with Mercer Island Youth and Family Services to launch Communities That Care, an initiative to educate students and families about the dangers of underage drinking.
- The Mercer Island Schools Foundation celebrated 25 years of supporting excellence in education. In 2006-2007 the MISF contributed \$673,034 to our schools.
- MISD offers over 20 Professional Learning Communities for staff. Some of these include: Working with All

Kinds of Minds, Curriculum integration using Interactive Whiteboards, Creating Writers Through Six-Trait Writing Assessment.

- 14 teachers have earned their National Board Certification.
- MISD launched Finer Foods month and a district-wide program for healthier food choices in schools.
- Mercer Island High School launched the Culminating Project, a graduation requirement for the class of 2008.



Exceptional Dedication

2006-2007 School Board

Pat Braman

Director District #1
Term of Office 2007-2011
Pat_Braman@misd.wednet.edu

Adair Dingle

Director District #4
Term of Office 2005-2009
Adair_Dingle@misd.wednet.edu

Lisa Strauch Eggers

Director District #3
Term of Office 2007-2011
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John DeVleming

Director District #2
Term of Office 2005-2009
John_DeVleming@misd.wednet.edu

Leslie Ferrell

Director District #5
Term of Office 2003-2007
(term expired November 2007)

Janet Frohnmayr

Director District #5
Term of Office 2007-2011
(elected in November 2007)
Janet_Frohnmayr@misd.wednet.edu



Current School Board Members 2007-2008

From left to right: Adair Dingle, Lisa Strauch Eggers, Pat Braman, Janet Frohnmayr, John DeVleming

Student *ENDS* *Exceptional Focus*—

The Mercer Island School District is governed by Student Ends policies which present a comprehensive Mission Statement and describe the knowledge and skills students will have when they graduate from the Mercer Island School District. For a list of detailed goals under each End, please refer to the district web site at www.misd.k12.wa.us

E-1: Mission

Mercer Island School District, in partnership with the community, commits to providing that all students will:

- Be prepared to thrive in life;
- Progress academically, intellectually and personally;
- Graduate prepared to compete and succeed in post-secondary education and work; and
- Be inspired to contribute to society.



E-2: Academic Achievement

Students are critical and creative thinkers, able to integrate and apply their knowledge, skills and interests.

E-3: Personal Development and Citizenship

Recognizing that these skills are developed through the partnership among school, family and community, all students will practice behaviors that exhibit good character, self-awareness, responsible decision-making and citizenship.

Instructional Improvement Planning to Support Student *ENDS*

2006-2007 Results

Instruction in the Mercer Island School District is based on academic standards that meet or exceed state and nationally-recognized model standards

- The K-5 Standards-Based Reporting System was completed in December 2007.
- Student performance on the WASL, SAT, PSAT, ACT and the number of National Merit Semi-finalists suggest that instruction in MISD classrooms K-12 meets or exceeds state and nationally-recognized standards.
- We implemented a plan to award clock hours to staff for attending classes that help staff base instruction on academic standards that meet or exceed state and nationally-recognized standards.

We are working towards aligning our curriculum with standards

- Social Studies: A new K-12 social studies scope and sequence of courses was developed.
- Science: Teachers developed curriculum to address gaps in the K-12 science program.
- Math: Elementary and middle school teachers developed “compacted curriculum” for students in accelerated math classes.
- Health/Fitness: A Task Force was launched at IMS to study curriculum issues for state health targets.
- Fine Arts: Middle and high school fine arts teachers aligned curriculum to meet and exceed state learning targets.
- Career, Technology and Education (CTE): staff aligned state leadership standards for all CTE programs.

We are committed to effective measurement of each student’s progress toward achieving or exceeding the standards

- Training in data collection: Autism consultants trained 4 special education teachers and 12 paraprofessionals to design and use individualized data collection methods to guide instruction based on individual student needs. (Preschool-12).
- WASL training: 4th grade teachers were trained on anchor papers from the 4th grade writing WASL.
- District Writing Assessment: Two teachers from each elementary school and three from each secondary school developed a grade 3-9 writing assessment that was piloted in June 2007.

We provide support to all students in meeting or exceeding district and state standards

- Learning Assistance and Title 1: LAP and Title instructors evaluated and recommended appropriate changes to Student Learning Plans.
- Summer School: Offered in 2007 to help students meet standards.
- Learning Support: A model program was developed to meet the needs of struggling learners in our elementary schools.
- Academically Gifted Program: A planning team developed a program for middle school students to complement the grade 3-5 program at West Mercer.
- Autism Spectrum program: Consultants and staff refined the service-delivery model and trained middle school teachers and staff.

We support Citizenship and Personal Development in students

- All schools continued to refine programs in place.



Photo courtesy of Ellis Reyes

Our District

The Mercer Island School District is located on Mercer Island, a six square mile suburban community of 22,000 residents in the middle of Lake Washington, within a 10 minute drive to Seattle and Bellevue. The school district is one of 35 King and Pierce County school districts affiliated with Puget Sound Educational Service District, a regional support educational agency.

The community has high academic expectations for the school district and has supported its maintenance and operations levy every year, as well as \$54 million in capital bonds to renovate all five schools. In February 2004, the community voted to renew funding for facilities maintenance and technology through 2008.

Mercer Island students and teachers benefit from over \$1 million in annual donations to the PTA/PTSA's and the Mercer Island Schools Foundation, as well as the time and energy of countless volunteers serving on committees, planning fund-raising programs, coordinating field trips and assemblies, serving as art docents, general classroom volunteers, and many more activities.

Community, board members, and staff are committed to excellence in education for all students in the district and encourage thoughtful, articulated curriculum planning and enrichment activities that will prepare students.



MISD Vision

We believe in powerful learning communities – students in the classroom, teachers in professional practice.



2006-2007 District Demographics

(as of October 2006)

Enrollment

Total enrollment	4,065
Kindergarten	248
Grade 1	283
Grade 2	227
Grade 3	290
Grade 4	275
Grade 5	306
Grade 6	353
Grade 7	304
Grade 8	343
Grade 9	343
Grade 10	346
Grade 11	379
Grade 12	351
Running Start	17

Student Ethnicity

Black	1.0%
Asian	18.7%
American Indian	0.4%
Hispanic	1.9%
White	78.0%

Special Programs

Special education	9.6%
ELL	1.6%
Free or reduced lunch	1.9%

Staff

Certified

MIHS	91
IMS	62
Island Park	35
Lakeridge	40
West Mercer	44
Total teaching staff	266

Average years of experience:
12.2 years

72.2% of our certificated staff members hold Master's Degrees, 5 administrators and faculty members have a Ph.D, and 14 are National Board Certified.

Student *ENDS* *Exceptional Results*

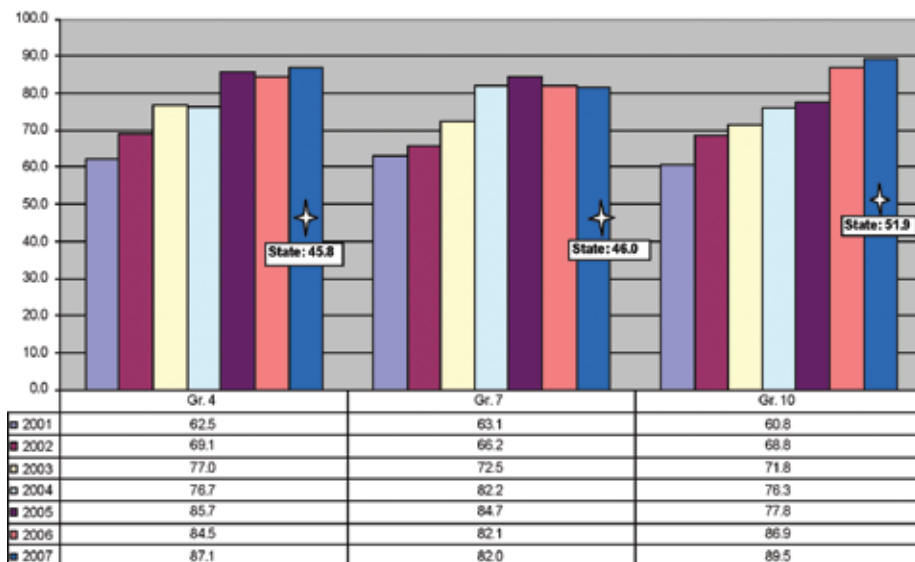
Mercer Island School District Assessment Program–2006-2007

Since 1997 the Mercer Island School District has been required by Washington State law to administer the Washington Assessment of Student Learning to measure student performance against state standards in reading, math and writing. Until the spring of 2006, it was given at grades 4, 7 and 10, and science in grades 5, 8 and 10. In spring of 2006 the WASL in reading and math was added for students in grades 3, 5, 6 and 8. This was in response to additional testing requirements under the federal No Child Left Behind legislation.



Mercer Island students have made steady progress toward meeting the requirement of passing the WASL in Reading, Math and Writing by Grade 10. Grade 4 continues modest movement upward. Grade 8 has leveled off the past four years. Grade 10 continues a steady upward trend this year to nearly 90% of student meeting standard on all three subject tests on their first attempt in high school.

**MISD WASL Performance Over Time, Percent of
Students Meeting All Three Standards**



For the graduating classes of 2008-2012, students must pass the reading and writing WASL, a state-approved alternative to the WASL or an assessment for students in special education. Students can meet the state's math requirement by passing the math WASL, a state-approved alternative or an assessment for students in special education; OR, they can earn a math credit each year after 10th grade and retake the WASL annually. Students who pass the reading, writing and math assessments earn a Certificate of Academic Achievement or Certificate of Individual Achievement and a high school diploma. Students who fulfill the math requirement by earning math credits and taking the math WASL annually do not receive a certificate but do earn a diploma. Meeting standard on the WASL science and math exams becomes a graduation requirement for the class of 2013.

Performance on the Reading and Math WASL in Grades 3, 5, 8

Our current students' performance in the second year of these new grade levels is already showing an upward trend. Science results show significant gains in 5th grade and a continued upward trend in 8th and 10th grade.

Grade 3

	Reading	Math
2006	90.9	86.7
2007	95.9	95.5

Grade 5

	Reading	Math
2006	94.4	92.4
2007	94.6	94

Grade 8

	Reading	Math
2006	93.9	89.3
2007	92.1	89.7

Science WASL Results Grades 5, 8 and 10

Grade 5

	District	State
2004	69	28.2
2005	62.6	35.6
2006	65.3	35.7
2007	78.5	36.5

Grade 8

	District	State
2004	80.2	39.4
2005	78.9	36.4
2006	85.1	42.9
2007	84.8	44.6

Grade 10

	District	State
2004	71.8	32.2
2005	82.3	35.8
2006	74.9	35.0
2007	81.3	36.4

Other Assessments

Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) and ACT Assessment

While the SAT and ACT are not required tests, most Mercer Island High School students take one or both of these for college applications.

SAT 1

# Tested	Class	Mean Scores	Mid-50%	State	National
294	2004	Verbal-590 Math-610	520-650 540-670	508 518	508 518
296	2005	Verbal-613 Math-635	550-670 570-700	508 520	508 520
338	2006	Math-607 Critical Reading-577 Writing-572	540-680 510-640 500-640	518 503 497	518 503 497
301	2007	Math-611 Critical Reading-589 Writing-581	550-670 530-650 510-650	515 502 494	515 502 494

ACT

#Tested	Class	Mean Composite	State	National
118	2004	25.5	22.5	20.8
124	2005	26.5	22.7	20.9
122	2006	25.7	22.9	21.1
145	2007	26.8	23.1	21.2

National Merit Scholars

Class	Finalists	Commended Scholars
2003	16	9
2004	13	19
2005	11	30
2006	13	20
2007	15	13

AP Test Results

Year	#Tested	Tests Taken	AP Scores 3 and above
2004	214	326	274
2005	258	437	337
2006	288	437	311
2007	232	402	293



AP Scholars

2007 AP Testing:
31 AP Scholars
11 Scholars with Honors
11 Scholars with Distinction



Exceptional Foundation for Learning—

**Elementary Schools:
Island Park, Lakeridge
and West Mercer**

Curriculum

Our schools use district adopted curriculum as the foundation for instructional programs. Teachers frequently integrate material from several disciplines to make learning more meaningful to students. All of our teachers participate in staff development activities outside of their work day and/or school year.

Technology

To live, learn and work successfully in an increasingly complex and information-rich society, students must be able to use technology effectively. With an effective educational setting, technology can enable students to become capable information technology users; information seekers, analyzers, and evaluators; problem solvers and decision makers; creative and effective users of productivity tools; communicators, collaborators, publishers, and producers; informed, responsible and contributing citizens.

In February 2004, the community voted to renew funding for facilities maintenance and technology through 2008, providing all schools with the necessary equipment and software to integrate technology lessons with academic classes. The Mercer Island Schools Foundation has provided additional funding for teacher training.

Counseling Services

Each elementary school has at least one on-site counselor who provides a variety of counseling services to individuals, groups, families, and staff. These positions are made possible by funds provided by Mercer Island Youth and Family Services, City of Mercer Island, and the Mercer Island School District.

D.A.R.E. Program

The City of Mercer Island supports this drug and alcohol education program for all kindergarten, 2nd, and 5th grade students.

Volunteer Opportunities

Elementary school PTA's are very active and sponsor family activities such as International Week (Island Park), Reflections contest, Ice Cream Socials, Book Fairs, and parent education evenings. Volunteer opportunities include: room parents, art docents, fund-raising, classroom help, field trip assistance, special project work, field days, and International Week. Each school PTA is proud of a nearly 100% membership rate.

The schools' Site Councils elect new members on a rotating basis for 2 year terms. Elementary schools have 4-8 parent representatives for various grade level groups i.e K/1, 2/3, 4/5, and Support Services (ESL, Title IV/LAP, Special Education). These councils are a representative group of administrators, staff, and parents who meet monthly to discuss school issues such as: instructional programs, organization of school and classrooms, allocation of resources, schools' response to district-wide issues, and/or operational requirements of the school building.



Island Park Elementary



Philosophy and Mission "Building for the Future"

The Island Park Elementary School Community guides all students to achieve their highest academic potential while nurturing their social and emotional well being.

Island Park is located in the middle of the island, at 5437 Island Crest Way. Principal Kathy Morrison led a teaching staff of 35 who served 515 students in 2006/07. We are host for the district's English Language Learners (ELL) program, and offer an Extended Resource Room (ERR) for students with special learning needs. Other special programs include Special Education Resource Room, Counseling, LAP (remedial reading), a tuition-based foreign language program, technology integrated classrooms, student council, after school clubs, and before school choir.



Island Park HIGHLIGHTS

- 96.6% of 3rd grade students met standards in reading
- 95.5% of 3rd grade students met standards in math
- 98.9% of 4th grade students met standards in reading
- 95.5% of 4th grade students met standards in writing
- 94.4% of 4th grade students met standards in math
- 88.4% of 5th grader students met standards in reading
- 91.9 % of 5th graders met standards in math
- 81.4% of 5th graders met standards in science

Lakeridge Elementary



Mission Statement "Exploring today, preparing for tomorrow"

Our mission is to give all students at Lakeridge the opportunity to gain knowledge, grow in wisdom, develop confidence, and become creative, compassionate and critical thinkers, and to ensure that all children, regardless of level of ability or individual needs, will have the opportunity to reach for, achieve and extend their potential in a changing world.

Lakeridge is located in the south end of the island, at 8215 SE 78th. Principal Ralph Allen led a staff of 40 teachers who served 536 students in 2006/07. We are host for the district's Autism Spectrum Program. Other special programs include Special Education Resource Room, Counseling, LSP (remedial reading), a tuition-based foreign language program, student council, after school clubs, and before school choir.



Lakeridge HIGHLIGHTS

- 96.7% of 3rd grade students met standards in reading
- 97.8% of 3rd grade students met standards in math
- 95.6% of 4th grade students met standards in reading
- 87.5% of 4th grade students met standards in math
- 90.3% of 4th grade students met standards in writing
- 97.8% of 5th grade students met standards in reading
- 95.5% of 5th grade students met standards in math
- 74.2% of 5th grade students met standards in science

West Mercer Elementary



Mission Statement

- *To create a place where every student learns as much and as well as he/she possibly can.*
- *To create a place where every teacher teaches as well as he/she possibly can.*
- *To create a place where every student, staff member, parent, and volunteer want to be because they feel safe, competent, valued, and know that it makes a positive difference that they are, in fact, a part of West Mercer.*

West Mercer Elementary is located on the north end of the island, at 4141 81st Avenue SE. Principal Pat Blix led a staff of 44 who served 610 students in 2006/07. We are host for the district's Gifted Education program for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students. Other special programs include Special Education Resource Room, Counseling, LSP (remedial reading), a tuition-based foreign language program, student council, after school clubs, and before school choir.



We are particularly proud of the West Mercer Courtyard, a Northwest native plant garden and outdoor classroom funded by the Rotary Club of Mercer Island, with matching funds, supplies and labor from the greater school community.

West Mercer HIGHLIGHTS

- 94.5% of 3rd grade students met standards in reading
- 93.6% of 3rd grade students met standards in math
- 92.8 % of 4th grade students met standards in reading
- 89.2% of 4th grade students met standards in writing
- 89.2% of 4th grade students met standards in math
- 96.7% of 5th grade students met standards in reading
- 94.3% of 5th grade students met standards in math
- 79.7% of 5th grade students met standards in science

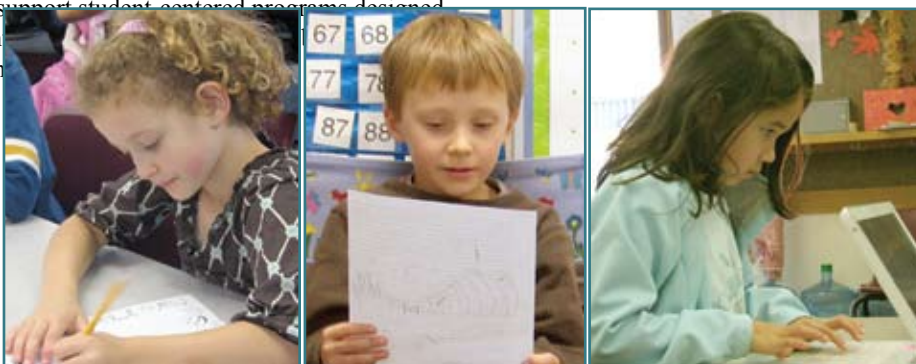
Elementary Schools Improvement Planning 2006-2007

Academics

Last year all three elementary schools engaged in field testing the K-5 Standards-Based Reporting card. This new reporting system is aligned with the Washington State Essential Academic Learning Requirements and Grade Level Expectations and is designed to provide a greater depth of information about each child's learning needs.

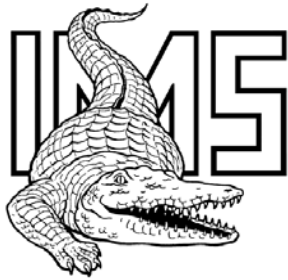
Citizenship and Personal Development

Each school has an on-going commitment to support student-centered programs designed around Citizenship and Personal Development. Harassment state mandates are fully implemented.



Islander Middle School:

A “Blue Ribbon School”



A place to learn, a place to grow.

- *We seek to meet the unique needs of students in the middle grades.*
- *We work to be a caring community where all members feel safe to take the necessary risks to grow.*
- *We strive for high quality in all we do.*
- *We value diversity.*
- *We believe that respect, cooperation, and kindness provide the foundation of our Islander community.*

Islander Middle School is located at the south end of Mercer Island, at 8225 SE 72nd Street. Principal Sharon Gillaspie led a staff of 62 teachers who served 980 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in 2006/07.

Curriculum

In a six period day, students at the 6th, 7th and 8th grade levels are required to take the four core subjects of language arts, social studies, science and mathematics. These subjects are integrated as often as possible. At the sixth grade level, two-teacher teams present the four core subjects to two groups of students. Sixth graders also take Spanish and physical education each semester and a fine arts rotation. Seventh and eighth grade students participate in two hour language arts/social studies block classes, and are teamed whenever possible. The school offers a wide range of electives, after school clubs and athletics.



Technology

Thanks to the success of the Technology Levy in February 2004, IMS was able to provide laptop computers for all teachers, the first phase of technology improvements funded by the levy. The Mercer Island Schools Foundation provided funding to train teachers in how to integrate technology into the curriculum.

Counseling Services

Each of three full time counselors follows a class of students through their three years of middle school. Two additional counselors, funded by the City of Mercer Island and Mercer School District through Mercer Island Youth and Family services provide support to students and families.

Volunteer Opportunities

IMS welcomes parent and community member involvement in many areas of the school community. The very active Islander PTSA has over 980 members, representing over 100% of Islander families. The school's Site Council includes one parent representative for each grade level, grade level and elective teacher representatives, parapro and office staff representatives, IMS administrators, and a PTSA board representative. A MISD School Board liaison also attends monthly meetings.

Site Council meetings include discussion and recommendations on building related issues. The Site Council work focuses on deliberation and decision-making related to school improvement planning, implementation and evaluation.



Islander HIGHLIGHTS

- 86.6% of Islander 7th graders met standard on the Math WASL in 2007.
- 90.3% of 7th graders met standard on the Reading WASL.
- 91% of 7th graders met standard on the Writing WASL
- 92.1% of 8th graders met standard on the Reading WASL
- 89.7% of 8th graders met standard on the Writing WASL
- 84.8% of 8th graders met standard on the Science WASL

Mercer Island High School

A “Blue Ribbon School”



Purpose

The purpose of Mercer Island High School is to provide students with challenging educational activities and experiences that encourage students to reach their individual potential.

Mercer Island High School is located at the north end of Mercer Island, at 9100 SE 42nd Street. Principal John Harrison led a staff of 91 members who served 1,424 students in grades 9-12 in 2006/07.

Curriculum

MIHS offers a strong academic program that includes 7 class periods of 50 minutes beginning at 8:00 am and ending at 3:00 p.m. A standard school day is six periods, although students may choose to take seven classes. Classes meet four times a week with one day being a 105 minute “double-period block.” In addition to regular course offerings, the school provides a variety of honors, advanced placement classes, and classes for students who travel at a slower pace.



Crest Learning Center is Mercer Island High School’s alternative program. The staff of nine adults works to create a learning environment which meets the needs of a diverse population of about 115 students. The curriculum at Crest is designed to focus on the development of cognitive powers, creativity, and essential skills. Subject material is approached from an integrated perspective and hands-on activities are a part of nearly every topic that is studied. Mornings at Crest revolve around a two hour integrated course which emphasizes language arts, history, current events, and visual arts.

In the afternoon, students concentrate on activities that explore mathematics, science, horticulture, health, vocational skills, physical education and visual arts. Crest also provides a unique opportunity for students to take courses independently.

Technology

MIHS has a combination of computer labs and carts of mobile computer equipment for student use. All teachers at MIHS have use of a laptop computer. Training in application skills and curriculum technology is ongoing and funded by the Mercer Island Schools Foundation.



Student Involvement

80-85% of the student body is active in some kind of co-curricular activity, ranging from athletics to the arts, to student-run clubs and organizations. MIHS is a designated High Tech Learning Center offering a wide variety of career and technology courses.

Counseling

Five full time counselors serve the needs of a college bound population and also provide guidance for those students interested in vocational education. Two additional counselors focus on issues such as drugs and alcohol, and serve as a resource for community services.

Volunteer Opportunities

MIHS welcomes parent and community member involvement in many areas of the school community. Contact the school office or PTSA if you would like to help with: Career speakers, parent newsletter, sports booster clubs, registration, counseling center, classroom guests, music booster committee, Fine Arts showcase, office help, or book room. The MIHS Site Council has 30 members: 15 staff, 8 students, 6 parents, and 1 school board member.

All but the parents are chosen for 1 year terms; parents serve 2. The council meets monthly to provide a forum for discussion and recommendations as appropriate on site related issues. The PTSA has over 900 members.





High School HIGHLIGHTS 2006-2007

- 86.9% of students met 3 of 3 standards on the WASL
- 93.9% met standard on the Reading test
- 95.3% of students met standard on the Writing test
- 85.4% of students met standard on the Math test
- 81.3% of students met standard on the Science test



College Placement

Students from the class of 2007 are attending over 120 different colleges and universities across the nation and the world. Some of the schools are: Albertson College of Idaho, American University, Arizona State, Beloit University, Brigham Young University, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Carleton, Case Western, Chapman, Clark College, Claremont McKenna, Colby College, Colgate, Colorado College, Columbia U, Cornell, Emerson, Emory, Fordham, Franklin College, Switzerland, George Washington U, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgetown U, Gonzaga, Hampton U, Johns Hopkins, Kenyon College, Lawrence University, Loyola Marymount, Macalaster College, Marymount College, Menlo College, Middlebury, Mills, Mt. Hood College, North Park U, New York University, Northeastern, Northwestern, Notre Dame, Occidental, Orange Coast College, Parsons School of Design, Pepperdine, Pomona, Reed College, Rochester Junior College, Rutgers University, Santa Clara University, Savannah College of Art & Design, Scripps, Seattle U, Seattle Pacific U, Southern Methodist U, Southern Oregon U, Stanford, Stern/Yeshiva University, St. Mary's College of California, St. Mary's College of Maryland, St. Olaf College, Syracuse University, Tulane, University of the Arts, Universidad de Salamanca, U of Arizona, U of California, Berkeley, U of California, Santa Barbara, U of British Columbia, U of Chicago, U of Colorado, U of Denver, U of Hawaii, U of Houston, U of Kansas, U of Idaho, U of Montana, U of Michigan, U of New Mexico, U of

Pennsylvania, U of Portland, U of Oregon, U of Redlands, U of Portland, U of Virginia, U of Wisconsin, U of Wyoming, U of San Diego, USC, USF, Vanderbilt, Villanova, Wake Forest, Washington U in St. Louis, Wheaton, Whitman, Willamette, in addition to 6 Washington Public Colleges, including the University of Washington Honors Program.

Other students' plans include: American Musical & Dramatic Academy, Bellevue Beauty School, Culinary Institute of America, Two year LDS Missionary Service, Universal Technical Institute, US Navy, Working in Real Estate and as a musician, Gap year in Egypt, Gap year in Israel, Gap year study abroad in Australia, then Western Washington U, Gap year in Taiwan, then Shimer College, Skiing, Work.



Student Services

In 2006-2007, over 9 percent of the MISD K-12 student population qualified for one or more special education services. Special education is a federal and state mandated program that districts are obligated to provide. Funding for this mandate, however, is insufficient, requiring school districts to support the shortfall out of their general operating budgets. Last year this shortfall was almost \$900,000.

We are committed to all students on the continuum of learning and offer the following programs:

Preschool at West Mercer:

Students with disabilities such as blindness, autism, developmental delays or communication delays are integrated with typical peers.

Resource Rooms at every school:

Students with Specific Learning Disabilities and Health Impairments are most commonly seen in the Resource Rooms. At the elementary level, students usually receive 30 minutes or more per day of additional instruction. At the secondary level, students attend one or more classes in the Resource Room. Instruction is most often in reading, writing and math.

Extended Resource Room (ERR) at Island Park:

This program is for students who need to have most or all of their instruction in a separate classroom. Significant changes to content, methods and/or pacing of instruction are made. These students are also integrated into general education classes as much as possible.

Spectrum Program at Lakeridge:

MISD offers this program for students diagnosed with autism who need services beyond the Resource Room program. Some students are served in the general education classroom for most of the day; some need more services in a separate classroom.

Room 115 at IMS:

Students in Room 115 receive most or all of their instruction in a separate classroom. The focus is on life skills and functional academics.

Life-Skills program at MIHS:

This program is for students who need most instruction in a separate classroom. The focus is on life-skills, functional academic skills and pre-vocational/vocational training.

Transition program for students from age 18-21:

This program is for students who need instruction and guidance in preparing for living in the adult world (vocational training, life-skills, recreation and leisure, mobility). Students spend most of the day in the community and at work sites.



Grants & Commendations

Washington State Teacher Assistance Grant (TAP)

NEVAC Partner School – National Science Foundation

Developing A Community of Mathematics Learners” – partner grant, National Science Foundation

Siemens Advanced Placement High School Award

Boeing Company “Flight to the Future” grant

Giving to Our Schools

The Mercer Island School District gratefully accepts your donations to our schools through the PTA/PTSA's or the Mercer Island Schools Foundation, both 501c(3) non-profit organizations. The PTA/PTSA's support individual school enrichment activities including: Field Trips, Assemblies, Great Books, Art Docents, Artist in Residence programs, teacher grants and discretionary funds, and classroom activities. The Mercer Island Schools Foundation supports curriculum improvement at every grade level in every classroom in the district, as well as teacher initiated enrichment grants. Both organizations are critical in helping the district achieve desired outcomes for students.

By far, the most important thing you can give is interest in your child's education. If you have questions, comments, ideas, or concerns, call the school offices, or follow the links to individual school web sites via the district site at www.misd.wednet.edu.



Mercer Island School District Financials

The Mercer Island School District is a public supported organization governed by the Washington state laws and regulations. Major sources of income include: the state of Washington basic education allocation of \$4,007 per student per year and local levy funds of \$1,664 per student per year.

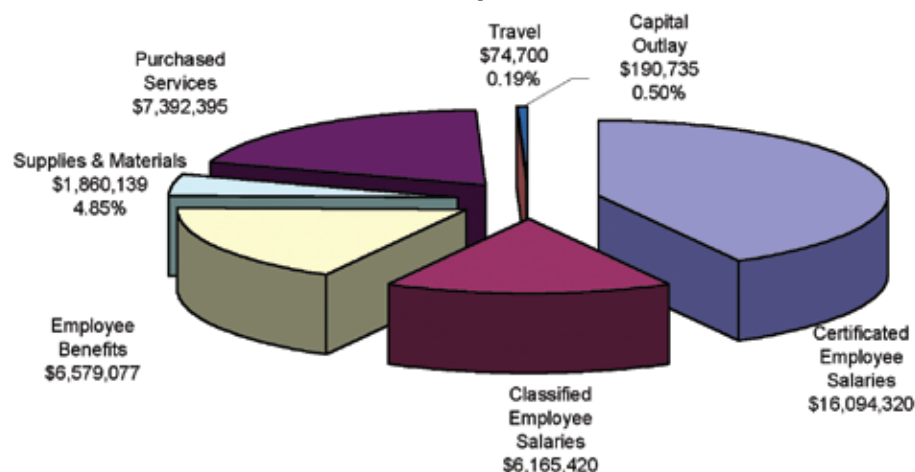
In 2006 MI voters approved a 4 year maintenance and operations levy. Approximately 25.75% of the annual property tax bill is dedicated to local schools.

Other sources of income include: state special purpose, local non-tax (i.e. fees, lunches, donations, rentals and investment earnings), federal grants.

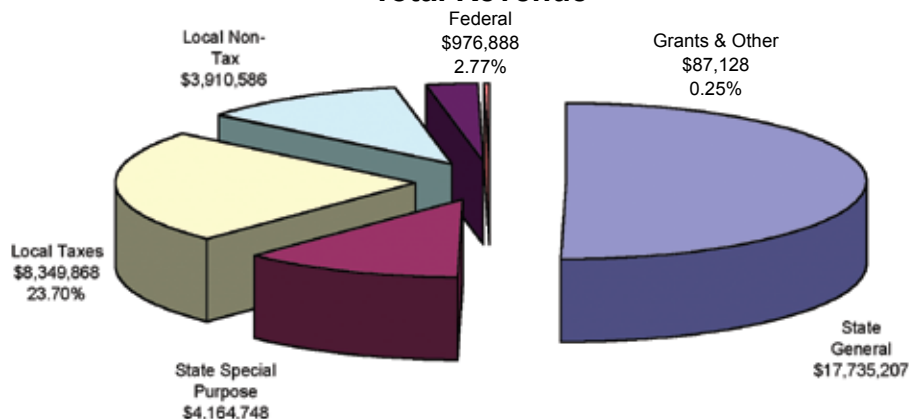
Major expenses include salaries and benefits, supplies and materials, purchased services, travel, and capital outlay. The Mercer Island School District is one of a very few districts in Washington to receive a AA+ bond rating from Standard & Poors and Moody's.

The yearly budget process begins in January with an initial enrollment projection review with principals and concludes with an open-to-the-public budget hearing and adoption meeting in July.

Total Expenditures



Total Revenue



Mercer Island Schools Foundation

Classroom Enrichment.....	\$75,805
Extra Curricular	75,413
Fine Arts.....	44,693
Language Arts	4,992
Mathematics.....	1,898
Science	71,366
Social Studies.....	65,022
Special Education/ESL	38,433
Teacher Development/	197,344
Student support	
Technology.....	27,612

Total.....\$602,578

MISF

(Mercer Island Schools Foundation): community donations provide funding for curriculum improvements in all areas, classroom enrichment support, and technology.

PTA/PTSA

(Parent/Teacher/Student Assoc): funds finance field trips, assemblies, teacher grants, artist-in-residence, and other cultural and enrichment activities. Island Park Elementary held a special auction to raise funds for additional paraprofessionals.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) – No Child Left Behind

The Mercer Island School District has met all requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act and has reported Adequate Yearly Progress under ESEA. To view the MISD report card and/or a School Report Card, go to <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>. Under Select List, click District and highlight Mercer Island. Then click on Search. Scroll down on the page and choose a school or program whose report you would like to see. Currently our annual reports include the state requirements listed in RCW 28A.655.110, as well as ESEA Report Card elements not available on the OSPI website.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The Mercer Island School District complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of national origin, creed, color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, parental status, marital status, or physical, mental or sensory disability. This holds true for all students who participate in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities.

Published by Mercer Island School District
 Edited by Marion Mohler
 Photography/Graphic Design by Vanessa Adams,
 MISD Publishing Center
 Printed by Consolidated Press, January 2008

District Contact Information

District Web Site: www.misd.k12.wa.us

Individual school web sites are accessible through the scroll down menu on the main site. All addresses are Mercer Island, WA 98040

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Mercer Island School District

*Preparing students to
thrive in life, progress
academically and
personally, succeed
in post-secondary
education and work,
and be inspired to
contribute to society.*

We thank the Mercer Island Schools Foundation for their support in funding part of the production cost of this annual report. The number of pages in this report have been reduced from those in previous years so that it could be printed in full color.

Simply Exceptional
Mercer Island School District
2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT

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