

Curtis Junior High School

2001-2002 Annual School Performance Report

890140th Street West, University Place, WA 98466 (253.566.5670)
Susie Jensen, Principal
Al Nurse, Assistant Principal
Ben Zielke, Assistant Principal

Commitment to Teaching & Learning

The staff at Curtis Junior High School is committed to the process of improving teaching and learning. Increasing the success and achievement of our students and assisting them in the transition to high school provides the framework for our efforts. To support this vision, the Learning Improvement Team has established three goals for 2001-2002.

Goal 1 - Establish a safe and civil learning environment.

Goal 2 - By June 2002, CJHS 9th grade students will perform at the 64th National Percentile in math as measured by the ITED.

The state average for math on the 2001 ITED was the 59th %ile. CJHS students scored at the 62nd %ile.

Goal 3 - By June 2002, CJHS 9th grade students will outperform WA 9th graders in reading by ten national percentile points as measured by the ITED.

The state average for reading on the 2000 ITED was the 53rd %ile. CJHS students scored at the 60th %ile.

The most significant of our efforts this year included:

- * Hiring a full time reading specialist to work with 8th grade students significantly below grade level in reading. Our reading specialist provided training to help teachers in all content areas meet the needs of students having difficulties with reading.
- * Implementation of an 8th grade math program to provide students with foundational math skills and basic problem solving and communication skills.

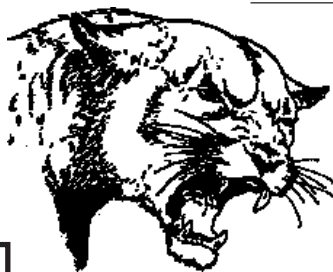


- * Implementing a 9th Grade Standards English course to assist 9th graders needing fundamental writing skills.
- * Development of a program to meet the needs of highly capable students.
- * Beginning in fall 2002, 8th graders will have an opportunity to participate in English, Math, Science and Social Studies courses designed to specifically meet the needs of gifted students.

In alignment with building goals and with funds made available through Initiative 728, we were able to offer the following extended learning opportunities:

- * Study Table - Students are invited to participate in our after school study program which provides certificated teachers to assist students in all content areas with a special focus on Math and English. Transportation home has also been provided for these students.
- * Extended Library Hours - Students have the opportunity to come to the library from 3 o'clock to 4 o'clock Monday through Thursday.
- * Harambee - This group began one year ago and continues to encourage and support academic achievement, cultural awareness and positive behaviors, especially among African-American students. All students are welcome to participate in Harambee.

We continue our commitment to provide the best education possible for junior high school students in University Place.



Curtis Junior High Mission

The mission of Curtis Junior High School, as a quality public educational community with high expectations is, to develop learning, responsibility, and self-reliance in a diverse student population by providing challenging and meaningful experiences in a positive environment.

◆ Students

Student Enrollment, 10/1/01

8th Grade	434
9th Grade	481
Total	915

Gender

Male	53%
Female	47%

Student Attendance

The average daily attendance is 95%.

Ethnicity

Black/African American	12.7%
Asian/Pacific Islander	11.6%
White, Not Hispanic	70.0%
Hispanic	4.4%
American Indian/AK Native	1.3%



◆ Staff

Administrators	3
Teachers	53
Masters Degree -	37
Bachelors Degree -	19
Classified Staff	27
[e.g., classroom assistants,	
secretaries, custodians, etc.]	

Numbers represent actual staff members though some do not serve full-time at this school.

Districtwide support services are delivered at all schools by five psychologists, one physical therapist, six speech and language pathologists, four occupational therapists, one English as a Second Language teacher, six nurses, and one vision specialist.

◆ ITED

This was the third year ninth-graders took the Iowa Test of Educational Development (ITED). Results are reported as a national percentile in which 50 represents the national average.

C.J.H. 9th Grade Scores

	99/00	00/01	01/02
Reading	59	60	60
Expression	58	61	59
Quantitative			
Thinking	55	62	61
Core	59	65	62

Washington State 9th Grade Scores

	99/00	00/01	01/02
Reading	54	53	54
Expression	55	54	55
Quantitative			
Thinking	60	59	59
Core	58	57	58

Washington Assessment of Student Learning

Washington State is making a great effort to improve student learning and to increase accountability for that learning. Two important components of this effort are:

1. Clear and challenging standards for what students are expected to know and the skills they are expected to have; and
2. State-wide assessments that measure how well individual students, schools and school districts are performing in their efforts to improve student learning.



The Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) taken at grades 3 and 6 and the Iowa Test of Educational Development at grade 9 provide national percentile scores in reading, math and language. These are multiple choice tests.

2. Tests that show individual student, school, and district performance against Washington State's rigorous standards of learning. The Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) is taken at grades 4, 7, and 10. Students are tested in reading, math, writing and listening. WASL questions are a combination of multiple choice, short answer and essay questions.

University Place School District uses assessment data to identify individual student strengths, weaknesses and needs and to plan for program improvement.

University Place School District students, along with their Washington State peers, participate in two different kinds of assessments:

1. Tests that show individual student, school, and district performance compared to a national average.

◆ The Junior High Campus

Forty-five years ago, what is now the Curtis Junior High School campus began serving junior and senior high school students in University Place. It wasn't until 23 years later, in 1980, that Curtis Junior High School was established to house the district's seventh, eighth and ninth graders. It served students in these three grade levels until 1990 when the grade level structures were reconfigured throughout the district to meet the needs of our growing school community.

While no major renovations have been made during this past year, significant efforts to maintain and improve the existing campus continue. Ensuring our building is attractive, clean and safe for our students, staff and community members is a priority at both the building and district level. Some of the improvements include the removal of several large trees which caused maintenance and safety concerns in student traffic areas. In addition, more security cameras were installed to increase campus safety during and after school hours.

During the late spring and early sum-

mer, the completion of several more projects are expected to enhance the school campus. The football field and baseball field will be upgraded with sprinkler systems. The Curtis Junior High School ASB has purchased a large video screen to be installed in the gym for use during assemblies and special events. They are also finalizing decisions on the purchase of outdoor furniture for students to enjoy during lunch time.

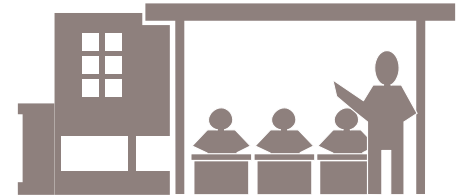
Campus pride continues to be a focus at Curtis Junior High School. Our facility is a focal point for many community activities and is available to outside groups through a facilities use application process.



◆ Safe Schools

Without safe schools, teachers cannot teach and students cannot learn.

Developing and implementing district-wide and site-specific safe school plans are required tasks for each school in the University Place School District.



These plans include strategies and responses to both internal and external threats to the safety of the students and staff of the school.

The University Place School District during the 2001-2002 school year continued to have safety as one of its key goals. Periodic drills designed to simulate actual events have been conducted in school to assist students and staff in appropriate responses in the event of an actual safety occurrence.

The University Place School District is committed to safe schools where students can achieve to their highest potential and teachers can teach in a welcoming environment, free of intimidation and fear.

The educational environment of Curtis Junior High School fosters a spirit of acceptance and care for every child; where behavior expectations are clearly communicated, consistently enforced, and fairly applied.

The success of the strategies employed by the school depends on the overriding presence of several key factors. Those factors are:

1. Establishment of clear behavior standards.
2. Presence of adequate adult supervision.
3. Enforcement of the rules fairly and consistently.
4. Strong parental support.
5. Partnerships with outside agencies.

◆ We Welcome Your Help

Your involvement at Curtis Junior High School is encouraged and greatly appreciated. Anyone can volunteer: parents, grandparents, and other community members of University Place. If you have even an hour of time, your contribution is valued. To participate, we invite you to contact our PTSA. Here are some ways volunteers can contribute to the Curtis Junior High School community:

- Parent Information Nights
- Junior/Senior High Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) and PTSA Committees
- Tutors
- Learning Improvement Team
- Activity Chaperones
- Preparation of School-wide Mailings
- Classroom and Support Program Volunteers
- Back-to-School Night
- Student Handbook Committee
- Guest speakers



University Place School District

◆ Mission

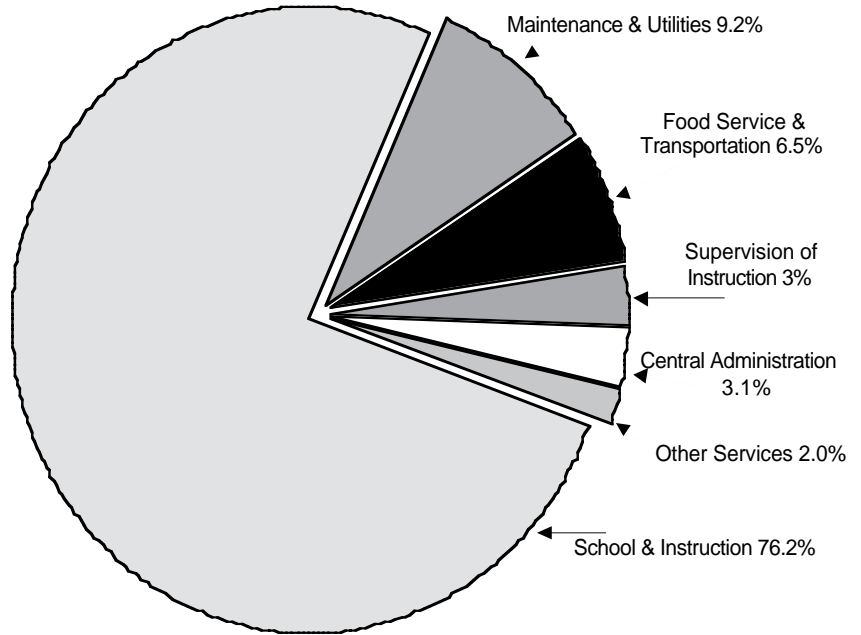
The mission of the University Place School District, in partnership with our community, is to develop competent, contributing citizens.

◆ Special Programs and Services

- Academic Achievement Academy
- Challenge Program
- Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP)
- Bilingual Education
- Home-Hospital
- Native American
- Readiness to Learn
- Safe & Drug-Free Schools
- Special Education
- Summer School
- Title I/LAP
- Traffic Safety

◆ Financial Data

UPSD Expenditures 2001-2002



UPSD Average Per Pupil

Expenditure for

2001-2002 \$7,296.54

◆ This Report

The information in this report is a requirement of our state's legislature to provide parents and community members key information about UPSD schools and the performance of our students. We believe a strong partnership between our schools and community is necessary to ensure a quality education for all students. If you have questions or comments, please call Curtis Junior High School (253.566.5670) or the Educational Service Center (253.566.5600).

University Place School District Web site: <http://www.upsd.wednet.edu>

Board of Directors: Rick Maloney, president; Mary Lu Dickinson, vice president, Kent Keel, Paul Koppe, and Beverly Law.

Superintendent: Patricia Anne Banks

University Place School District complies with all federal laws, rules, and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disabilities in student education programs, co-curricular activities, and employment practices. The district is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer encouraging application of qualified minorities, women and disabled persons for employment and other opportunities. For elevator access at school sites, contact the principal's office. The University Place School District is a drug-free/smoke-free workplace and educational setting. Direct inquiries regarding compliance, grievance, or appeal procedures to the District Affirmative Action Officer, Karen Vescovi, 253.566.5600; Title IX Officer, Terry Jenks, 253.566.5710, or Section 504/ADA Officer, Terry Pullen, 253.566.5600.