

1998

SUNSET Primary School

1999

4523 97th Avenue West,
University Place, WA 98466 (566-5640)
Rebecca Owens, Principal

Focus on Reading

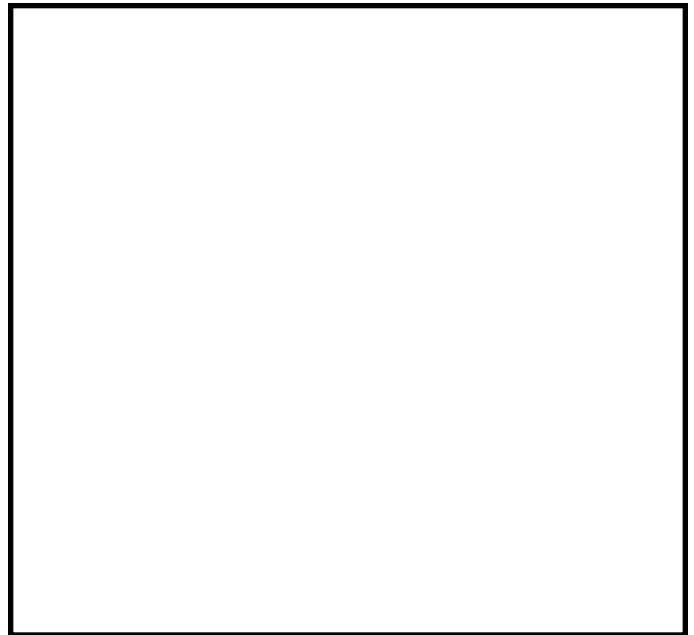
Reading continues to be our major focus for the year. All staff attended district-sponsored training in the teaching of reading and reading assessment. We continued our monthly library night for families. Storytellers gave presentations on two occasions. All students were involved in the Accelerated Reading Program, moving our students from 5,000 points in the 1997-1998 school year to 19,467 points in the 1998-1999 school year. Our Title I program and Special Education staff assisted students who needed extra assistance with 100% participation.

Building goals for the year were created from parent input on our annual survey, staff input, previous goals, the State Learning Goals and the district strategic plan:

- To provide a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff.
- To provide a quality curriculum and program focused on success for all members of the community.
- To move all students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.

Our Mission

We, the Sunset Community, will strive to motivate all individuals to become caring, independent, well-informed, lifelong learners. We pledge to focus on the teaching of essential learnings in a environment that provides the development of the whole person: intellectually, emotionally, socially, and physically so that all individuals can reach their maximum potential and become contributing members of society.



Second grade students presenting *Garden Hoedown*.

Restructuring Plans

Based on surveyed staff and parents and through examination of test scores, resources for restructuring focus on reading. Looping first and second grade classrooms continues on a school-wide basis. For the 1999-2000 school year, two multi-age classrooms will be added to provide for the developmental needs of students.

An emphasis on prevention of early school and reading failure will be maintained and resources will be provided for reading instruction by 1.5 certified reading specialists. In addition, reading instruction will drive the school-wide schedule, providing for uninterrupted reading instruction by grade level. Flexible grouping for reading instruction is also a school-wide focus so that instruction fits students' needs. An after-school reading program will be added three days a week.

This report is an opportunity to provide parents and community members with key information about UPSD schools and the performance of our students, and meets the requirements of Washington state law. We believe that a strong partnership between schools and community is necessary to provide our students a quality education. If you have questions or comments, please call our school (566-5640) or the Educational Service Center (566-5600). Visit our website at: <http://www.upsd.wednet.edu>.

Our Students and Staff

Sunset Students:

Enrollment

Grade	Number of Students	Average Class Size
K	79	19.8
1	75	21.4
2	92	23.0
3	76	21.7
4	100	25.0
Total	422	

Gender

Male:	49%
Female:	51%

Student Attendance

The average daily attendance is 96%.

Ethnicity

African American	19.1%
Asian	11.1%
Caucasian	67.6%
Hispanic	1.7%
Native American	.5%

Special Programs available in UPSD:

- Title I/LAP
- Special Education Resource Room and Self Contained
- TRIAD
- English as a Second Language
- ECEAP (Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program)
- Summer School

The mission

of the University Place School District, in partnership with the University Place Community, is to develop competent, contributing citizens for a changing world by ensuring quality curriculum, instruction, and guidance in a supportive environment.

Sunset Staff:

Administrators	1
Teachers	22
Classified Staff (i.e., classroom assistants, secretaries, custodians, food service, etc.)	19

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

District-wide support services are delivered at all schools by five psychologists, two physical therapists, five speech and language pathologists, four occupational therapists, one English as a second language teacher, four nurses, one vision specialist, and one behavior specialist.

Journaling by Mrs. Little's Kindergarten Students

Test Scores

Students at Sunset Primary now take the Washington Assessment of Student Learning test battery, rather than the Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills, in the 4th grade.

Scores represent percentage of students who met or exceeded the standard score.

Sunset Primary 4th Grade

	Percentile		
	96/97	97/98	96/99
Math	25.0	35.0	40.2
Reading	46.7	66.7	66.3
Writing	20.0	54.3	21.8
Listening	70.7	69.1	80.2

State-wide 4th Grade

	Percentile		
	96/97	97/98	98/99
Math	21.4	31.2	37.3
Reading	47.9	55.6	59.1
Writing	42.7	36.7	32.6
Listening	62.2	71.3	71.1

This is the first year that 3rd grade students took the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. Results are reported on a national percentile in which 50 represents the national average.

Sunset Primary 3rd Grade

	Percentile
	98/99
Reading	53
Math	54
Reading Math Composite	54

State-wide 3rd Grade

	Percentile
	98/99
Reading	55
Math	55
Reading Math Composite	55

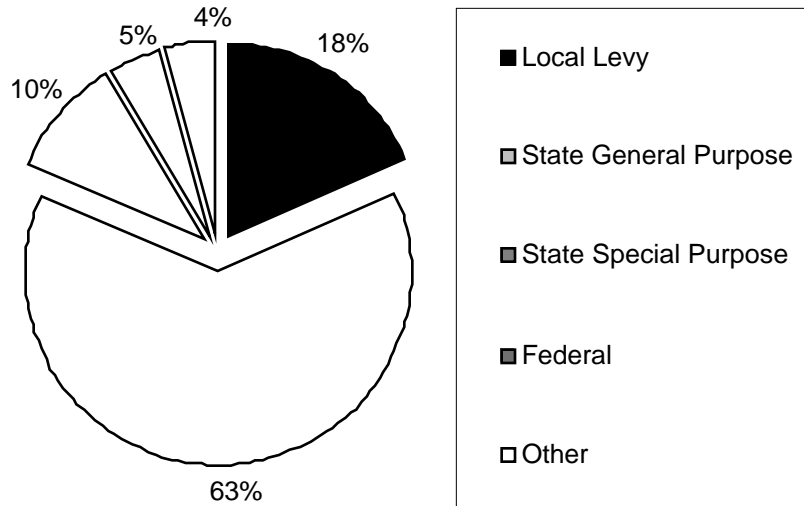
Budget Data

Sunset Revenue Sources:

School Merc	\$7,604
SLIG	\$13,025
ASB	\$10,700
Technology Levy	\$7,423
Basic Building Budget	\$44,873
Total	\$83,625

**UPSD Per Pupil
Expenditure
\$6,163.35**

District Revenue Sources



Use of SLIG Funds

Sunset staff agreed to continue focusing on improving reading instruction so that we can further our goal of having all students reading at grade level by the time they leave the second grade.

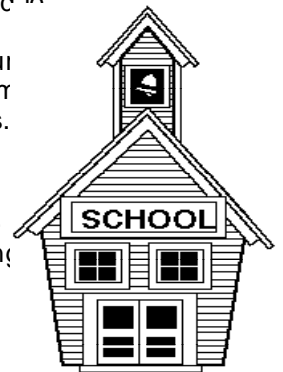
Sunset Primary Staff used Student Learning Improvement Grant moneys for the following activities to improve student learning:

- Rigby training for implementation of our new reading series.
- Ready Set Goals Conference - A conference focusing on reading instruction using developmentally best practices for instruction that align with state essential learnings
- 1st & 2nd grade Rigby team - Worked to develop skills in using Rigby reading materials and assessments
- Release time for conducting reading assessments
- Mimosa Math training for all grade levels
- Lucy Calkins Workshop - Improving reading instruction
- Maximizing Learning for 3rd Grade Workshop
- Working with Struggling Readers Workshop
- Singing and the Reading Connection Workshop
- State of Washington Kindergarten Conference

Our Building

Sunset Primary was built in 1966 and remodeled in 1982 and 1993. We have recently remodeled the school to have two computer labs with 30 new IMAC computers. The school is filled to capacity as we have recently added another 1st grade class as well as a special education self-contained program. In addition to the main building there are 6 portables used for TRIAD, Title, Latchkey and classroom programs. In the 1999 school year, we were fortunate to have a lift installed to provide greater accessibility to our music and performing arts programs.

Our PTSA and playground team have been instrumental in providing funding for new playground equipment. We look forward to having more wheelchair accessible equipment in the coming school year.



The building and grounds are available for use by outside groups through a building application process. During the 98-99 school year, the building has been used by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Girls' Soccer, Homeowners' Groups, Boys' and Girls' Club basketball and the UP Parks' basketball program.

Field Day at Sunset – Teamwork is a focus!

Invitation to Parents

Here's what you can do to assist your child and other children in meeting with school success:

- Send your child to school ready to learn by having him/her well rested and well fed.
- Support your child's efforts by going over papers that come home. Ask questions and reward effort.
- Read to or with your child daily and talk about what you have read.
- Read in front of your child and be a reading role model.
- Read your child's class newsletters, school fliers, and the PTSA newsletters to stay well informed.
- Come to school events and assemblies.
- Volunteer to work at school when you can. The past year we had 125 volunteers who volunteered a little and a lot! All were appreciated by students, staff and teachers.
- Go on field trips
- Join the PTSA
- Ask questions, be informed, become an advocate for public education.

For more information about how you can help, call us at 566-5640.



Safety is Priority

The safety of our students has always been our highest priority. The district has taken many steps to increase safety and reassure our students, staff and families. Some of these include:

- Assigning more officers from University Place Police Department on and around our schools to increase safety and prevent disruptive behavior.
- Hiring additional security officers to patrol our facilities.
- Reviewing emergency procedures and conducting "lock down" drills in each of our schools.
- Emphasizing with staff the need for increased levels of supervision of students at all times, reporting of unusual occurrences, and quick response to rumors, threats or "bad jokes."
- Upgrading our wireless communication system to allow immediate contact among buildings and the central office. This system is linked to the City and the police department in the event of a critical incident.
- Installing strategically placed surveillance cameras in all of our buildings.
- Reviewing our Critical Incident Response Plan.
- Adding a second Criminal Justice Resource Office at our schools.

Technology Report

The District Technology Committee decided on a long-range approach to the acquisition, maintenance and replacement/upgrade of classroom and office technology. Significant additions for this school year include:

A multi-media computer lab for every building.

Library technology standardization with increased student access and more on-line resources.

K-7 student Internet access through a special proxy filter that limits access to sites that have been pre-selected as appropriate and supportive of our curriculum. This process is similar to the operation of our school libraries.

8-12 student Internet access with individual accounts and a filtering system that limits access to inappropriate sites. This allows greater search capabilities than the K-7 system but holds students accountable for following acceptable use guidelines and still maintains safeguards.

Office technology/software standardization and upgrade.

Significant upgrade to the district web site (done by high school students) that includes searching capabilities, online calendars, staff email addresses and much more. For viewing, check <http://www.upsd.wednet.edu>

In addition, teachers and administrators are working toward authentic basic technology skills certification. This certification involves actual demonstration of computer skills to a staff trainer. Office staff are working on a similar certification model that includes a more advanced technology skill set commonly used in the office environment.

