

Sunset Primary School

2001-2002
Annual School
Performance Report

4523 97th Avenue W., University Place, WA 98466 (253.566.5640)
Rebecca Owens, Principal

Focus on Learning Improvement

This year Sunset Primary made a focused effort on learning improvement, especially in the areas of reading, math calculation and math problem solving. We have focused on prevention of early school failure by:

- ☐ Putting resources in reading
- ☐ Enhancing our after school reading program including before school reading as an option. In 2000-2001 Sunset served 18 students per six week session and in 2001-2002 served over 30 students per six week session in grades 1-4. Certificated staff run this program.
- ☐ Continuing a developmental instructional approach in primary classrooms which includes flexible grouping and differentiated instruction
- ☐ Continuing the use of guided reading as our primary instruction model
- ☐ Sending all 3rd and 4th grade teachers to the Fountas and Pinnell Guided Reading 2-day workshop
- ☐ Sending all 1st and 2nd grade teachers to the First Grade Workshop
- ☐ Reducing class sizes at grades K-4, creating classes of 20 students on average
- ☐ Creating a full-day kindergarten program
- ☐ Continuing our Library/ Computer Nights and adding training in reading instruction for parents into many sessions
- ☐ Purchasing library books



At Sunset Primary, we continue to survey parents and staff for input to assess how we are meeting the needs of our students. This information is compiled with test data from the WASL, Iowa and second-grade reading tests to make decisions for improving instruction and programs.

We continue to make reading a focal point at Sunset. As a community, we believe when students read well, they improve their skills in all areas.

Initially we have been pleased with our school's improvement in all areas over time. This year on the third-grade Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS), we have had a slight drop in reading and in math. As we have begun studying these scores, we plan to make a concerted effort toward improving reading comprehension, specifically in the area of making inferences. In math we will continue to focus on improving math calculation skills. We continue to be pleased with our progress in the area of math problem solving and number sense on the ITBS and feel our efforts in these areas have made a difference.

While we have had some slight drops in the ITBS, we have been pleased with our continuous improvements on the WASL. Our most recent WASL scores place Sunset in the top 10 of comparable schools statewide in reading and writing. Staff continues to collaborate to create tight links between skills and content taught at each grade level.



Sunset 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.

◆ Students

Student Enrollment, 10/1/01

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| Grade K | 61 |
| Grade 1 | 89 |
| Grade 2 | 82 |
| Grade 3 | 93 |
| Grade 4 | 87 |
| Total | 413 |

Gender

| | |
|--------------|-----|
| Male | 49% |
| Female | 51% |

Student Attendance

The average daily attendance is 95%.

Ethnicity

| | |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Black/African American | 14.1% |
| Asian/Pacific Islander | 15.8% |
| White, Not Hispanic | 65.2% |
| Hispanic | 3.9% |
| American Indian/AK Native .. | 1.0% |



◆ Staff

| | |
|---|----|
| Administrators | 1 |
| Teachers | 32 |
| Masters Degree - 18 | |
| Bachelors Degree - 15 | |
| Classified Staff | 16 |
| (i.e., classroom assistants, secretaries, custodians, food service, 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.

◆ WASL

Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

Scores represent percent of students who met or exceeded the performance standard in each area. Spring 2002 results will not be available until late August.

Sunset Primary 4th Grade Scores

| | 98/99 | 99/00 | 00/01 |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Math | 40.2 | 46.3 | 58.7 |
| Reading | 66.3 | 73.8 | 78.3 |
| Writing | 21.8 | 38.8 | 58.7 |
| Listening | 80.2 | 60.0 | 81.5 |

Washington State 4th Grade Scores

| | 98/99 | 99/00 | 00/01 |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Math | 37.3 | 41.8 | 43.4 |
| Reading | 59.1 | 65.8 | 66.1 |
| Writing | 32.6 | 39.4 | 43.3 |
| Listening | 71.1 | 65.3 | 72.4 |

◆ ITBS

Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS)

Third-graders take the ITBS test battery. Results are reported as a national percentile in which 50 represents the national average.

Sunset Primary 3rd Grade Scores

| | 99/00 | 00/01 | 01/02 |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Math | 66 | 64 | 63 |
| Reading | 62 | 62 | 60 |
| Rdg/Math | | | |
| Composite | 64 | 63 | 62 |

Washington State 3rd Grade Scores

| | 99/00 | 00/01 | 01/02 |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| Math | 63 | 64 | 66 |
| Reading | 56 | 57 | 57 |
| Rdg/Math | | | |
| Composite | 60 | 61 | 62 |

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.

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 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.

◆ You Can Help

Please feel free to come to Sunset and become involved in your child's education! We are better when you are involved!

Here are some ways to help your children at Sunset Primary School:

- Reinforce our school pledges:
I will take care of myself and others.
I will take care of Sunset school property.
I will never hurt anyone on the inside or the outside.
- 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 PTSA newsletters to stay well-informed.
- Come to school events and assemblies.
- Volunteer to work at school when you can. This past year over 300 volunteers joined us!
- Go on field trips.
- Join the PTSA.
- Ask questions, be informed, and become an advocate for public education.
- Teach your child kindness and model it at home.
- If you have a question, please call and ask so we can communicate openly and honestly.

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

◆ Our Building

Sunset Primary School operated again this year at enrollment capacity. We have two sections of half day kindergarten and one section of full day kindergarten that is a tuition-based program, three sections of 1st grade, three sections of 2nd grade, two multi-age classrooms of K-2 grades, four 3rd grades and four 4th grades. We continue with our self-contained special education classes, grades K-4.

The school was built in 1966 and remodeled in 1982 and 1993. In addition to the main building, six portables are used for Title, Latchkey and classroom programs.

The facility includes two computer labs with 30 iMacs to support our educational programs. In the past year we added a new door to our gym.

We look forward to an office remodel this summer that will give us more meeting space and a safer entry-way for the public.

We are proud of the fact that many different community groups use our building in the evenings, making our facility more accessible to the children in our service area.

The majority of our evening programs are PTA sponsored, however our facility is used by different scouting groups, for children's Spanish programs and by some University Place Parks programs.



◆ 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 Sunset Primary 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.

University Place School District

◆ Mission

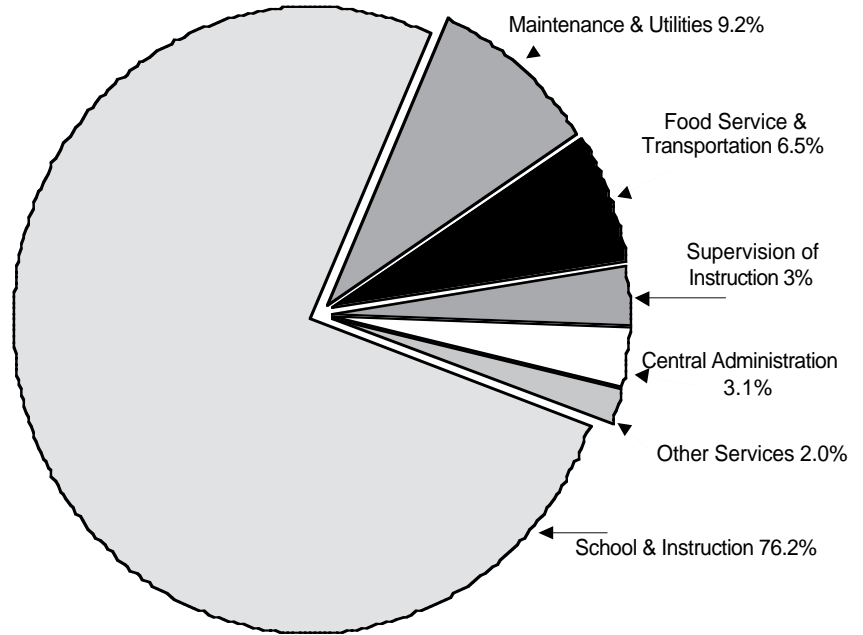
The mission of the University Place School District, in partnership with our community, is to develop competent, contributing citizens.

◆ 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 Sunset Primary (253.566.5640) 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.