

UNIVERSITY PLACE Primary School

1998

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2708 Grandview Drive West,
University Place, WA 98466 (566-5620)
Carol Bobek, Principal

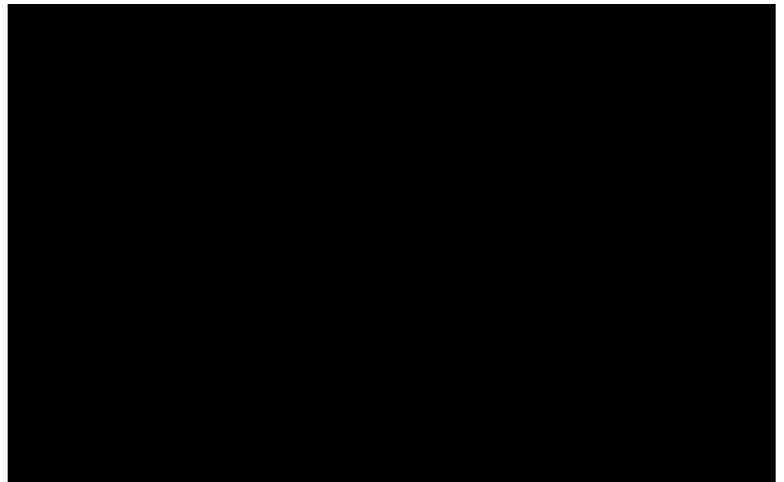
The Academic School Improvement Plan

The 1998-99 UPP plan focused on improving math skills. This area was targeted based on assessment results and the Washington Essential Academic Learnings. The plan focused specifically on improving measurement skills and the ability to communicate math understanding. Student performance in these two areas declined from 1997 to 1998. Teachers were surveyed and materials were purchased to provide students the hands-on experiences needed to develop skills and understanding of measurement principles. Teachers attended state-sponsored workshops to increase their knowledge and understanding of the state assessment in math and how to improve instruction in these areas. Ideas and resource materials from this workshop that focused on developing math communication skills were shared with staff.

Information from the 3rd grade Iowa Test of Basic Skills indicates that we will need to continue our efforts in assisting students with their understanding of measurement. Our 3rd graders demonstrated skills well above the national norm in the area of math problem solving and data interpretation. We will work to build on success in this area.

Our Mission

The mission of University Place Primary School, a nurturing, child-centered school, is to develop successful learners for a changing world by providing high quality education in partnership with other learners, parents, community and district.



Principal's Pals – student recognition for good citizenship and scholarship.

Student Learning Block Grant Funds were used to support staff development through attending a wide variety of workshops. All were aligned with the State Essential Learnings expectations in the area of reading or math. Some were sponsored by state agencies, professional education associations, or our University Place School District staff development department. In addition, reference materials, software and curriculum implementation materials were purchased to improve the teaching skills of our staff.

Other School Improvement Plans were developed in the areas of technology, school safety, and school climate. The contributions of these committees ensured that University Place Primary move forward with the implementation and use of technology to improve student learning. We worked with the local police and fire departments to see that we had policies and procedures in place to protect the safety of our students and staff. We continued our program to build a positive school climate where students are taught and practice appropriate behavior and social skills.

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 (566-5620) or the Educational Service Center (566-5600). Visit our website at: <http://www.upsd.wednet.edu>.

Our Students and Staff

UPP Students:

Enrollment

Grade	Number of Students	Average Class Size
K	84	21.0
1	87	21.7
2	101	25.3
3	85	21.3
4	95	23.8
Total	452	

Gender

Male:	54%
Female:	46%

Student Attendance

The average daily attendance is 96%.

Ethnicity

African American	11.7%
Asian	7.7%
Caucasian	74.6%
Hispanic	5.1%
Native American	.9%

Arts at UPP

We were pleased to have had the painter, Jose Orantes, working with our 4th grade students and our staff as an Artist-In-Residence for two weeks this spring. He assisted students with the creation of a large mural which now decorates the wall in our multi-purpose area. Students depicted Washington's native Americans, explorers of the Northwest, frontiersmen, and present day businesses as the themes for their work. This was an excellent opportunity for our students to express their understanding of the history of our state. We thank the Arts Commissions of the State of Washington and Pierce County for their support of this program.



UPP Staff:

Administrators	1
Teachers	26
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.

Reading Help

At-risk readers received additional support this school year at UPP. We were able to add a certified reading teacher to our staff. Students with special needs in reading were identified early and interventions began.

By January, the program was serving 56 students. Thirty-six of these students attended our after-school "Let's Read" program, three days a week. A variety of instructional strategies were used. This additional reading support enabled the children to be served more precisely at their levels and more intensively. Each student in the program took home at least five new books provided by our BOOKS FOR KIDS grant, which will continue next year.

Test Scores

Students at University Place 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.

U.P. Primary 4th Grade

	Percentile		
	96/97	97/98	96/99
Math	16.7	24.2	28.9
Reading	54.4	56.0	52.2
Writing	40.0	38.5	16.7
Listening	73.3	75.8	66.3

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.

University Place Primary 3rd Grade

	Percentile
	98/99
Reading	62
Math	66
Reading Math Composite	64

State-wide 3rd Grade

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

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.

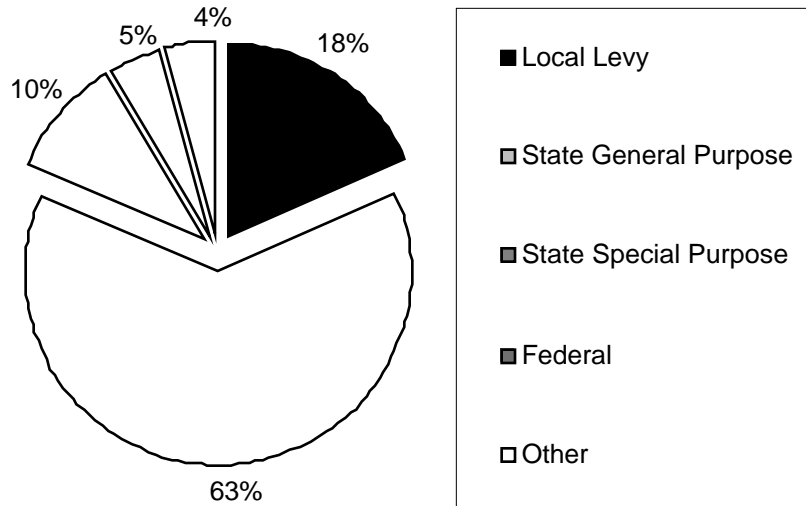
Budget Data

UPP Revenue Sources:

School Nerc	\$9,811
SLIG	\$14,272
ASB	\$14,000
Technology Levy	\$7,907
Basic Building Budget	\$64,592
Total	\$110,582

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

District Revenue Sources



School Use

Our school facility continues to be a suitable home for our community of learners. The classroom space is very adequate for instruction and each room has good storage for teaching materials. Sinks are available in each classroom which minimizes the need for students to leave the learning environment. We have flexible facilities for the quality music and physical education programs we offer our students. Children love to spend time in our media center, a large, comfortable space which includes areas for reading, class instructions, book and material storage and two very well equipped computer labs.

Since our building has been in place for a number of years, continuous and careful maintenance is required. This year all the water pipes in the lower 3rd and 4th grade hallway are being replaced. The roof over the kindergarten and first grade classroom wing and the hallway from that area to the office is being resurfaced. We will continue to provide a safe and healthy environment for our students now and into the future because of these facility improvement.

The combined efforts of our school and parents, the UPSD maintenance department, the City of University Place, the power company and U.S. West have resulted in the removal of the utility pole that was located on the north side of the building. We are very happy to have this traffic hazard removed from our bus loading zone. It improves safety for community motorists as well as our students who ride school buses.

Our building serves as a community center as well as a place for education. Children of all ages play on our playground after school and on weekends. Our sports fields and gymnasium are used by the City Parks and Recreation Department as well as various sports leagues and the school district to provide a wide range of athletic opportunities for young people. Boy and Girl Scout troops and parent support groups are some of the organizations that use our facility on evenings and weekends. We are also one of the community voting sites on Election Days.

We welcome all community members to come and visit the fine facility that the taxpayers of University Place have provided for our children.

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

Invitation to Parents

Teaching and learning is a collaborative effort between the child, parents and teachers. We invite you to join us in the very important job of educating the young children of University Place. Here are a few suggestions you might wish to consider.

- Read to or listen to your child read 15 minutes, 3-5 times a week.
- Check daily or weekly homework
- Provide a quiet place for your child to read or study
- Be sure to attend your child's parent-teacher conference and other special events your child participates in during the year
- Join PTSA
- Celebrate your child's successes
- Watch for and complete the parent survey during the fall conference
- Volunteer to work in the classroom or library
- Join us for field trips
- Read the Mustang Memo and other fliers sent home
- Ask questions when you are unsure or need information about what is happening at school

As you can see, there are many ways you can join us in educating your child. Choose those from the list that fit you and your family. And thanks in advance for your support!

Things are Looking U.P.

This committee of parents worked with student representatives from all classrooms, first through fourth grade, toward improving the aesthetic environment inside and outside of our school. Their first project was the planting of a new bulb garden in an area behind the portable classrooms adjacent to our playground. The Boy Scouts in our school further enhanced this project by building the white picket fence that surrounds the garden. The children were delighted this spring to observe the development and flowering of the 400 bulbs they had planted this October.

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, on-line 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.

