



# Sequoyah Middle School

## Profile 2008-2009

### What Is Special About Our School?

Sequoyah Middle School, Federal Way's seventh and newest middle school, was built from the ground up to enhance learning. The school is filled with natural light, a design feature that has been shown to positively impact students' academic performance. On each floor of the school's three wings, four classrooms cluster around a central area. This central "flex-space" is a comfortable, desk-free location where classes can gather to do collaborative work or spread out and to conduct experiments and other learning activities.

Each wing intersects with the central area, known as the "Forest" for the soaring natural wood pillars that run throughout it. But it's what's going on inside the school - math, science, and a whole lot of fun – that makes Sequoyah really special.

The school is made up of houses, one in each wing of the school. Sixth Grade students stay with the same teachers for two consecutive years, in a "looping" class. This strengthens student relationships with staff as well as peers, and provides a "continuum of learning" for all students. In this manner teachers spend less time getting to know students during the first few weeks of the year and are better able to develop individualized programs for students who are above or below standard.

Sequoyah Middle School is the first in the district to have an instructional focus, which is on math and science. All subjects are taught, of course, but math and science are incorporated in ways you wouldn't necessarily expect them. Situated on a 47-acre campus at the shore of Five Mile Lake, Sequoyah students explore rich environmental education opportunities right outside the door. From plant identification to water testing, Sequoyah students investigate relationships among the systems of the natural world. Active learning, inquiry, and problem solving are essential to help students build a solid foundation of knowledge and skills.

3425 S 360<sup>th</sup> Street  
Auburn, WA 98001

[www.fwps.org/sequoyah/](http://www.fwps.org/sequoyah/)  
(253) 945-3670

Principal: Vince Blausler (since 2008)

School Built: 2005

Number of Classrooms: 26

### Academic and Student Programs

Advanced Placement/Pre-AP	Jazz Band
AmeriCorps	Learning Resource Room
Art Club	Math & Poetry Club
Associated Student Body (ASB) & Leadership	Orchestra
AVID (Advance Via Individual Determination)	Photography Club
Band	PTSA
Breakfast & Lunch	Special Ed Inclusion
Chess Club	Special Ed Resource Room
Choral Music	Special Ed Self-Contained
ELL English Language Learners	Sports
ELO Extended Learning	Summer School/classes
Equity Club	Technology Lab
Graphic Design	Yearbook/Annual
Intramurals	Jazz Band
Advanced Placement/Pre-AP	

### No Child Left Behind Report Card

The No Child Left Behind Act requires all schools and school districts in the United States to prepare annual reports for parents and the public detailing their academic achievement. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction's web site makes this information available on-line at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/>, Click on Federal Way in the "Summary" box, then choose your school from the list. You may also request a paper copy of the report card at your school's office. For more information about the NCLB Act, go to <http://www.nclb.gov/index.html>

**Student Characteristics  
Distribution of Student Ethnicity  
(percentage)**

	2006	2007	2008
African American	11.76	9.60	10.26
Asian	16.21	18.10	17.57
Hispanic	10.62	12.60	12.44
Native American	1.72	1.40	2.33
White	57.96	54.80	53.97
Pac Islander	1.00	1.10	.78
Multi-Racial	.43	2.00	1.87

**Other Student Characteristics**

	2006	2007	2008
Number of Students (Oct.)	700	701	641
Free/Reduced Meals	45.4%	43.3%	43.1%

**How Are We Using Our Financial Resources?**

**Our District  
"Per Pupil" Expenditures for 2007-08**

Total Expenditure	\$8,902.00
Supplies & Instructional Materials	\$512.00
Equipment	\$51.00

**Our School Funding**

Building Expenditures	\$177,465.16
ASB (Associated Student Body) Expenditures	\$47,301.00

School resources were used for planning time, staff in-service time, workshops, conferences, computer software and hardware, materials, photocopying, curriculum materials, and computer supplies.

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**How Are Our Students Doing on Required Tests?**

\*Beginning in spring of 2006, the state of Washington requires that the WASL be given at sixth grade.

**Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)**

Grade 6				
<b>Reading</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
School	.0	66.0	65.4	68.0
District	.0	69.0	68.5	70.0
<b>Math</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
School	.0	53.0	50.0	52.0
District	.0	49.0	48.3	50.0

Spring of 2006 is the first time students at Sequoyah Middle School will participate in the Washington Assessment of Student Learning. 2006 scores will be released by OSPI in September 2006, and will appear on the official 2006-2007 school profiles.

Percentage Meeting Standard in:

Grade 7				
<b>Math</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
School	.0	47.0	56.0	59.0
District	53.0	51.0	54.0	52.0
<b>Reading</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
School	.0	57.0	68.3	69.0
District	75.0	66.0	72.4	67.0
<b>Writing</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
School	.0	64.0	66.5	71.0
District	66.0	67.0	70.7	73.0

Grade 8				
<b>Math</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
School	.0	40.0	52.8	57.0
District	.0	48.0	50.0	53.0
<b>Reading</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
School	.0	65.0	65.5	72.0
District	.0	76.0	69.0	70.0
<b>Science</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
School	.0	35.0	32.0	36.0
District	33.0	42.0	40.0	43.0