

# Naches Valley School District Annual School Performance Report 2004-05

## A Vision of Excellence

November 2005

www.naches.wednet.edu

### Superintendent's Message....

The numbers in this report reveal part of the story. The rest of the story is told through the energy, smiles, efforts of all of the students and teachers working so hard every day. We are getting the job done and working to improve, day by day. Parents and community members believe in us and are supportive. Students are coming to school ready to learn and working well with others. Teachers are delivering quality instruction daily. Our staff works hard to keep the buses running, to keep us organized, fed, and the buildings safe, warm and dry. Administrators and school board directors take their jobs seriously and work to lead and provide resources. This report shows that the people who live, study, work and play in Naches do care about children, do care about learning and are working well together.

*Duane Lyons*, Superintendent of Schools

### We are on a mission....

The **mission** of the Naches Valley School District is to provide, through the cooperation of parents, students, staff and community, an education for students which will help them to equip themselves with the skills necessary to live successfully in the future as positive, cooperating, contributing members of society.

### District Facilities & Demographics....

The Naches Valley School District operates four schools serving a student population of approximately 1,500 students. The primary school and intermediate school were constructed in the 1950s. Those 55 year old buildings are due for extensive renovation or replacement, in addition to some added space, since three portable classrooms are now in use.

The middle school was opened in the fall of 1994 and was designed to incorporate all new "state of the art" technology. The middle school, although one classroom over capacity (one portable is in use) will serve us well for years to come with some HVAC upgrades and routine maintenance.



The high school, composed of a main two-story building, gymnasium and vocational building, was opened in the fall of 1980 and houses grades 9 through 12 on a 26.2 acre campus. Presently the 25 year old building is getting one new boiler and is in need of some additional HVAC or mechanical improvements. We need some additional classroom space (two portable classrooms are in use). We also need to renovate and enclose the outside staircases and re-roof portions of the building. In our ongoing improvement efforts, we have just completed an energy project upgrading the lighting in our buildings to be more energy efficient.

### Annual Budget....

<b>Beginning Fund Balance (09/01/04)</b>	<b>794,095</b>
<b>Income</b>	
<b>State</b>	<b>8,092,365</b>
<b>Federal</b>	<b>757,645</b>
<b>Local (levy only)</b>	<b>1,407,450</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>418,785</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,676,245</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
<b>Basic Education</b>	<b>6,114,307</b>
<b>Special Education</b>	<b>854,724</b>
<b>Vocational Education</b>	<b>449,289</b>
<b>Federal &amp; State Projects</b>	<b>940,604</b>
<b>District Support</b>	<b>1,700,140</b>
<b>Food Services</b>	<b>317,933</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>580,648</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,957,645</b>
<b>Expenditures / Pupil</b>	<b>6,817</b>
<b>Operating Transfer Out</b>	<b>73,750</b>
<b>Ending Fund Balance (08/31/05)</b>	<b>438,945</b>

### District I-728 Funds

Initiative 728 was passed into law in the general election of November 2000. This initiative allows some of the local property taxes, that previously went to the State's general fund, to stay as local funding with the school districts. The Naches Valley School District has used this money to reduce class sizes, make available extended learning opportunities for students, provide professional development for staff members and purchase some needed equipment for the extended learning opportunities. The funding from Initiative 728 has given students the opportunity to improve on their learning skills.

## Primary School Postings....



### Our Philosophy

Naches Valley Primary School students are encouraged to have "Vision of Excellence" in all areas including: academics, relationships with classmates, loyalty to school and country, and in the development of a positive self-image. This is reflected by students exhibiting responsible self-direction, positive self-esteem, and a desire for life-long learning. In addition, both parents and teachers actively communicate and cooperate to provide the best-personalized educational program for each child based on Washington State's learning goals. It is through our dedication and commitment to learning that all students attending Naches Valley Primary School will be able to achieve their own "Vision of Excellence."

### Primary School Improvement Plan

During the 2004-2005 school year, the Naches Valley Primary School continued to make improvements in teaching and learning. Staff worked together to continue implementation of a new math program and adopt a new reading program.

Teachers piloted a number of reading programs from a variety of publishers throughout the school year. Sample lessons were taught and a final decision was made in May. The district adopted the Houghton-Mifflin reading program because of its strong comprehension components throughout the elementary grades.

The Primary School staff also made the decision to use the DIBELS reading assessment in grades K-2. Starting in the fall of 2005 students will be tested three times a year to show reading growth. Data from the test will also help teachers plan intervention strategies for students who are falling behind. The information from the DIBELS assessment will provide critical information to help teachers and students meet state reading standards.

Time was also provided for teachers to meet across grade levels to plan and discuss curriculum and teaching strategies in order to build consistency across the grades. Teachers worked in all areas of the curriculum to improve classroom instruction.

## Middle/Intermediate School News....

Continuous improvement and accountability are a focus of attention at the Naches Valley Middle and Intermediate Schools. We are using a variety of means to help us provide children with the best possible education. We strive for our students to master the basics, yet address the needs of the whole individual, as well.

At our schools, we focus on the basics, but we promote educational balance by providing a wide variety of courses for our students. Children may participate in an active music and arts program, after-school athletics, and a variety of other activities and leadership roles that promote well-rounded individuals. Our discipline programs, "On-a-Roll" and "Keys to Success," provide our students with a strong foundation for problem-solving and personal improvement. Our teachers teach more than curriculum – they teach young people!



The following School Improvement Goals were developed at the Middle School during the 2003-04 school year:

- 1) By 2006, the percentage of students meeting the standard on the reading portion of the WASL will be: Grade 4 – 80.1, Grade 7 – 57.7.
- 2) By 2006, the percentage of students meeting the standard on the mathematics portion of the WASL will be: Grade 4 – 70.6, Grade 7 – 46.1.
- 3) By 2006, the percentage of students meeting the standard on the writing portion of the WASL will be: Grade 4 – 57.2, Grade 7 – 57.9.
- 4) We will improve the learning and teaching environment by creating a more positive and safe atmosphere in our school. We will achieve this by increasing positive awards by 15% and decreasing discipline referrals by 15% over 3 years.

We continue to make math a focus for improvement in our schools. The district adopted new reading and writing curriculum for grades K-7 in 2004-05. Our hope is to build on our already successful program by providing staff and students with a research-based program with proven success. We are excited about the possibilities an enhanced Language Arts curriculum will provide our students.

Our staff continues to utilize other effective programs. The "Accelerated Reader" program promotes reading and literacy, as well as valuable data for our teachers. Our 7<sup>th</sup> grade staff worked with community members to provide a team-building day that helped students to recognize important themes in working together for success. We reinforce positive performance through our Saturday School program – where students can receive careful assistance in a less imposing classroom environment.

Educating the children of our community is an important task that we take seriously. We will continue to focus on the improvement of teaching and learning for the benefit of our most important resource – the next generation!

## High School Happenings....

Naches Valley High School is a four-year, comprehensive school with an enrollment of 519 students, accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and of Colleges and Universities (NASCU). Approximately 60% of its graduates enter college during the fall term immediately following high school graduation. Another 9% enter trade schools, 7% join the military services, 20% work full-time, and the remaining 4% pursue other occupations.

## Opportunities to Improve at NVHS

At Naches Valley High School two areas of focus emerged for our School Improvement Plan during the 2004-05 school year. The first was implementation of the Senior Project. The second was the study of an Alternative Program.

The senior project was a requirement as part of their Contemporary World Problems (CWP) class. It consisted of four parts: research, product, oral presentation, and reflective phase. The students, through completing the Senior Project, will demonstrate that they can communicate satisfactorily and effectively both in written and oral form. They will also need to have the ability to organize their time, make long term plans, persevere, work independently, and problem solve.

A committee of teachers, students, parents, and administrators took on the task of studying the need for alternative education in the Naches Valley School District. The committee did a thorough analysis of the following areas: needs assessment, mission & beliefs, budget (funding), curriculum, facilities, transportation, staffing, and equipment. An application and screening process was developed for student selection. The school board accepted the committee's proposal for a start-up of the program for the 2005-06 school year.

## SAT / ACT Test Results

Besides taking the State tests (ITED and WASL), our students are strongly encouraged to take the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) and/or the ACT (American College Test). Scores from both of these tests are used by many of the four-year colleges as one of the several factors used in determining whether a student is admitted to their school. Below is a summarization of the SAT/ACT results from last years' summer and fall testing.



	# of 12th Graders taking SAT/ACT	% of 12th Graders taking SAT/ACT	Scores		
			Verbal	Math	Total
NVHS	31	27	462	461	923
State Ave.			532	534	1066
National	1,419,007	49	508	520	1028

## Senior Projects

The Senior Project at Naches Valley High School demonstrates the newest emphases in school reform in the State of Washington. **Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships** have now become a mantra of the high school reform movement and are embedded in Washington's initiative called **Project Graduation**.

**Rigor** is the topic where teachers at all levels understand the struggle to make learning meaningful. Students often resist the textbook approach to instruction because they

see little, if any, relationship between the text and their lives. Good instructional projects challenge students to solve real-world problems and present their findings. A project-based approach to instruction presents students with problem-focused assignments that are meaningful, interesting and valuable.

**Relevance** - Independent research studies allow students to choose topics related to the subject of study. Students gather, record, evaluate and organize information and draw conclusions based on what they have learned. They use oral and written communication skills to present their findings.

**Relationships** are accomplished through the Senior Project at NVHS through our theme: "Community Service." Each project is created with the goal in mind of giving back the knowledge learned, product created, or lessons learned to individuals or groups in order for those individuals or groups to reap the benefits. Whether it is creating a wooden filing system to give to a teacher, or painting a mural in the art room, relationships are bound by the efforts these students give in creating a successful project that can be utilized by many others.

*Mr. John Hallead, Senior Projects Teacher, says, "Overall, the first year of the Senior Project was a success because of the evolution of the process. We started with a baseline, adopted from Cascade High School in Leavenworth, as to how to facilitate the Senior Project. This project will always be a constantly evolving project. Last year, there were many things to learn, especially who each student is and what their strengths are. We had 110 overall projects."*

*One of the projects that sticks out in my mind included a scale model of a dream house by Travis Carter. He spent around \$40 total for the project, as he efficiently used time management and his skills as a "penny-pincher" to get a lot of materials free. His project was showcased on two different local news stations and was a favorite of my second semester students."*

- Rebuild a truck engine
- Landscape/irrigate a park
- Create a PowerPoint/CD ROM promoting the armed forces
- Put on a free basketball/baseball clinic
- Build a shed
- Build a wooden file cabinet system
- Build a computer from scratch
- Create a music video/CD Soundtrack
- Learn sign language
- Create a Spanish cultural encyclopedia
- Build a website
- Start a Health/Fitness club at NVHS
- Paint all parking lot spaces and numbers
- Train a seeing-eye dog
- Paint a portrait of a friend

## Testing .... 1, 2, 3, 4



Grade 2	Spring 2004	Spring 2005
Reading	66.0	65.0
Language	65.0	62.0
Math	63.0	58.0

**ITBS (Iowa Test of Basic Skills)**  
(In National Percentile of the Average Scaled Score: Nat'l Student Norms)

Grade 3	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005
Reading	63.0	66.0	61.0	63.0
Language	60.0	62.0	58.0	61.0
Math	70.0	74.0	73.0	73.0

Grade 6	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005
Reading	57.0	53.0	52.0	56.0
Language	59.0	56.0	59.0	58.0
Math	59.0	52.0	51.0	55.0

### ITED (Iowa Test of Educational Development)

Grade 9	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005
Reading	54.0	47.0	48.0	47.0
Language	59.0	53.0	55.0	51.0
Math	58.0	54.0	57.0	52.0

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

Grade 4	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	State
Reading	70.2	70.9	79.5	74.1	79.2
Math	57.3	58.3	66.7	50	60.6
Writing	49.2	51.2	46.2	59.8	57.5
Grade 5	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	State
Science	n/a	n/a	n/a	22	35.5
Grade 7	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	State
Reading	44.2	40.6	58	60.9	68.7
Math	24.6	24.8	44.3	47.8	50.5
Writing	55.1	51.9	54.2	59.4	60.9
Grade 8	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	State
Science	n/a	n/a	27.7	42.6	32.6
Grade 10	Spring 2002	Spring 2003	Spring 2004	Spring 2005	State
Reading	64.4	51.6	59.8	69.6	72.4
Math	35.6	33.9	40.2	37.8	47.1
Writing	61.9	54.4	59.8	68.2	64.7
Science	n/a	n/a	35.2	34.5	35.6

\*\* For further information, access the OSPI website at [www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us) and click on WASL 2004.

## District Statistics....

Average Enrollment:	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Kindergarten	108	106	90	91
1st Grade	112	110	97	94
2nd Grade	109	117	116	102
3rd Grade	127	114	111	116
4th Grade	124	129	118	112
5th Grade	125	124	132	122
6th Grade	127	135	131	128
7th Grade	138	134	132	138
8th Grade	121	149	138	134
9th Grade	140	127	154	141
10th Grade	128	130	126	148
11th Grade	122	110	118	113
12th Grade	88	113	102	105
Running Start	16	14	12	12

Average Daily Student Attendance (%):	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Primary School	94	94	99	96
Middle/Int. School	96	96	96	93
High School	94	94	94	94

Free/Reduced Lunch (%):	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Primary School	34.1	36.8	36.0	35.8
Middle/Int. School	31.6	34.8	34.6	34.3
High School	22.2	24.1	15.6	18.7

H.S. Graduation Rate	93.0	95.0	96.0	94.0
H.S. Drop Out Rate	1.9	1.1	2.4	2.2

Ethnic Breakdown (%):	P.S.	I.S./M.S.	H.S.
Black	0.4	1.7	0.7
Asian	0.0	0.7	0.6
American Indian	0.7	0.8	0.9
Hispanic	15.2	15.9	10.3
White	83.7	80.9	87.5

Staff Composition in FTE's:	P.S.	I.S./M.S.	H.S.
Certificated	18.9	38.4	29.0
Classified	15.6	16.2	11.0
Administrators	1.0	2.5	2.5
Dist. Support Staff	4.0	4.0	5.0
TOTAL	39.5	61.1	47.5

## Questions or Comments???

The Naches Valley School District staff is always available to answer community and parent questions regarding its school system and the exciting educational developments continually occurring. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call one of the following individuals:

☎ Duane Lyons, Superintendent .....	653-2220
☎ Rich Rouleau, High School Principal .....	653-2342
☎ Todd Hilmes, Inter./Middle School Principal .....	653-2725
☎ Allison Schnebly, Primary School Principal .....	966-5050
☎ Lori Gylling, Special Programs Director .....	653-2122



Please visit our website or any of the school offices for a more extensive version of the Annual School Performance Report.

The Naches Valley School District Board of Directors currently includes: President, Ron Freeze; Vice-President, Don Flyckt; and members Bruce Drollinger, Stan Olson, and George Pickard. On December 12, 2005, newly-elected board members Todd Huck and Stacy Young will replace Ron Freeze and Stan Olson, respectively.

Naches Valley School District School board meetings are generally the fourth Monday of the month with a work session held the second Monday of the month. To obtain an agenda before the meeting, call the district office, 653-2220 or email [nvsd@naches.wednet.edu](mailto:nvsd@naches.wednet.edu).

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