

# Christensen Elementary School

## Franklin Pierce School District School Performance Report for 2011-2012

❖ 10232 Barnes Lane South, Tacoma, WA 98444 ❖ 253-298-3300

### A Message from the Principal

Student progress during the 2011-2012 school year gave us reason to celebrate and areas to increase our focus and support. We decreased the achievement gap for all students when comparing Christensen 5<sup>th</sup> graders and the state in reading, math and science (based on the percentage of students who passed the MSP). We also decreased the achievement gap for all students when comparing Christensen and the state in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade math. In addition, we found that a focus in several math areas would help our students achieve at higher levels on state assessments.

Academic accomplishment is our number one goal and we know that will only be achieved if we maintain a focus on three things: high quality teaching, responsive interventions and a strong school culture that supports the success of all students. Our teachers maintain a high level of expertise through collaboration with-in and across grade levels, working closely with our instructional coach and focusing on their own professional learning. Our programs focus on responsive support through high quality RTI (Response To Instruction) practices that help us catch students who are below grade level and excel students who are above. Finally we are very proud of our school community and its focus on a culture of hope. Kids At Hope is our cultural framework and it keeps our focus on what matters, making sure that all students are successful, no exceptions.

These are the things that make Christensen great, but we can be so much better the more we partner with you, our parents and community members. We need your support of the work we are doing. Parent Trainings around the Kids At Hope culture are coming. Please sign up. Talk to your child's teacher regularly via email, phone calls or visiting the classroom to learn more about how you can help your child succeed more and more each day. Parent involvement events have been planned for this year that will give you the tools to make sure your child gets the best education they can, right here at Christensen!

~Mr. Tim Enfield, Principal & Treasure Hunter

### Educational Goals for 2012-2013

As part of our school improvement planning we developed building goals and detailed action plans in four areas: Math, Reading, Graduation Rate and Family Involvement. Each grade level also develops short-term goals based on assessment data then re-tests and revises them every four to six weeks. You are encouraged to contact your child's teacher about these and more individual goals for your child. I also encourage you to view our building goals and action plans in our Schoolwide Improvement Plan located on the Franklin Pierce School District web site at [www.fpschools.org](http://www.fpschools.org). Once there, go to *Students & Parents*, then *our schools* and then click on *Christensen Elementary School*.

### State Test Results 2011-2012

There are many celebrations and some challenges that were evident when we examined the state testing data from the spring 2012 MSP. When reviewing student growth, it is important to compare the progress that groups of students are making. While significant improvement was made in the area of reading for our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, our 4<sup>th</sup> graders passed at a much lower rate. After staff review and planning, our School wide Improvement Plan was developed to focus our instructional efforts. These plans are available any time by contacting the main office; just ask for a copy of our SIP plans. You can see more specific testing data in the rest of this report or by going to the OSPI web site at [www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us) and clicking on "school report card" to find information specific to Franklin Pierce School District and Christensen Elementary.



#### Vision

Every student graduates from high school prepared to succeed in post-secondary education.

#### Core Business

Engage all students in rigorous, relevant, high quality work.

#### Beliefs

1. Every student can learn to think, reason, and achieve at high levels.
2. Every student can learn more every day.
3. Every Student has potential for educational and economic success beyond high school.
4. Every teacher is a "leader of learning" whose primary job is to engage students in meaningful experiences that result in desired learning.
5. Our ability to build positive relationships with students contributes to learning.
6. Every school principal is a "leader of leaders."
7. Every staff member has the responsibility to support the core business.

#### District Goals

Increase academic achievement of all students.

Prepare students for success beyond high school.

Maintain safe and caring schools

Promote family and community involvement in our schools.

## Facility Information

Christensen Elementary opened in 1959. It was named after Andrew C. Christensen, Sr., descendant of a pioneer Parkland family and a member of the school board from 1935 - 1955.

In the 1960's two small covered play areas were enclosed to create a library and what now houses special education classes. The 600 building was completed in the fall of 1992. The Franklin Pierce Building Trades Class constructed the music building which opened in the fall of 1997. The last remodel was completed in 2000.

## School-wide Title One Program

Our school receives federal funding from what is commonly known as Title One. These funds are dedicated to support students who need additional assistance in learning. Through the School Improvement Planning (SIP) process a committee of staff and parents determine how we can best use these funds. Students receive additional instruction both in and out of the classroom from certificated and classified teaching staff. This planning results in several SIP Action Plans. Our teachers receive ongoing training from our instructional coach and are supported by district sponsored training. We have a committee of staff and parent reps that monitors the SIP plan development and its implementation throughout the year. Call Mr. Enfield at 253-298-3300 if you would like to hear more about how Title One funds support our SIP.

## Parent Involvement

It's no secret that parent involvement is a great way to raise the level of student achievement. PTA is a great way to be involved working with other parents committed to their school community. Contact our school office for information on joining our PTA. You can also register as a volunteer by contacting our Volunteer Coordinator at 253-298-3300. All volunteers and regular visitors are required to complete a Washington State Patrol background check every year.

## Kids At Hope

Research is clear that a strong school culture is key to students' success. Our framework for creating a culture of success is Kids At Hope. At Christensen we are committed to this simple idea, "All Students are Capable of Success, No Exceptions!" We believe that the success of every student in our school is related to the hope they have for their future. Kids At Hope is a way of looking at each student's strengths and building on them. Rather than seeing students as "*at risk*" we see them as "*at hope*". Caring adults here at Christensen surround students by first believing in them and helping them articulate their future. Then we give them the tools and opportunities they need to succeed.

## Highly Qualified Staff

Parents of students in Title One schools can request information regarding the instructional staff who work with their children, including whether the teacher is state-certified; whether the teacher is working with an emergency or a conditional certificate where state certification has been waived; and the teacher's major/field of study in their college/graduate program. If students are receiving instructional services from a paraeducator, parents may also request information regarding the paraeducator's professional qualifications. If you would like to request this information, please contact the Human Resources Department at 253-298-3082

## Cougar Club

Christensen has an after-school enrichment program made possible by a 21st Century Learning Community Centers Grant. The grant program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours for children. The program helps students meet state and local student standards in core academic subjects, such as reading & math. It also offers students a broad array of enrichment activities that can complement their regular academic programs. The 5-year program is in its second school year. Students are provided additional time to complete school work; focus on math, reading and writing skills. An hour of enrichment activities are also part of the program. The staff includes one full time and several teachers, along with many volunteers.

## Looping

All teachers at Christensen "loop" with their classes for two years. We have a kindergarten to first grade loop, second grade to third grade loop and a fourth grade to fifth grade loop. This allows teachers to maintain strong connections with students and families over two years.

## School Test Results

For more information, please visit the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) website at: [www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us) and link to "State Report Card". You can find Christensen Elementary and view MSP test data for the past several years.

School Year	06-07	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12
Math 3 <sup>rd</sup>	70.4%	45.6%	55.6%	49.3%	47.6%	55.1%
Reading 3 <sup>rd</sup>	53.5%	43.0%	66.7%	60.0%	69.8%	62.3%
Math 4 <sup>th</sup>	35.2%	52.6%	37.0%	45.2%	56.9%	35.5%
Reading 4 <sup>th</sup>	64.2%	73.1%	64.9%	61.3%	71.9%	62.9%
Writing 4 <sup>th</sup>	50.0%	60.3%	59.5%	64.5%	71.9%	52.5%
Science 5 <sup>th</sup>	2.7%	22.6%	30.3%	9.5%	18.3%	51.4%
Math 5 <sup>th</sup>	48.6%	43.4%	61.8%	42.9%	46.7%	62.9%
Reading 5 <sup>th</sup>	55.4%	73.6%	72.4%	66.7%	58.3%	68.6%

### 11-12 Christensen Enrollment

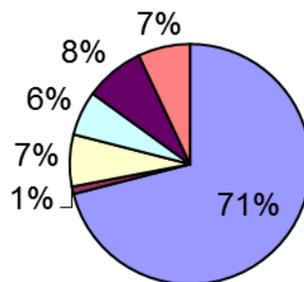
### 11-12 District Budget

Enrollment:	
October 2011 Student Count	417
Ethnicity:	
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.5%
Asian	4.8%
Black	14.9%
Hispanic	21.1%
Pacific Islander	19.2%
White	33.3%
Gender:	
Male	45.6%
Female	54.4%
Class Size:	
Smallest Class	19
Largest Class	25
Average Class	22
Number of Classes:	
Preschool (am/pm)	2
Kindergarten (all day)	3
First Grade	3
Second Grade	3
Third Grade	3
Fourth Grade	3
Fifth Grade	3

District Fund Balance	
11-12 Beginning Fund Balance	\$4,000,000
Income	\$74,690,890
Expenses	-\$74,921,463
11-12 Ending Fund Balance	\$3,769,427
General Fund / Income	
Tax Base (Local Property Tax)	\$16,809,497
State Support	\$48,850,281
Federal Support	\$8,977,312
Other Sources	\$83,800
Total	\$74,690,890

Expenditures Per Student	
Teaching Activities	\$36.84
Teaching Support	\$4.63
Food Service	\$2.25
Transportation	\$2.18
Building Administration	\$3.34
Building Operation	\$4.29
Central Administration	\$4.15
Other Support Services	\$0.82
Total Cost Per Day	\$58.50

### District Expenditures



- Schools and Instruction
- Other Services
- Central Administration
- Supervision of Instruction
- Food Service & Transportation
- Maintenance & Utilities

For more specific data, please log onto: [www.k12.wa.us](http://www.k12.wa.us)

**Nondiscrimination Policy:** The Franklin Pierce School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, marital status or disability. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extra-curricular school activities. Franklin Pierce School District is a tobacco-free and drug-free environment. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to: Wendy Malich, Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer, phone number (253)298-3956 and Gary Benson, Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, phone number (253) 298-3004, and William Rasplica, 504 Officer, 315 129<sup>th</sup> Street South, Tacoma, Washington, 98444-5099, phone number (253)298-3005.

At Christensen Elementary School  
we believe in three universal truths:

1. Kids are successful when they are surrounded by adults who believe they can succeed.
2. Kids are successful when they have meaningful and sustainable relationships with caring adults.
3. Kids are successful when they can see and articulate their future.



All children are capable of success, NO EXCEPTIONS!