

**Christensen Elementary School**  
10232 Barnes Lane So., Tacoma, WA 98444  
**School Performance Report for 2012-2013 School Year**



### **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.

## **A Message from the Principal**

Student progress during the 2012-2013 school year gave us reason to celebrate and areas to increase our focus and support. Overall the data was good and the progress in many areas was great! Here is a summary of our state test results.

### **Celebrations:**

69% of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students either reached benchmark or met their individual growth goal on the spring district test. 83% of 4<sup>th</sup> grade students either reached benchmark or met their individual growth goal on the spring district test. Over 73% of our fifth graders passed the state test.

77% of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students either reached benchmark or met their individual growth goal on the spring district test. 91% of 4<sup>th</sup> grade students either reached benchmark or met their individual growth goal on the spring state test. Over 70% of our fourth graders passed the district test.

### **Areas of Focus:**

3<sup>rd</sup> grade will focus on comprehension and analysis of text.

4<sup>th</sup> grade will focus on analysis of text and informational text.

5<sup>th</sup> grade will focus on the literary component of the state test.

Grades 3-5 will focus on developing problem solving/reasoning skills.

We have new math materials this year and instruction is shifting to follow the framework of the Common Core State Standards. We are making some changes to our reading instruction with a greater focus on small group support so that all students get feedback every day. Academic accomplishment is our number one goal. We achieve this with high quality teaching, responsive interventions and a strong school culture that supports the success of all students. 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.

Mr. Tim Enfield, Principal and Treasure Hunter

## **Educational Goals for 2013-2014**

As part of our school improvement plan, we have developed building goals and detailed action strategies in four areas: Math, Reading, Graduation Rate and Family Involvement. Each grade level has also developed short-term goals based on student assessment data. Every four to six weeks those goals may be revised based on student test results. You are encouraged to contact your child's teacher to learn more about these and individual goals for your child.

## **2012-2013 State Test Results**

There are many celebrations and some challenges that were evident when we examined the state testing data from the spring 2013 MSP. When reviewing student growth, it is important to compare the progress that groups of students made. While significant improvements were 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 (S.I.P.) was developed. This plan will help guide our focus on our instructional efforts and you may request a copy any time by contacting the main office. 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" for Franklin Pierce School District and Christensen Elementary.

## 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 receive additional instruction both in and out of the classroom from certificated and classified teaching staff. Through the school improvement planning process a committee of staff and parents is formed to determine how we can best use these funds. This committee of representatives monitor the S.I.P. plan and its implementation throughout the year. Our teachers receive ongoing training from our instructional coach and are supported by district sponsored training. Call Mr. Enfield at 253-298-3300 if you would like more information about how Title One funds support our school improvement plan.

## 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 connect with other parents who are committed to the school community. Contact our school office for information on joining our PTA.

This is our second year implementing the Watch D.O.G. program. It has made a positive impact in the lives of students. If you are a father or father figure consider signing up today. For more information contact Nicola Roppo at 298-3370.

You can also register as a volunteer by contacting our coordinator at 298-3300. All volunteers, Watch D.O.G.'s and regular visitors are required to complete a Washington State Patrol background check every year.

## Highly Qualified Staff

Parents of students in Title One schools can request information regarding the instructional staff who work with their children. This includes whether the teacher is state-certified, 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 para educators, parents may also request information regarding the paraeducators 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 program made possible by a 21st Century Learning Community Centers Grant. The grant program supports the creation of community learning centers that provide academic support opportunities during after school hours for children. The program helps students meet state and district 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. Students are provided additional time to complete school work; focusing on math, reading and writing skills. An hour of enrichment activities are also part of the program. The staff includes one full time person and several teachers, along with many volunteers. The 5-year program is in its fourth school year.

## Looping

All teachers at Christensen stay or "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 these two years.

## Parents and Community

During the spring of 2013, we conducted a survey and 112 parents and community members responded. The following were the results: over 90% felt Christensen is a safe school. Over 93% said that their child was being supported very well. 94% said that the staff to parent interactions were very positive, and over 95% felt that the overall experience was very positive for them and their child(ren)!

## 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*". Success for all students begins when caring adults believe in and connect with students.

## 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.

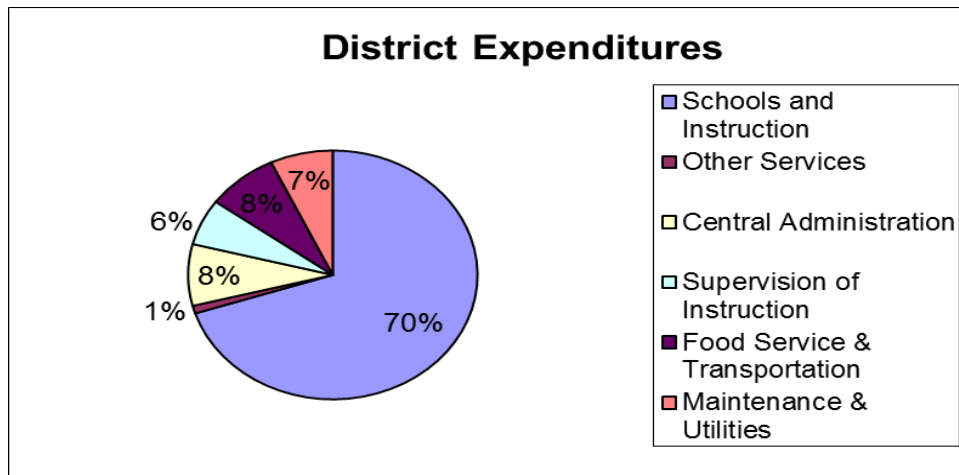
	07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13
Math 3 <sup>rd</sup>	45.6%	55.6%	49.3%	47.6%	55.1%	62.5%
Reading 3 <sup>rd</sup>	43.0%	66.7%	60.0%	69.8%	62.3%	61.6%
Math 4 <sup>th</sup>	52.6%	37.0%	45.2%	56.9%	35.5%	70.8%
Reading 4 <sup>th</sup>	73.1%	64.9%	61.3%	71.9%	62.9%	68.2%
Writing 4 <sup>th</sup>	60.3%	59.5%	64.5%	71.9%	52.5%	75.8%
Science 5 <sup>th</sup>	22.6%	30.3%	9.5%	18.3%	51.4%	52.8%
Math 5 <sup>th</sup>	43.4%	61.8%	42.9%	46.7%	62.9%	50.9%
Reading 5 <sup>th</sup>	73.6%	72.4%	66.7%	58.3%	68.6%	73.6%

## 2012-2013 Christensen Enrollment

Enrollment: October 2012 Student Count: 433

Ethnicity	
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0.9%
Asian	6.7%
Black	16.6%
Hispanic	26.1%
Pacific Islander	8.3%
White	28.9%
Gender	
Male	44.3%
Female	55.7%

Expenditures per student		District Fund Balance	
Teaching Activities	\$ 35.68	12-13 Beginning Balance	\$ 8,500,000
Teaching Support	\$ 6.85	Income	\$ 76,958,059
Food Service	\$ 2.34	Expenses	\$ 79,960,984
Transportation	\$ 2.38	12-13 Ending Balance	\$ 88,497,075
Building Administration	\$ 3.51	General Fund/Income	
Building Operation	\$ 4.40	Tax Base (Local Property Tax)	\$10,318,949
Central Administration	\$ 4.57	State Support	\$ 49,275,213
Other support services	\$ 0.89	Federal Support	\$ 9,264,041
		Other Sources	\$ 83,800
Total cost per day	\$ 60.60	Total	\$ 68,942,003



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

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!

**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)298-3023 and Dr. Shaun Carey, 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.