



### *Balboa's Mission Statement*

*Balboa Elementary provides a positive, safe, learning environment embracing our children, families, staff and community. The staff is committed to high educational standards. We challenge students to be curious, active participants in working individually and cooperatively to reach their highest potential. The staff guides all students in the development of confidence, strong character and a lifelong love of learning.*



# Balboa

## Elementary School

3010 West Holyoke Avenue • Spokane, WA 99208-4699 • 354-2220

### **Welcome to Balboa Elementary!**

The staff and I hope your child's school experiences at Balboa will be both happy and productive. Our responsibility is to provide the very best education possible for your child. In addition to the basic academic program, cooperation, respect and responsibility are encouraged.

A child's school success is highly dependent upon the relationship that exists between parent and teacher, as well as the active participation of parents in school activities. We invite you to become involved at Balboa, so together we can provide a successful school experience for your child.

Involvement comes in myriad ways. Many volunteer in the classroom, while some become literacy volunteers, go on field trips, attend PTG meetings and/or become involved in a PTG project. Have other talents to share? Please give us a call or stop by the office. We look forward to having you as a partner in your child's education.

### **What Makes Balboa Special?**

Nestled in a quiet neighborhood among pines on a park-like setting of 9.15 acres, Balboa is a hub of neighborhood activity during and after school hours. The student body is enriched by Montessori and Design Instruction classes. A caring staff works closely with Balboa families and the community to make Balboa a wonderful place for students to learn. Academic and social success for all is our top priority.

Our accomplishments include:

- \*88 percent of our fifth grade students met or exceeded standard in the reading portion of the WASL and 81 percent of our fifth grade students met or exceeded standard in the mathematics portion of the WASL last spring! In grades 3 and 4, over 80 percent of our students met or exceeded standard in reading.
- \* A staff committed to the four R's – reading, writing, arithmetic and relationships.
- \* Parent involvement in many aspects of school – academics at school and home, extracurricular activities, PTG and student programs.
- \* A Jump Rope Club that meets before school with almost 100 students participating on a weekly basis. The group took top honors once again in the Junior Lilac Parade.
- \* Six teachers who have participated in BLT (Building Leaders in Technology) training.
- \* Active partnerships with Indian Trail Yoke's Fresh Markets and Five Mile Starbucks.

### **Think globally. Learn Locally.**

In 2010, the top 10 jobs in the country will be jobs that did not exist in 2004.

Technical information is more than doubling every two years.

Our challenge is to prepare students for jobs that do not exist yet, that will use technologies that have not been invented yet, in order to solve problems that are not even problems yet.

At Spokane Public Schools, we are committed to ensuring academic success for all students. To do that, we are:

Focusing on powerful teaching.

Ensuring the district's curriculum lines up with state standards and is taught in every classroom.

Infusing our classrooms with technology.

Providing more support for our teachers, including dedicated time for collaboration.

Working to provide rigorous and relevant instruction for students.

Encouraging supportive relationships.

As a result of our efforts, more students are taking advanced placement courses than ever before. Our students' average SAT scores continue to exceed state and national averages. More than twice the number of graduates joined an apprenticeship right out of high school than when we started the program three years ago.

Because of our community's support, we are able to continue our work toward becoming a world-class system. Thank you!



Spokane Public Schools  
excellence for everyone

## **Annual Report Card 2008**

## Balboa School Students' Trends in WASL Performance

## Major Goals from School Improvement Plan

By June 2009, Balboa Elementary students will demonstrate a solid foundation in reading, writing and mathematics. We will continue to increase student access to technology and strengthen staff technology skills through professional development and application of skills indicated by increased use of technology as a tool for instruction across all curricular areas.

Balboa students will demonstrate social responsibility and respectful behavior. Balboa Elementary will provide a personalized learning environment where relationships support student success, helping students feel part of the school learning community. Environmental structures and relational opportunities will serve as evidence of this goal.

## Summary of School Data

Expenditures per pupil..... \$9,895.83  
Annual school budget ..... \$52,959

For more information regarding this school's academic achievement and other related data, please visit [reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us](http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us).

## District AYP Message

The intent of the federal No Child Left Behind Act is to ensure that all students have the knowledge and skills they need to be productive and engaged citizens. Under NCLB, schools and districts that receive federal funds must make Adequate Yearly Progress toward the goal of 100 percent of students meeting state standards by 2014 or be subject to various sanctions.

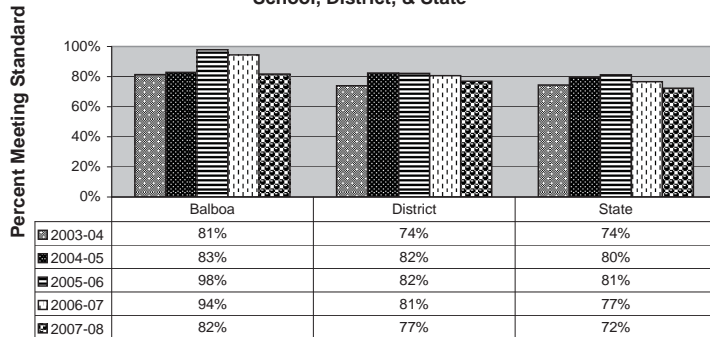
Districts are considered to have made AYP if they meet requirements in 111 areas. Spokane Public Schools did not make AYP this year because it missed 15 of these areas, and is considered to be in Step 1 of improvement. Statewide, only 84 districts out of 296 made AYP this year. Most of the districts that made AYP are relatively small districts and benefitted from the small number of students enrolled.

Because of this, we are required to revise our district improvement plan. Our SPS families are vital partners in improving schools, and we welcome you to actively participate in the revision and update of the improvement plan. Contact your school for more information. We are proud of the work we are doing and are committed to the success of each student.

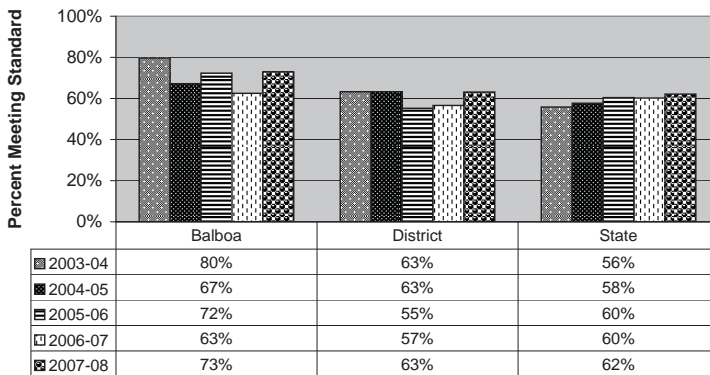
## Levy and Bond Replacement

This March, Spokane Public Schools will ask the community to vote on a replacement levy and bond. These measures both supply essential funds to support our students and provide them good places to learn. Find out more at [spokaneschools.org](http://spokaneschools.org) or call 354-7340.

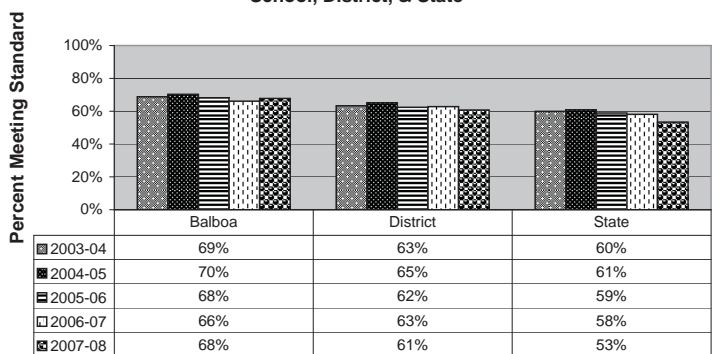
Percent Meeting Reading Standard - 4th Grade  
School, District, & State



Percent Meeting Writing Standard 4th Grade  
School, District, & State



Percent Meeting Math Standard - 4th Grade  
School, District, & State



**Spokane Public Schools Mission:**  
*To develop the skills and talents of all students through rigorous learning experiences, supportive relationships, and relevant real-life applications.*