



### *Bancroft's Mission Statement*

*The mission of Bancroft is to develop each student's capacity to learn and experience academic success, to strengthen positive relationships, and to become a contributing member of the community.*

*We provide a safe, respectful environment that is enhanced by the diversity and uniqueness of our students and reflects the interdependency of our programs.*



# Bancroft

1025 West Spofford Avenue • Spokane, WA 99205-4535 • 354-7100

## Welcome to Bancroft!

Bancroft is a Title I school in Northwest Spokane where students have the opportunity to gain competence in academics and social skills needed for a successful life.

At Bancroft our staff are committed to the following beliefs:

We believe that all students need an environment where they feel physically and emotionally safe. Our staffs are highly trained in relationship development, de-escalation and crisis management.

We believe students need to feel connected to staff and to each other to be successful in school. Our small school setting (about 100 students) allows each student to receive personalized attention and support.

We believe that students need to experience competency and build new skills through a gradual increase of responsibility and expectations. We emphasize training in behavior and social skills as well as academics.

We believe that students perform at higher levels when provided with challenging curriculum. Our teachers use standard district curriculum and modify instruction and materials to meet their needs. Our students participate in district and state testing to measure academic progress.

We believe that parents are an integral part of their child's success. We maintain close contact with parents and families and invite them to partner with us to better understand and serve their child. Parents are often requested to meet with staff to problem solve with their child. We have an annual all-school Family Night with food, bingo, a book fair, and we feature student's work. Our Family Connections program also has monthly Family Night activities to involve parents in their child's progress.

We believe that students are more engaged in school when they are actively involved in high interest areas. We have a range of electives accessed by various programs: wood shop, weight training, art, drama, nutrition and cooking classes, and Spanish. Students are able to participate in frequent field trips into the community to apply and practice new skills. We also have a Student Leadership Team, where student representatives from each program plan all-school projects and activities. These students are often called upon to help problem solve and mediate conflicts with their peers.

We believe that we are all lifelong learners, staff as well as students. Bancroft staff is committed to weekly collaboration time working together as a professional learning community. Staff development activities are continual, with our staff participating in a variety of national and district workshops and trainings, and sharing their expertise with each other.

We believe that each of us is enriched because of our differences. We work together to share our cultures and our life perspectives. We believe that working together, we are stronger and wiser than any of us working alone.

We believe all students want to succeed in school and life and their parents want them to succeed as well. We recognize that our students will need our most thoughtful and deliberate support to achieve their goals. We are energized by the hopes and dreams of our students and our privilege in working with them.

## 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!



## Annual Report Card 2008

## Major Goals from School Improvement Plan

### Bancroft School Goals

1. Increase application of best instructional practices.
  - Workshop model
  - Thinking strategies
  - Formative assessment
  - Summative assessment
  - Use of instructional coach
  - Personalization
2. Create a professional learning community (PLCs).
  - Peer learning labs
  - Instructional coaching
3. Explore and apply concepts of cultural competency.

### What Makes Bancroft Special?

Bancroft is a small, alternative school (approximately 100 students in grades 4-12) that provides services through three distinct programs. These programs provide a specialized educational setting for non-traditional students and are designed to meet their individual needs.

- We encourage the growth of personal responsibility and independence of our students.
- We understand and plan for the unique social, emotional, behavioral and academic needs of our students.
- We believe families are primary to a student's success in school and actively work to include them in their child's educational program.

Our staff is committed to continual professional development. Bancroft staff members participate in several days of training throughout the school year and in the summer to be better equipped to serve their students. Bancroft teachers participate in peer learning labs throughout the school year and also hold weekly collaboration meetings.

As part of our commitment to better serve our students, most teachers who are trained in technology, and students are able to use wireless access to enhance learning.

Our programs are:

- High School Behavior Intervention

This program provides a self-contained environment and related services for special education and 504 students with behavioral challenges, grades 9-12. When ready, students are transitioned back to neighborhood high schools, Skills Center or work settings in the community. Referrals come from neighborhood high schools through a central Assistant Principal and district placement team.

- Family Connections

This program, grades 4-8, provides a structured academic and therapeutic environment for special education and 504 students that addresses their emotional and behavioral needs. Parent involvement and collaboration is key to student success. Referrals come from neighborhood schools through a central district placement team.

- Middle School Alternative

This program serves middle school students who are in need of an interim school placement because of discipline issues or other unique situations. Students are referred and placed through their neighborhood school's assistant principal. Core academics are addressed, as well as social skills training.

## 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.

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