



Finch's Mission Statement

At Finch Elementary, it is our shared belief that we will be accountable for providing and maintaining a positive, challenging learning experience for all children.



Finch

Elementary School

3717 North Milton Street • Spokane, WA 99205-2399 • 354-2600

Welcome to Finch Elementary!

We welcome families to participate in school activities, volunteer in our building or just visit John A. Finch Elementary. It is a beautiful and welcoming building, and we truly believe in the words on our entryway: "Education is the Apprenticeship of Life."

What Makes Finch Special?

Finch is a special school because of our students. We have classrooms full of future leaders and our staff and families are committed to a community of learning in which we value and support education. We set high standards for ourselves and have made a commitment to continuous learning, collaboration and celebration as a model for student success.

At Finch you will find students engaged in rigorous learning in a student-centered Environment. We have an active Parent Teacher Organization and offer many family events. Our community is dedicated to volunteerism and we work collaboratively with our families and local businesses daily to ensure all children reach their full potential.

Sixth grader Alex Williams says it best when she describes Finch: "I have never had a teacher that I didn't think was the best teacher. Plus, all the students are nice and caring, and everyone is so enjoyable to be around."

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.

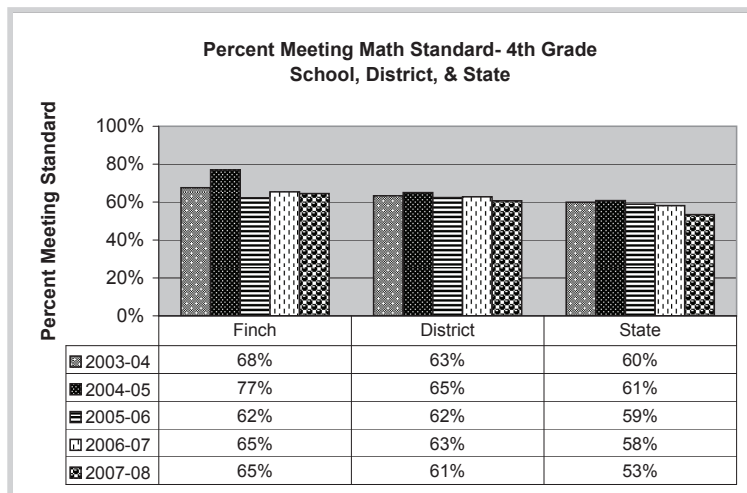
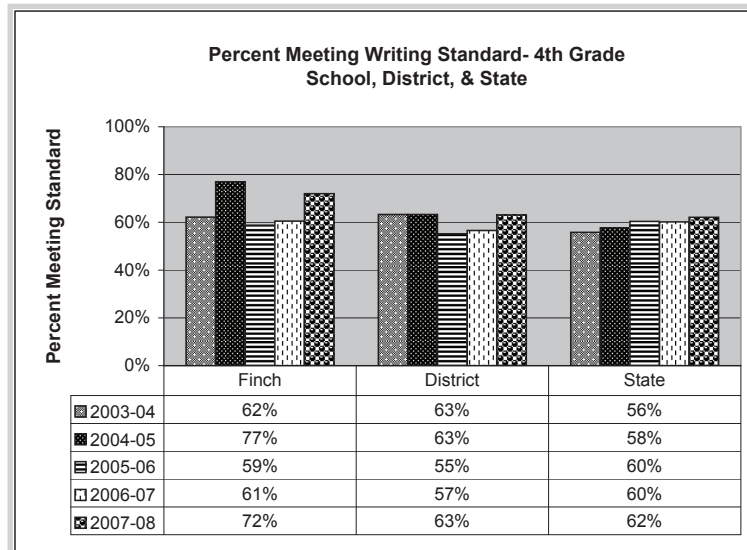
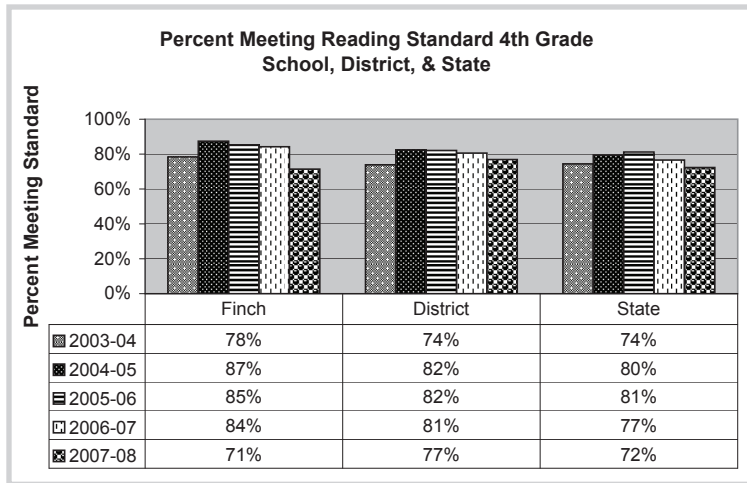
Because of our community's support, we are able to continue our work toward becoming a world-class system. Thank you!



Spokane Public Schools
excellence for everyone

Annual Report Card 2008

Finch School Students' Trends in WASL Performance



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

Major Goals from School Improvement Plan

Our School Improvement Plan highlights two goal areas:

- To identify and implement essential understandings and best practices for teaching reading, writing and math to achieve academic excellence, and
- For Finch students to experience and contribute to a school climate characterized by respect.

Summary of School Data

Expenditures per pupil..... \$9,895.83
 Annual school budget \$56,957
 For more information regarding this school's academic achievement and other related data, please visit 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 or call 354-7340.