



#### *Whitman's Mission Statement*

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



# Whitman Elementary School

5400 North Helena Street • Spokane, WA 99207-4000 • 354-4320

## Welcome to Whitman Elementary!

There are many opportunities for community involvement at Whitman and we invite you to join us! We encourage volunteers to help students with additional academic assistance, help teachers with a variety of activities or help with schoolwide activities. Our volunteer coordinator, Shelley Thams, can help you get started.

Additionally, we have a very active Parent Teacher Organization that contributes to our school in many ways. The president, Larenda Caldiera, can give you more information. We invite you to attend any or all of Whitman's outstanding music concerts, Family Nights, Literacy Luncheons or other events. Please contact the school for a current schedule and we'll hope to see you soon!

## What Makes Whitman Special?

Whitman is an award-winning school because of its skilled, committed learning community. Our staff provides outstanding instruction using the exceptional curriculum guide and instructional materials provided by Spokane Public Schools. Our coaching staff provides professional development on site so that our program is well articulated from grade to grade.

Because of the intentional use of our resources for student learning, we have shown steady growth in our math and reading scores and were recently named a Washington State School of Distinction. We have also recently received an Academic Achievement Award from the state for our work in mathematics and were semifinalists for the National Title I Distinguished School Award.

In addition to high-quality academic instruction, Whitman has an award-winning chorus, a well-known Marimba performing group, many extracurricular activity choices and family events that create a strong sense of community here at Whitman.

## 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!



## Whitman School Students' Trends in WASL Performance

## Major Goals from School Improvement Plan

Our goals at Whitman continue to center on improvement of academic achievement for all students and providing a safe, nurturing environment for learning.

## Summary of School Data

Expenditures per pupil..... \$9,895.83  
Annual school budget ..... \$42,360

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

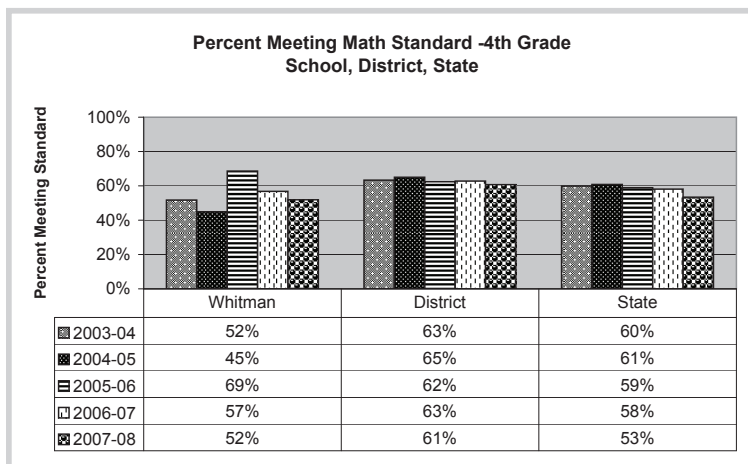
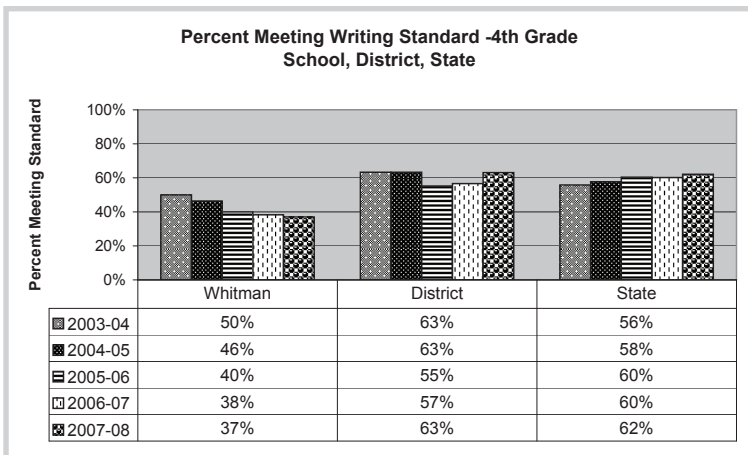
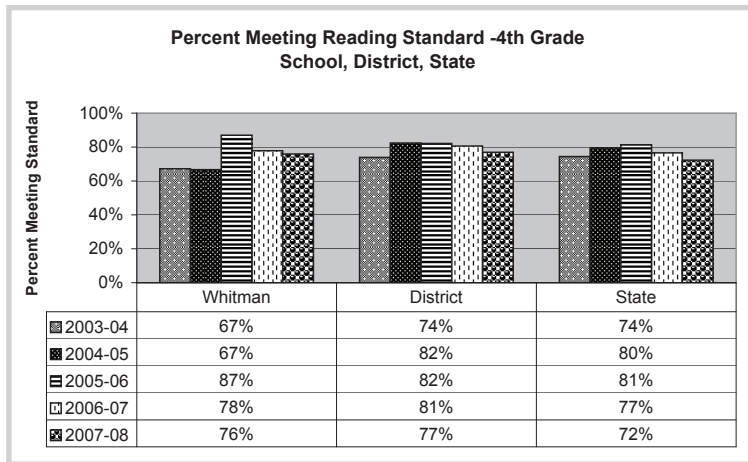
The intent of the federal No Child Left Behind Act is to ensure that all students have the knowledge and skills they need to be productive and engaged citizens. Under NCLB, schools and districts that receive federal funds must make Adequate Yearly Progress toward the goal of 100 percent of students meeting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



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