



Each student will graduate prepared to lead a rewarding, responsible life as a contributing member of our community and greater society.

School Vision

Partners in learning for today and the future

School Mission

“Educate, Inspire, Empower”

Mascot: Falcon

Colors: Green and white

Website: www.lwsd.org/carson

Mary Cronin, Principal

It is the mission of Rachel Carson Elementary to ensure that all students are empowered and inspired to learn so they can achieve academic successes. We are committed to implementing a rigorous curriculum based on state and district standards, providing exemplary teaching that meets the needs of all learners, creating a safe learning environment for all students, and fostering a partnership with our parent community.

The Rachel Carson staff are masters in the application of Professional Learning Communities; working in grade level teams to best meet the needs of students.

Parent involvement is a key component to the success of our students, and our partnership working with children. We use a variety of communication strategies to keep parents informed of student progress; newsletters, e-mail, principal coffee chats. In addition, we have a very active PTSA that supports many after school programs, provides resources for teachers, and organizes enrichment opportunities for students. We are fortunate to have an involved parent community, supportive PTSA, and dedicated teaching staff. Our first year WatchDog program saw over 90 dads volunteer for a day in our school; working with children 1-1, in small groups, in technology and on the playground.

Year in Review – 2014-15

Continuous Improvement Plan

The Carson Elementary Continuous Improvement Plan was developed by teachers after analyzing data from student report cards, assessments in various content areas, and results from Smarter Balanced Assessments and DIBELS assessments from the previous year.

Grade level teams worked together to plan, analyze, implement, and revise goals throughout the school year. The building leadership team worked with the principal to design meaningful professional development activities that supported school goals. Grade level teams observed expert teachers within the District and/or engaged in grade-level activities to support school goals.

Our building goal in 2014-2015 focused on math and reading. Teachers continued their work of effectively implementing the enVision math curriculum, aligning lessons to the new state standards and integrating netbook technology into their lessons. In addition, teams implemented intervention strategies. Time was also spent creating differentiated assignments and activities so that students were appropriately challenged. Professional development funds were used to bring in a nationally recognized Professional Development Specialist in writing. Staff read the book, “The Writing Thief,” and discussed lessons using mentor texts.

Grade level teams worked to write SMART goals for math and reading. With this information, we worked in teams to collect data in math and reading to help make decisions about future instruction to support all learners, as well as professional development.

Community Feedback

This school has sought feedback from parents and community members on their experiences with the school. Key responses are summarized here.

Community Survey Results	% agree	weighted score
The school’s primary emphasis is improving student learning.	87.9%	3.5
The school communicates its goals effectively to families and the community.	84.8%	3.4
All students in the school are expected to meet high standards.	87.9%	3.5
Students respect those who are different from them.	87.9%	3.5
The adults in the school show respect for all students.	87.9%	3.6
My child feels safe at school.	93.9%	3.7
I feel welcome when I visit the school.	93.9%	3.6
The school works with many community organizations to support students.	75.8%	3.5

% agree = percent of respondents who answered somewhat agree or strongly agree.

Weighted score is on a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 4 (strongly agree). Number of responses: 33

School Use/Parents and Community

School Use

Our school facilities are available for public use by contacting our school office.

Parents and the Community

We encourage you to get involved in our school and in PTSA. Volunteers are trained and work in a variety of positions. To get involved, call our school office.

The Lake Washington School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, gender, marital status, creed, religion, honorably discharged veteran, military status, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Director of Human Resources, 16250 NE 74th Street, Redmond, Washington 98052, (425) 936-1266.

Rachel Carson Elementary – Assessment

Smarter Balanced Assessment+				
	English Language Arts	Math	Science MSP**	
	14-15	14-15	13-14	14-15
3rd Grade	83.5	87.6	*	*
District	78.6	80.4	*	*
State	52.0	56.6	*	*
4th Grade	93.3	85.3	*	*
District	80.5	78.3	*	*
State	54.5	54.0	*	*
5th Grade	85.0	72.4	89.8	87.3
District	84.0	72.5	85.1	86.7
State	57.5	48.0	66.8	63.3

+Smarter Balanced Assessment is a Washington state standardized exam. Scores represent percentage of students who met the standards.
*not tested
** Measurement of Student Progress

Note: the new Smarter Balanced Assessment is different from and not comparable to the old state exams in reading, writing and math, the Measurements of Student Progress. The Science MSP continues to be used for that subject, so science scores from different years are comparable.

No Child Left Behind Report

The “No Child Left Behind” Act of 2001 (NCLB) outlines requirements that K-12 schools must meet. LWSD met the standard for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 47 of 106 goals under NCLB. Under NCLB, all students and a number of subgroups must be at 100 percent in meeting standard in reading and math. If the group of students demonstrates a significant improvement in the percent of students meeting standard, they can also qualify as making AYP. Groups must also meet participation goals to ensure that combined test scores are representative of the entire school. If even one subgroup does not meet a requirement, the school/district has not met AYP. Given this high bar, no school district in the state of Washington, including this district, and very few schools made AYP. This school did not make AYP for this year. NCLB requires all public schools and school districts to publish “report cards” that contain specific information highlighting their schools’ progress, including the results of the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP). Visit <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us> to view this data plus the state test scores broken out by eight subgroups.

District Budget Summary

General Fund Budget	\$272.2 million	District Per Pupil Expenditure	\$10,147 per pupil
Total Teaching • Includes teachers, counselors, librarians, educational assistants, textbooks, assessment and curriculum development, health related services, activities/athletics.	74.6%	Central Administration • Includes accounting, technology support, HR, payroll, School Board	4.5%
Maintenance & Operations	6.9%	Transportation	3.1%
Building Administration • Includes principals and school support	6.2%	Nutrition Services	2.6%
		Other Programs	2.1%

School Snapshot

Building Budget
\$100,516

Student Composition

Asian	22.8%
African American	1.2%
Hispanic	3.5%
Native American	0.0%
Caucasian	67.8%
Pacific Islander	0.0%
Two or More Races	4.7%
Special Ed	9.6%
Transitional Bilingual	4.9%
Free/Reduced Lunch	2.8%
Male/Female	51/49%

School Enrollment

October 2013	457
October 2014	426

Staff Education Achievement

Bachelor’s	6
Bachelor’s + 45 credits	2
Bachelor’s + 90 credits	0
Bachelor’s + 135 credits	0
Master’s	9
Master’s +45 credits	9

Student Attendance

Unexcused Absence Rate 0.1%

Capital Projects Levy Activities

Facilities: Changed door locks in classrooms.

Technology: With over 19,500 computers for students, student-to-computer ratios are 3:1 for grades K-2, 2:1 for 3-5, and 1:1 for middle and high school. Launched a new career planning tool and Adobe Creative Cloud for secondary, updated 7 Career and Tech. Education computer labs. Staff and students migrated to the cloud for software and storage. Implemented new system for deployment and security of devices and applications; new network firewalls.

Use of Educational Programs and Operations Levy

The EP&O Levy fills the gap between state funding and the cost of today’s educational programs and support. Used to help all students reach academic standards; offer teacher training; purchase textbooks, classroom materials; provide additional staff for instruction and supervision; and support extracurricular athletics and activities.