

READING

Prentice-Hall Literature (Silver) Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes

Students build an enthusiasm for literature by studying various themes such as *Coming of Age*, *The Quest for Justice*, and *From Sea to Shining Sea*. They learn interactive reading strategies by experiencing a blend of classic and contemporary literature. Students have access to integrated media resources that enable them to build lifelong communication skills.

WRITING

Step Up to Writing

Students use a structured format to organize words and sentences into clear and meaningful informational text.

Write Source 2000

Students receive instruction in the fundamental principles of writing through a set of seven core-writing units with guidelines and solid practice in the writing process, the paragraph, punctuation, grammar, spelling, and the basic forms of writing. They write to persuade, analyze, describe, and research while continuously practicing writing an organized response to a prompt.

Six Trait Writing Assessment

This classroom-scoring guide provides information and feedback to students about six important elements of their writing: content, organization, sentence fluency, word choice, voice, and conventions (grammar, spelling, and punctuation.)

MATHEMATICS

Connected Mathematics Project 2

Mathematics computation is embedded within real-life problem situations and concepts and strategies are reviewed and extended throughout the year.

CMP2 units of study include:

- Connections and patterns of linear equations
- Rate of change, slope, and intercepts
- Linear and inverse relationships
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Data and statistics
- Symmetry and transformations
- Exponential relationships

Algebra

Algebra 1

Students who demonstrate advanced proficiency in the regular mathematics curriculum may complete first year Algebra at the middle school. The program is centered on real-life uses of mathematics.

Units of study include:

- The language of Algebra
- Real numbers
- Solving linear equations
- Graphing relations and functions
- Analyzing linear equations
- Solving linear inequalities
- Solving systems of linear equations and inequalities
- Polynomials
- Factoring
- Quadratic and exponential functions
- Radical expressions and triangles
- Statistics
- Probability

SCIENCE

Glencoe Earth / Physical Science

Students use earth & physical science textbooks and lab manuals to supplement hands-on learning labs:

Investigating Groundwater – Students investigate basic earth science concepts including the movement of water through earth materials in a simulation involving a town whose drinking water has been contaminated. Investigations include porosity, permeability, and methods to treat contaminated soil and groundwater.

Toxic Waste – Students investigate the chemistry behind the treatment of simulated copper waste solutions. They study ions, electrolytes, conductivity, electroplating and perform precipitation and metal replacement reactions.

Investigating Chemical Processes – Students prepare simple environmental impact reports to understand the trade-offs involved in industrial development on an imaginary island. They perform chemical reactions to differentiate reactant from products, and products from by-products.

THE ARTS

Visual Arts -

Using 2-D or 3-D work, multimedia, or computer-generated work, students demonstrate understanding of gradated value in color, texture, 3-pt. perspective, and the use of intersection planes in 3-D art. They use elements of art to change the effect of a composition and express personal statements or ideas visually. They select effective means to express ideas and develop strategies to review and revise their work. They present their work to others using art concepts and principles to interpret their own work and that of others.

SOCIAL STUDIES

History Alive! The United States

Students survey the history of the United States with a focus on the 19th Century. They learn about The Revolution, Western Expansion, The Civil War, and Reconstruction using the innovative and engaging *History Alive!* approach. They design and use maps and globes emphasizing U.S. geography and explore physical, political, and human impacts in various regions of the U.S. They study the origin, creation, and evolution of the U.S. founding documents as well as the organization and function of the U.S. government. They develop an understanding of trade and economic development in the U.S.

HEALTH/FITNESS

Physical Skills/Health-Related Fitness -

Students begin to explore various activities designed for continued participation outside the school setting. Activities include golf, racket sports, bowling, dance and juggling. Students also focus on the continued development of knowledge and skills necessary to take part in healthy and physically active lifestyles. Each student sets fitness and activity goals, monitors their own progress and refines their personal program.

Healthy Lifestyles -

The program is designed to integrate basic knowledge into the development and maintenance of a healthy lifestyle. In presenting a review of basic health knowledge, students are asked to develop practical skills for implementing this information into their daily lives.

OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT

VISION: What Every OSD Graduate Should Know:

Olympia School District graduates will be contributing citizens of a world society. They will be critical thinkers with a capacity for lifelong learning and with the ability to collaborate across a diverse community. They will have critical skills & knowledge in these subject areas:

- Reading & writing
- Mathematics
- Science
- Career & technical education
- Civics, economics & history
- Health, nutrition & fitness
- Visual & performing arts
- World languages

In addition, graduates will have specific skills and attitudes that cross these subject areas, including:

- Collaboration skills
- Communication skills
- Computer and technology skills
- Environmental stewardship
- Healthy social & emotional development
- Information/media literacy
- Leadership skills
- Numerical competency
- Skills for appreciating and working in diverse communities (multi-cultural or cross-cultural literacy)

Our Strategic Goals: To achieve our vision, the OSD focuses and aligns its resources to achieve 6 key goals in these 3 areas: Effective classrooms, Effective schools, and Engagement with the community.

- High Academic Standards, Expectations & performance
- Individualized Learning
- Integrated Learning
- Best Practices
- A supportive working environment.
- Increased family and community involvement



Parents are Educational Partners

Children spend far more time at home than they do in school. How they spend their time at home makes all the difference. And, the way parents connect home life with what children learn at school lets children know why learning is important.

As educational partners, we want you to know what to expect for your child in the classroom so that you can continue to encourage curiosity about the world before and after school. Recognizing and making the most of learning opportunities in the classroom, as well as outside the classroom, makes a big difference in the success of every child. Your child's teacher can suggest some learning activities far beyond the school day.

Washington State Learning Goals

GOAL 1 *Read* with comprehension, write with skill, and communicate effectively and responsibly in a variety of ways and settings;

GOAL 2 *Know* and apply the core concepts and principles of mathematics; social, physical and life sciences; civics and history; geography; arts; and health and fitness;

GOAL 3 *Think* analytically, logically and creatively, and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems; and

GOAL 4 *Understand* the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect career and educational opportunities.

Olympia School District



A Parent's Guide To Grade 8 Curriculum