

2009-2010 School Performance Report

Mason Middle School

3901 N. 28th St. • Tacoma, WA 98407 • 253-571-7000

Patrice Sulkosky, Principal

www.masonmustangs.org

Welcome to Mason Middle School

The 2009-2010 school year began under the leadership of two educational veterans committed to bringing out the best in both staff members and students through effective leadership and support. We are looking forward to creating a strong team working with our dynamic school community. We believe that all students can learn.

Mason Middle School is an excellent school with an outstanding, well-trained staff and great students.

Congratulations to our School Improvement Team along with our staff members for successfully developing the school-wide academic environment that helps our students be the best they can be.

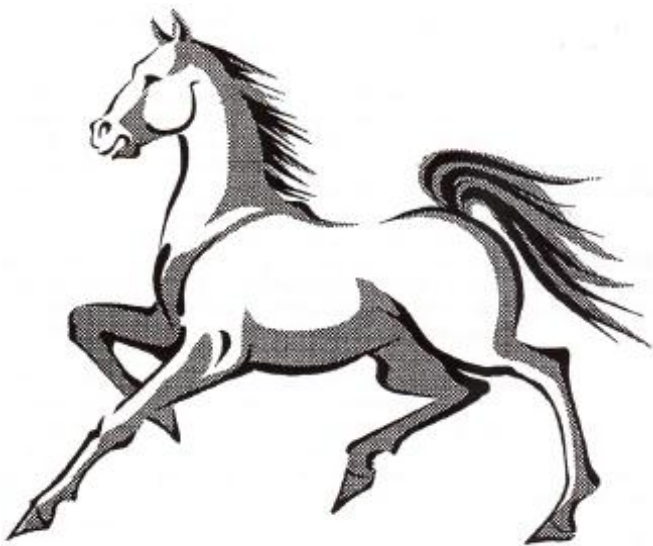
One key to successful instruction is effective communication. As administrators, we believe in an “open-door” policy for our school community. Within the demands of an extremely busy, large school, we strive to be available to students, parents and staff members.

Patrice Sulkosky,
Principal

Mission statement

Mason Middle School promotes a safe, successful and rigorous academic community for diverse learners. The mission of Mason Middle School is to:

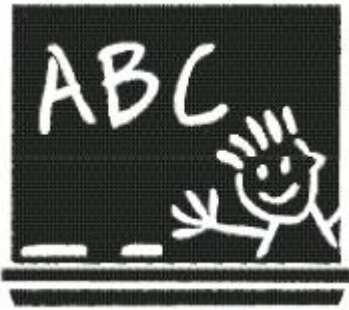
- Implement research-based learning strategies that are continually adjusted to improve student performance and the instructional program;
- Create an environment that has a clear, articulated focus for student achievement;
- Provide a structured and developmentally appropriate curriculum;
- Facilitate the teaching and learning strategies of acquiring, questioning and evaluating;
- Promote opportunities for social, emotional and physical growth of every individual;
- Provide avenues for students, staff members and parents to explore learning and foster the desire to learn more; and
- Inspire community involvement through collaboration and responsibility.



Home of the Mason Mustangs

Working together: Home, school and community

With the assistance of the Mason family, the school will continue its educational success and further develop its warm relationship with the community. Mason has a very active Booster Club that meets monthly to plan events and activities involving the students, staff and community. Examples of the Booster Club’s activities are morning socials, coffee with the principal, fund-raising opportunities, hosting an annual “pasta feed,” organizing an annual book fair, assisting with dances and volunteering in the classroom. The Booster Club, as noted, is an integral part of the success of our school. Volunteers are always welcome in our school.



Demographics

Enrollment (October 2009)

Grade 6	255
Grade 7	263
Grade 8	266
Total	784

Ethnicity

African American	59	7.5%
Asian	37	4.7%
American Indian	10	1.3%
Hispanic	39	5.0%
Pacific Islander	5	0.6%
White	634	80.9%

Staff

Administrators	2
Counselors	2
Classroom teachers	33
Educational assistants	4
PE specialist	1.4
Librarian	1
Music specialist	2
Head Start	0
Guidance	2.0
Nurse	1
Clerical	5
Custodians	4.0
Food servers	6
LRC teacher	1
Instructional facilitator	0
Playground supervisors	2

Unexcused absence rate
(2009-2010): .2%

Free/reduced price meals
(May 2010): 25.7%

Test scores comparison

For 2010 Measurement of Student Progress and 2005-2009 Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) results and detailed demographic information about the Tacoma School District and its individual schools, please go to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction Web site at www.k12.wa.us, then click on the School Report Card link or go directly to: <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>.

Measurement of Student Progress and Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL) scores are listed for the last six years along with the state and district averages.

Grade 6	Reading						Mathematics					
	Year	05	06	07	08	09	10	05	06	07	08	09
Mason	-	78	83	74	82	72	-	60	65	59	62	60
District	-	55	58	59	63	48	-	33	40	37	39	34
State	-	67	68	69	72	65	-	50	50	49	51	52

Grade 7	Reading						Mathematics						Writing					
	Year	05	06	07	08	09	10	05	06	07	08	09	10	05	06	07	08	09
Mason	76	71	76	79	67	66	65	56	65	68	64	59	73	65	77	81	75	74
District	58	54	61	58	48	47	35	33	43	41	38	34	48	57	58	65	60	58
State	69	62	69	63	59	63	51	49	54	50	52	55	61	65	68	70	70	70

Grade 8	Reading						Mathematics						Science					
	Year	05	06	07	08	09	10	05	06	07	08	09	10	05	06	07	08	09
Mason	-	78	71	74	80	74	-	60	60	66	62	58	45	56	46	63	65	63
District	-	61	55	59	62	58	-	35	36	41	38	35	28	28	34	37	39	
State	-	70	65	66	68	69	-	49	50	52	51	52	43	44	48	51	54	



About our building and neighborhood

Named for North End entrepreneur and realtor Allen C. Mason, the original school was built in 1924. Additions were opened in the 1950s and 1960s, expanding classroom space by 25 rooms. The old school and additions were demolished and a new school was built on the same site. Mason Middle School continues to be a focal point in the community.

Located adjacent to the Proctor Business District, Mason benefits from the continuing generosity of our neighbors by forming individual, classroom or school partnerships. Several businesses also support Mason students through our fundraisers. The community also continues to support Mason and other schools at the polls for which we, as educators, are very appreciative. They consistently vote in favor of bond issues for capital projects, including funding new buildings such as Mason. Four-year levies have also been passed to pay for general maintenance and operating costs.

Student achievement

Measurement of Student Progress: The MSP is part of a statewide reform effort to raise academic standards. It measures the students' levels of achievement against the state learning objectives, i.e., the Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs). Test results for the MSP are available in the fall of the student's next school year.

The Tacoma School District assesses sixth-grade students who take the math and reading components of the MSP. The MSP test is given in May and the results are available in the fall. Seventh-graders take the MSP in reading, math, and writing in May. Eighth-graders take the math, science and reading MSP in May.

Another test given on an annual basis is the SRI, which will be given to all current sixth, seventh and eighth graders. The results are used to measure each student's progress in reading comprehension. We also administer a district-wide math assessment in every middle school. The results are available on Mason's Web page.

Learning improvement

Opportunities to improve instruction and attend classes are available to teachers through the professional development programs offered by the Tacoma School District. Under the leadership of our School Improvement Team, teachers are able to attend various in-school workshops.

One of the benefits of the workshops, all of which are focused on helping our students, is that teachers have more time to evaluate students and data, develop solutions, plan instruction and work more closely with those students who need encouragement.



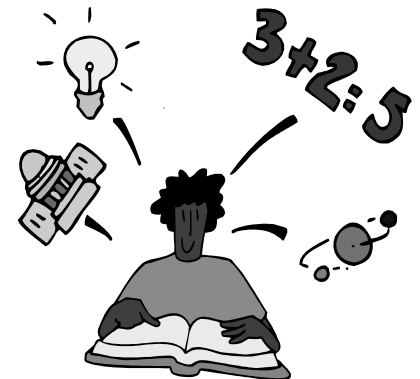
Other facts to know

The elective program at Mason complements the academic arena. Almost half of the students are active members of band, orchestra or choir. Mason's band and orchestra program is the largest of all the middle schools.

Computers, visual arts, drama, physical education, French and Spanish add a variety of classes to the elective field. Mason also provides students with the opportunity to participate in drama, yearbook and student government (ASB). The school also offers students opportunities to participate in intramural sports and extramural activities.

Special programs at Mason

Highly Capable programs in math and science have long been a tradition at Mason. Language arts and social studies are also an important component of our middle school curriculum. These programs are designed to meet the needs of students with high intellect and/or creative productive abilities.



About Tacoma School District No. 10

The Tacoma School District No. 10 is the third largest district in Washington state. There are nearly 30,000 children in kindergarten through grade 12. Tacoma Public Schools has 37 elementary schools, 10 middle schools, five comprehensive high schools, and seven alternative learning sites. The district encompasses 56 square miles and is located on the southern end of Puget Sound in the shadow of Mount Rainier. As of Oct. 1, 2009, the district had 2,008 teachers, 26 certificated management-level staff members, 88 principals, 1,406 regular classified employees, 55 exempt classified employees, 742 classified non-regular/substitute employees and 520 certificated non-regular/substitute employees.

2009-2010 district improvement goals

1. Increase achievement for all students each year by 10%. (Based on the difference between the 2007 WASL scores and 100% of students meeting state standard.)
2. Decrease the gap between underperforming subgroups and the district average performance on the WASL by 10% annually.
3. Decrease the dropout rate by 10% annually.
4. Reduce the number of students not graduating by 10% annually.

Financial data

Revenues 2009-2010:

State.....	\$181,436,768	56.4%
Federal	\$57,586,354	17.9%
Local taxes	\$72,232,664	22.4%
Local non-taxes	\$6,831,491	2.1%
Other	\$3,795,569	1.2%

Total revenues budgeted\$321,882,846

Expenditures 2009-2010:

Teaching activities.....	\$195,536,100	60.5%
Other support activities.....	\$54,738,203	16.8%
Teaching support	\$32,154,459	9.9%
Central Administration	\$20,776,021	6.4%
Principals' office	\$21,018,081	6.4%

Total expenditures budgeted\$362,222,864

Average per pupil expenditure 2009-2010\$11,990

The information in this report is a requirement of our state's legislature. The Tacoma Public Schools supports this sharing of educational information with the community. If you have questions about district policies or programs, contact the Public Information Office at 253-571-1015.

The Tacoma Public Schools Web site: www.tacomaschools.org



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Tacoma Public Schools
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