

2009-10 School Performance Report

Truman Middle School

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www.trumantitans.org

Welcome to Middle School

We are nearing the end of another exciting and performance focused year at Truman Middle School. This spring brought us news of many new students joining us at the start of next year. In anticipation of our new students we have been busy planning a warm welcome for them. Classroom space is being identified, additional teachers will soon be hired, programs planned, and student/parent orientations being held.

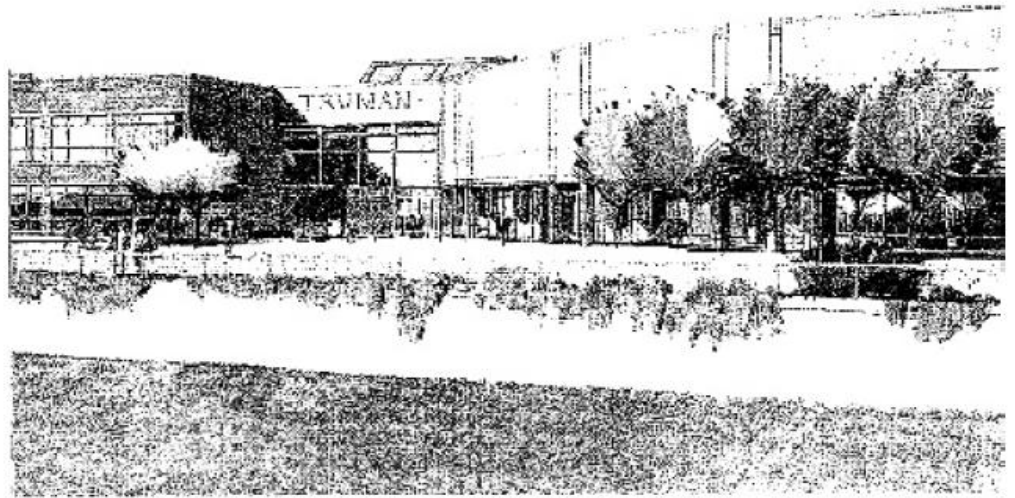
Of course we are continuing the focus on quality instruction in all subject areas and all classes. Stemming from this focus teachers and administration are engaged in a variety of professional development efforts. These include district and building sponsored workshops, staff book studies, classroom walk-throughs, and collegial sharing just to name a few of our efforts. The bottom line we are striving for is providing a high quality education for all students.

In addition to academics we have a number of after school programs to continue the effort of developing the whole student. The two biggest opportunities include athletics and the SPARX program. Both provide students with outlets beyond the traditional school day.

At Truman we strive to foster a culture of respect. This includes respecting self, peers, and staff. We believe that this is a fundamental life skill which will serve our students well at Truman and for the rest of their lives.

Vision Statement

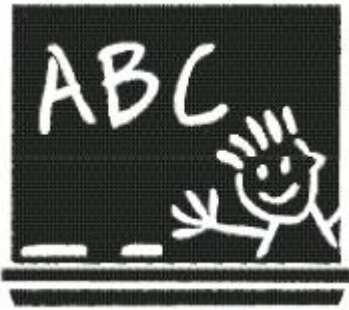
Truman Middle School: Creating Life-Long Learners and Leaders for a Successful Today and Tomorrow



Working together: Home, school and community

Truman continues to celebrate a high level of parent and community involvement. This is a tradition we desire to nurture and promote. If you are new to Truman, or have not volunteered in the past we encourage you to get involved. There are many opportunities for such involvement. A few examples include, joining the PTA, becoming a member of our School Centered Decision Making team (SCDM), assisting in a classroom or tutoring a student. Others have helped provide supervision on field trips and assisted in our music programs. During career week a number of parents and community members come in to share information about their profession. Volunteers are always welcome. Contact the main office if you have questions and we will find a spot for you!

Truman also enjoys partnerships with it's community neighbors. These include the West End Neighborhood Council, Metro Parks, Campus Life, Campfire, ROTC, and Junior Achievement. Local businesses help with career education, student projects and recognition, and provide material support in a variety of ways for various events. We are truly fortunate to be surrounded by such a supportive and involved community.



Demographics

Enrollment (October 2009)

Grade 6	200
Grade 7	190
Grade 8	219
Total	609

Ethnicity

African-American	140	23.0%
Asian	51	8.4%
American Indian	8	1.3%
Hispanic	39	6.4%
Pacific Islander	5	0.8%
White	366	60.1%

Staff

Administrators	2
Classroom teachers	33
Educational assistants	5
PE specialist	2
Librarian	1
Music specialist	2
Guidance	2
Nurse	1
Clerical	4
Custodians	2
Food servers	6
LRC teacher	2
ESL teacher	1

Free and reduced lunch
(2009-2010): 51%
Unexcused absence
(May 2010): .6%

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	10
Truman	-	60	64	61	74	48	-	45	50	37	51	44
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	10
Truman	72	71	67	69	56	55	47	51	55	51	38	42	62	65	69	72	64	70
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	10
Truman	-	62	57	53	68	61	-	39	44	46	40	39	37	38	38	39	47	49
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

More Facts to Know

Truman Middle School opened to students in September of 1999, beginning the school year in its new, state-of-the-art facility. This new facility has all the characteristics of a model middle school with the core concept being teaming. Next year we anticipate the student body exceeding 800 students divided among three grade levels. The grade level teachers plan together, but also plan with their subject-area colleagues as well. This helps ensure a more unified curriculum that reinforces key concepts and learning targets throughout your child's educational experience. The grades are separated throughout the building with each area having its own restroom facilities. Grade-level divisions are also maintained at lunch with each grade level having their own designated time to eat.

For the last two years Truman has sponsored Student Led Conferences in the spring. Students work throughout the year assembling a portfolio displaying their accomplishments. The portfolio includes examples of both their beginning work and their most skillful efforts for the year. During SLCs students present their work to a parent or significant adult within a conference format. Parent attendance the last two years has been above 95 percent.

For the 2010-2011 school year we are looking forward to receiving an additional 200 students as we incorporate those coming to us from Hunt. We will also be adding a number of new staff members and additional programming to serve all of our students.

About our building and neighborhood

Truman Middle School is located in the northwest end of Tacoma, between the Narrows Bridge and Point Defiance Park. The community includes residential neighborhoods, business districts and several parks, including Pt. Defiance Park, one of the nation's largest urban parks. Housing options within the Truman area range from large apartment complexes to duplexes and single-family homes, with many residents enjoying water and mountain views. The busy Westgate business district provides a range of commercial services for students and their families. A Boys and Girls Club is located within walking distance of the school, and a nearby YMCA also provides after-school programs for students. Additionally, various community groups and youth sports programs use Truman facilities evenings and weekends, providing community-based activities on campus all year long.

Student achievement

The Truman staff and community recognize academic achievement as our primary goal. Our schedule and curriculum are organized around the five core subjects of mathematics, language arts, social studies, science and reading supported by high-quality electives. The curriculum is structured to ensure that students have ample opportunities to master the district's curriculum goals, which are aligned to district and state standards. Truman students have continued to score well among the district's middle schools on the WASL. Having just taken the Measure of Student Progress (MSP) we anticipate continued student academic growth.

Learning improvement

Truman's School Improvement Plan (SIP) is focused on our primary goal: student achievement. Our building goals are aligned with the school improvement plan and district achievement, attendance and parent involvement goals. Another goal is to continue to foster a supportive trusting school environment by creating school-wide commitments to professional behavior for all staff and by implementing programs that facilitate communication, consistency and trust for students, parents and teachers. This year, Truman staff development focused on developing standards-based classrooms in all content areas. Staff members continue to implement best practices to ensure that students have ample opportunity to learn at their appropriate levels. Additionally, Truman staff focused on better understanding how to put structures in place which support high quality learning throughout the building. Finally, staff participated in training to implement the new state Measurement of Student Progress test, using computers to deliver the test.

Special programs at Truman

Throughout the years, Truman has maintained a quality inclusion program for multiple-handicapped, special education students. Specially trained teachers, paraprofessionals and therapeutic staff members serve physically challenged students in our multi-ortho program. Several resource teachers, working cooperatively with regular education teachers, provide instruction and support for students with learning disabilities. Truman also has an excellent autism program. School counselors, a nurse and a school psychologist are also available. Additionally, Truman offers programs for Highly Capable students in English, social studies and science. We also are fortunate to house the ELL program for English Language Learners, which brings a richness to our diversity. New for the 2010 school year is the LAP program which assists struggling students with academic support. The Truman calendar includes an array of activities throughout the year. For example, students of all grade levels participate in after-school activities, including clubs and competitive sports for every grade level. Almost 150 students are involved in band or orchestra. Additionally, we are excited to announce that the choir program will be returning to Truman next year.

Other facts to know

In the past few years, Truman has worked hard to provide the safest and most orderly campus possible. Truman Middle School is very proud of its Emergency Plan. Our Safety Committee, which is composed of administrators, campus security, chief custodian, teachers and parents, meets each month to review our Emergency Plan and any other safety issues.

Team and schoolwide discipline procedures contribute to an atmosphere of order and discipline. Recently a Discipline and Rewards Committee has been established. Members of this committee review school disciplinary data, make policy recommendations, and oversee the implementations of reward activities.

Additionally, Truman dress standards reflect pride and dignity and demonstrate that school is a place to study and learn. They are conservative in nature, support student safety and promote a focused, orderly school climate. The dress standards have been chosen to be consistent, affordable and available. Standards are also designed to provide a "business-like" atmosphere, to help students develop the lifelong habit of dressing appropriately for the workplace.

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.

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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