

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
COLUMBIA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
IMPLEMENTATION SCHOOL YEAR 2004-2005**

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**COLUMBIA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**  
**A World Class Learning Center**  
**Fife, Washington**

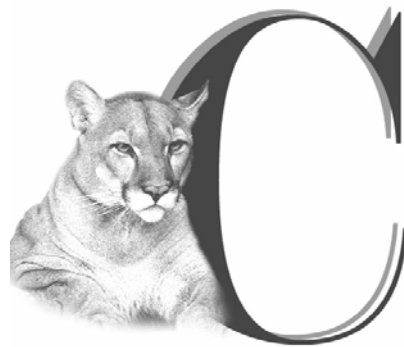
**VISION**

Columbia Junior High School is a school in which students are engaged in quality work invented by teachers, designed to maximize students' fullest academic, emotional, physical, and social potential.

**BELIEFS**

In order to realize this vision, we believe

- Teachers are collaborative leaders of instruction and inventors of engaging work that meets the needs of all students and all learning styles.
- All students have the opportunity to learn more when given authentic, engaging work, adequate time, proper tools, and assistance.
- Columbia Junior High School will be safe, clean, and orderly to allow for a productive learning environment.
- Students and staff will consistently treat each other with respect.



# **CELEBRATION OF SUCCESSES**

## **For the Columbia Junior High School**

### **School Improvement Plan 2003-2004**

#### **2003-2004 Goal Area One**

**Establish the traditions, expectations, and culture of Columbia Junior High School**

#### **Results**

- **Established the Cougar Code, working with staff. Posted in every classroom, introduced at beginning of year.**
- **Attendance Policy introduced and implemented**
- **Student/faculty dress code introduced and implemented**
- **Included input from a variety of stakeholders**
  - **Parents-Grade Configuration**
  - **Parents-Community-Athletics Alignment**
  - **Students-School Colors, School Mascot**
  - **Parents-Students-Community-School Name**
  - **Teachers-Attendance Policy**
  - **Students-Parents-Dress Code**
  
- **Visited other junior high schools to gain input as to successful programs which will help create a positive atmosphere and environment in our school**
- **Continued to increase the opportunities for students and parents to have positive interaction with school**
- **Encouraged staff to continue to be involved with students beyond the school day**
- **Utilized all means available to communicate between school, home, and the community (web, newsletter, phone dialout, etc.)**
- **Implemented robust, seamless, and appropriate use of technology across the curriculum, and throughout the school, with staff and students.**
- **Implemented monthly/quarterly, positive, age-appropriate activities for our students**
- **Implemented a robust series of evening activities for parents/teachers**
  - **Back to School Night**
  - **Two Arena Conferences**
  - **New Parent Orientation**

#### **Impact**

- **Students, staff, and parents were surveyed via the Safe and Civil School Survey. The results indicate that the traditions, expectations, and culture of Columbia Junior High School are beginning to be in place. The majority of staff, students, and parents expressed satisfaction with student interactions, safety, rules/expectations, and general feelings about school.**

### **2003-2004 Goal Area Two**

**Continue to increase the student achievement levels on the 10<sup>th</sup> grade WASL and the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science WASL**

#### **Results**

- **Class of 2008 information distributed, parent and students meetings held.**
- **Implemented our new science curriculum, focused on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade WASL (see goals for 2004-2005)**
- **Provided opportunities for staff to receive training on teaching diverse populations**
- **Provided staff opportunities to prepare to meet state/national standards**
- **Utilized Department Chairs in leading department WOW Academies to create exemplar lessons which focus on areas of deficit**
- **Provided time each month for a department to Work on the Work**
- **Implemented our laptop carts as a significant means of incorporating technology into lessons**
- **Utilized the Ed-Performance testing series to help place students appropriately**
- **Continued to utilize the GradeChecker system as a means of communicating with parents**
- **Shared information with staff regarding the results of WASL and ITED**
- **Dr. Harruff worked with teacher leaders to help understand the WASL and areas of deficit**

#### **Impact**

- **Students showed improvement on 8<sup>th</sup> grade Science WASL (up 5% over previous year) and 9<sup>th</sup> grade ITED (up in all categories)**
- **Working in WOW Academies, departments created Exemplar lessons.**

### **2003-2004 Goal Area Three**

**Provide our students with a safe and civil school environment.**

#### **Results**

- **Established routine emergency drills (fire, lockdown, lahar, earthquake, etc.)**
- **Railroad safety training for students and staff was held early in the school year.**
- **Safe and Civil Schools Grant was utilized by PAWS group. (see 2004-2005 goals)**

- Parent Coordinator using grant funds-organized Game Room during lunches
- Bullying/harassment procedures-Mr. Clergy will implement in 2004-2005 school year
- Student agenda-distributed and covered
- Worked with Columbia Booster Club to create emergency supplies containers for each classroom
- Established relationships with outside agencies who provide support for students
  - Safe and Civil Schools
  - Community in Schools
  - Horizon

### Impact

- Established a baseline of referral data for future use.
- Realized a decrease in referrals compared to previous year at SLMS.

## **DATA COLLECTION**

For the 2004-2005 School Improvement Plan

A comprehensive needs assessment was conducted by our staff, Parent Advisory Council and Site Based Council/Learning Improvement Team (SBC/LIT). The following are the components of our comprehensive needs assessment:

- 2004 ITED and WASL results
- Safe and Civil Schools Survey Results (Staff, Parents, Students)
- Site Based Council/Learning Improvement Team input and feedback
- Federal Mandates
- Class of 2008 Graduation Requirements

Needs identified through achievement data, 2008 graduation requirements, federal mandates:

- Continue to work with our students of diverse ethnic backgrounds to improve their levels of performance on the WASL
- Continue to work with all students to raise achievement levels in math, writing, and reading
- Work with our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to improve scores on the science WASL
- Class of 2008 Graduation Requirements
- Increase 8<sup>th</sup> grade science time
- Math support class
- Social Studies support class
- Student Learning Plans

### **Needs identified through Safe and Civil Schools Surveys**

- **Behavior and expectations in hallways and Commons areas**
- **Consistency in application of school rules and guidelines**
- **Maintain and care for our new facility**
- **Continue high expectations for behavior and academics**
- **Peer Assistance program**

### **Needs identified from Site Base Council/Learning Improvement Team**

- **Provide increased student involvement opportunities, in leadership and activities**
- **Provide increased physical activity opportunities for students**
- **Create academic challenge opportunities for students**
- **Increase student recognition programs**
- **Student behavior management program (ISS)**
- **Additional opportunities for parental involvement**

### **Evaluation of Impact on Student Achievement for the 2004-2005 School Improvement Plan**

**Adequate Progress for the 2004-2005 School Improvement Plan will be achieved when the three stated goals have been met.**

**Throughout the school district there is a clear focus on students and on the quality of the work provided to students - work that students find interesting, challenging, and satisfying and that results in their learning what is expected by schools, parents, and the community. Our goals reflect this focus.**

## **2004-2005 GOALS AND ACTION PLAN**

### **Technology Philosophy and Practice**

**In all of our goals and action plans at CJH, our staff and students will implement robust, seamless, and appropriate use of technology across the curriculum, and throughout the school.**

#### **Specific School Goal Area One**

**Continue to raise 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science WASL Test Scores  
and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade ITED Scores**

### **Action Plan**

- **Implement year long, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Earth Science classes**
- **Create and implement a ‘Math Tools’ class**
- **Provide opportunities for staff to receive training on teaching diverse populations**
- **Provide staff opportunities to prepare to meet state/national standards**
- **Utilize Department Chairs in leading department WOW Academies to create exemplar lessons which focus on areas of deficit**
- **Utilize the Ed Performance testing series to help place students appropriately**
- **Share information with staff regarding the results of WASL and ITED**
- **Create a US History class for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students which will allow staff to work with a smaller group at a more individualized pace**
- **Create Student Learning Plans for all 9<sup>th</sup> grade students who did not meet standard in one or more areas of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade WASL**
- **Utilize Ed Performance series in reading and math, diagnose and focus on areas of improvement for all students**
- **Host Parent to Parent PTA forum detailing new graduation requirements, commencing with the class of 2008**

#### **Goal Assessment (Impact on Student Achievement)**

- **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Scores will indicate a 10% increase**
- **9<sup>th</sup> Grade ITED Scores will continue to improve**
- **Departments will create additional Exemplar Lessons in WOW Academies**

#### **Specific School Goal Two**

**Continue to improve school climate and student behavior**

### **Action Plan**

- **Implement Safe and Civil School Common area lesson plans**
- **Create and staff a Student Behavior Management Center as an alternative to suspensions**
- **Create a consistent set of building-wide expectations to be consistently followed and reinforced by all staff members (Consistent Cougar Classrooms)**
- **Create an additional curricular offering for students to engage in physical activity during the day**
- **Create via the Counseling Department, a ‘Cougar Ambassador’ program, peer assistance group**
- **SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions), co-facilitated with Horizon**
- **Continue to work with Columbia Booster Club to include more parents**

**Goal Assessment (Impact on Student Achievement)**

**Via surveys of parents, students, and staff, an increase in satisfaction regarding student activities, building climate and safety will be realized by all stakeholders.**

**Specific School Goal Three**

**Increase student leadership and involvement opportunities**

**Action Plan**

- **Create additional student leadership opportunities for a wider range of students**
- **Elect Classroom Representatives**
- **Hold monthly ASB led Student Council meetings**
- **Broaden academic extra-curricular opportunities for students, example-Destination Imagination**
- **Utilize Leadership class in developing assemblies and student activities**
- **Increase opportunities for Columbia Booster Club and parents to provide student activities**

**Goal Assessment (Impact on Student Achievement)**

**Via surveys of parents, students, and staff, an increase in satisfaction regarding student activities, building climate and safety will be realized by all stakeholders.**

# **T H E C O U G A R C O D E**

**AT COLUMBIA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL**

**Everyone will be  
welcome, respected, and safe.**

**Everyone will be treated fairly  
and with consistency.**

**We believe in high expectations for  
behavior and academics.**

**Each staff member will dress and  
conduct him/herself as a professional  
educator.**

**Each student will dress and conduct  
her/himself as a young adult learner.**

**We are Columbia's first caretakers and it is  
our responsibility to pass it along to the next  
generation of students and staff. We will take  
excellent care of our new school.**