

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
SURPRISE LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
IMPLEMENTATION SCHOOL YEAR 2004-2005**

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**SURPRISE LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**Milton, Washington**

**VISION**

Surprise Lake Middle School is a school that promotes and encourages academic and personal achievements.

**BELIEFS**

In order to realize this vision, Surprise Lake Middle School will:

- Provide meaningful and engaging lessons fostering learning for students and producing quality work from students.
- Create an environment that is disciplined, positive, safe, and conducive to teaching and learning.
- Acknowledge that students learn at different rates and in different ways.
- Consciously demonstrate respect for each other.
- Recognize individual contributions and achievements



**CELEBRATION OF SUCCESSES**  
**For the Surprise Lake Middle School**  
**School Improvement Plan 2003-2004**

**2003-2004 Specific School Goal #1**  
**Increase Student Achievement as demonstrated by the Washington Assessment of Student Learning, and the EdPerformance Reading and Math Tests.**

**Results**

- Continued our focus on reading and writing throughout the curriculum.
- Conducted staff development focused on needs identified by WASL and EdPerformance results.
- Implemented school wide paragraph writing standards for all classes.
- Implement 6<sup>th</sup> grade novel reading program.
- Conducted staff in-services focused on writing.
- Provided a week long staff training for writing with Mr. Steve Peha focusing on school wide writing strategies.
- Math teachers continued professional development focusing on preparing students for the WASL, which included visitation to area middle schools.
- Used test data to drive instruction and scheduling. Specifically, established “Math Tools” classes for remedial groups in math, and test data for placement into “Humanities Core”.
- Provided time for departments to visit schools similar to SLMS whose students perform on the WASL at extremely high levels
  - Math department – Mason Middle School, Tacoma School District
  - 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Core – Tacoma and Peninsula School District’s Curriculum directors.
- Began initial steps on developing a significant correlation between EdPerformance results and success on the WASL, specifically in math and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Core.
- Continued work with staff on lesson designs and exemplars.

## Impact

WASL scores in the areas of reading, writing, and math continued to increase.

- **SLMS reading scores increased 20.9%.**
  - **46.9% of SLMS students meeting standard in 2003 to 67.8% of SLMS students meeting the state standard in 2004.**
- **SLMS math scores increased 9.1%.**
  - **36.8% of SLMS students meeting standard in 2003 to 45.9% of SLMS students meeting the state standard in 2004.**
- **SLMS writing scores increased .05%.**
  - **60.1% of SLMS students meeting standard in 2003 to 60.6% of SLMS students meeting the state standard in 2004.**

Surprise Lake Middle School students performed higher than the state average in two areas of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade WASL. SLMS math scores were within .04% of the state average.

In addition, 91 SLMS students passed all three section of the WASL, as compared to 70 students in 2003, and 38 in 2002.

### **2003-2004 Specific Goal # 2**

**Surprise Lake Middle School will increase communication to parents/families.**

## Results

- **Continued work on upgrading SLMS web page.**
- **Continue Saber Newsletters.**
- **Utilized student delivered notices.**
- **Sent home ½ sheet calendars with students every Friday afternoon.**
- **Utilized district phone call-out system.**
- **Established purposeful communication between teachers and parents (i.e., Gradechecker)**

## Impact

The satisfaction of increased communication opportunities for parents and families was realized through verbal communication with parents via phone conversations, dialog with parents in our office and reports back to the administration team at monthly Partners In Education (PIE) meetings.

**2003-2004 Specific Goal # 3**  
**Surprise Lake Middle School will continue to focus on improving school climate.**

**Results**

- Continued training for Site Council members.
- Implemented Site Council/Staff retreat.
- Provided continued leadership opportunities for staff.
- Conducted Behavior assemblies titled “Quest for Respect”.
- Continued and enhanced student/staff recognition.
- Worked with Safe and Civil Schools grant program and implemented initial training for SLMS team.
- Assessed facilities as well as student traffic patterns to assure constant structured supervision.
- Developed a system to allow communication between all stakeholders (school counselor, district psychologist, building administration, Good Samaritan Behavior Health, Communities in Schools, After’Ours, Native American Specialist, Horizon Treatment Services and Readiness to Learn; regarding resources available to students and families) This group met every other week to review “at risk” students and families.
- Began work with Mr. Jeff Short, Columbia Junior High and Fife High School as well as Endeavour and Hedden Elementary Schools to establish and implement anti-bullying procedures.
- Implemented optional book club for staff – Working on the Work by Dr. Phillip Schlechty and for Site Council team – Good to Great by Jim Collins
- Offered support services to students and families through comprehensive mental health, funded by the Safe Schools, Healthy Students grant.

**Impact**

In evaluating school climate, SLMS used data collected and reviewed in the following areas:

- Average daily attendance
- Numbers of discipline incidents related to fighting, Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB).
- Average overall GPA

The average daily attendance at SLMS increased from 92.81% in the 2002-2003 school year to 93.97% in the 2003-2004 school year.

The number of discipline incidents related to fighting and HIB decreased significantly from the 2002-2003 school year to the 2003-2004 school in part because of the reduction in student population. (8<sup>th</sup> grade moving to Columbia Junior High) However, the data is still considered relevant to school climate because of the ratio between numbers of incidents to the number of students at SLMS.

(2003-2004 = 45 incidents)

Average overall GPA at SLMS increased from 2.82 in the 2002-2003 school to 2.95 in the 2003-2004 school year out of a possible 4.00.

## **DATA COLLECTION**

### **For the 2004-2005 School Improvement Plan**

A comprehensive needs assessment was conducted by the SLMS staff, Partners in Education and SLMS Site-based Council. The following are the components of our comprehensive needs assessment:

- **2004 WASL test results**
- **Safe and Civil Schools survey results (SCS survey)**
- **Nine Characteristics of Highly Effective Schools survey (NCHES survey)**
- **Partners In Education feedback**
- **SLMS Site-Based Council input and feedback**
- **2003-2004 Annual Performance Report**

**Needs identified through achievement data.**

- **Continue to improve feeling of student safety in bathrooms, cafeteria, hallways and other common areas. (SCS survey)**
- **Continue to improve levels of respect between students as well as between students and staff. (SCS survey)**
- **Continue to improve the frequent monitoring in teaching and learning. (NCHES survey)**
- **Continue to set high standards, behaviorally and academically, for all students. (NCHES survey)**

**Needs identified through the Partners In Education:**

- **Continue increased methods of communication between school and home.**
- **Continue to provide students with a safe and healthy learning environment.**

**Needs identified through faculty and administration:**

- **Complete curriculum development in 6<sup>th</sup> grade core.**
- **Complete curriculum development in 7<sup>th</sup> grade core.**
- **Complete curriculum development in Math II as identified by the state standard for assessment.**
- **Utilize Technology in the classroom and provide Teacher training.**
- **Implement a school wide writing component (6 Trait Writing) with training from OSPI at SLMS.**
- **Continued focus on the transformation of SLMS to a 6-7<sup>th</sup> grade school.**
- **Continued evaluation, monitoring and adjustment of student social activities, programs, athletics, and academics.**
- **Create “Anchor Papers” for scoring writing**

**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.**

**Surprise Lake Middle School  
School Improvement Vision Statement 2004-05**

**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.**

**2004-2005 GOALS AND ACTION PLAN**

**Specific School Goal Area One:**

**Surprise Lake Middle School will continue to use data from EdPerformance testing and WASL results to support teacher preparation and student performance.**

**Action Plan:**

- **Develop a significant correlation between EdPerformance test results and WASL results.**
- **Use this correlation to assist in student placement, continued curriculum development, professional training and to help in building the master schedule.**
- **Identify low end performers in reading.**
- **Focus Science curriculum in line with new state issued Grade Level Expectations, as well as provide professional development, and opportunities for curriculum and alignment across grade levels.**
- **Explore scheduling possibilities to support low end readers though LAP funding and/or restructuring of F.T.E.**

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

- **WASL scores will continue to improve.**
- **SLMS will perform higher than the state average in all areas of state assessment.**
- **Individual departments will continue to create Exemplar Lessons in WOW Academies.**
- **Departments will develop standard assessment tools to be utilized by teachers who teach the same classes.**

**Specific School Goal Area Two:  
Surprise Lake Middle School will continue to improve school climate.**

**Action Plan (Based on Research-Identify):**

- Increase communication by means of upgrading SLMS website.
- Conduct grade level behavior assemblies in the fall, winter and spring.
- Continue with student recognition programs focusing on attendance and student achievement in classes.
- Implementation of Contribute software for individual teacher websites.
- Explore nutritional options for student consumption in cafeteria.

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

- SLMS will decrease the total numbers of violent incidents that are related to fighting, harassment, bullying, and intimidation.
- SLMS will increase daily attendance by 1% (2003-2004 = 93.97%)
- SLMS will increase overall GPA (2003-2004 = 2.95)
- Via survey, SLMS will increase satisfaction regarding building climate and safety, which will be realized by all stakeholders.

**Specific School Goal Area Three:  
Surprise Lake Middle School will examine the organizational structure of the way we teach curricular classes to determine best practices for increasing all students' academic performance.**

**Action Plan (Based on Research-Identify):**

- Administer survey to teachers, parents, and students to obtain feedback regarding Humanities placement.
- Implement "Great Books" reading program into 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade Core classes.
- Implement Special Education "pull out" model to more effectively accommodate students who are receiving specially designed instruction.
- Implement "Math Tools" classes for remediation in math.
- Conduct staff development regarding technology integration in support of student learning and instruction.
- Re-educate staff, provide tools, assess students, implement instructional strategies, and reassess students in regards to student engagement.

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

- Raise the level of student achievement in all Core classes.
- Increase use of technology in all classes.
- Increase staff development.
- Raise the level of student engagement at SLMS.