

La Center
Elementary School



Annual Report
2020-2021

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of La Center Elementary
is to empower every student to become a successful
lifelong learner in a changing world.

OUR SCHOOL

The school serves as a hub for the La Center community. The facilities are used from early morning until late at night for both student instruction and community events and activities.

The elementary school shared the 17-acre campus with the middle school and maintenance shops. The original school was constructed in 1938. Our round building, which houses 4th and 5th grade, was constructed in 1968. Remodeling of all elementary buildings was completed in the fall of 2004.

La Center Elementary School is a safe and exciting place to learn. Children are the highest priority of all staff members. All work is directed towards meeting the individual needs of our students as whole children. We recognize that no two individuals are the same; therefore, we make every effort to accommodate the unique talents of each student.

Due to Covid-19, normal activities were impacted and distance and hybrid in-person learning was implemented.

Good things are happening at La Center Elementary . . .

“PAWS-ITIVE” COMMUNITY

Our children’s success is dependent on many factors. While our academic successes are critical, there are basic strengths that can have a positive impact on our student’s academic success and enhance their lives. It is our hope that supporting our students with a monthly theme will have a positive effect on their lives, help them academically, and support them in our learning efforts.

Monthly Bobcat Themes

September: Empathy – The ability to understand and connect to the feelings of another

October: Courage – To choose what is good, right, and kind, even when it’s hard or scary

November: Gratitude – Choosing to notice and appreciate things in our life, things in others, and things in the world

December: Respect – Seeing the good in people and things and treating them with care

January: Kindness – The choice to act with words, gifts, or actions to bring appreciation, positivity, and encouragement to others and yourself

February: Cooperation – Working together and helping others

March: Honesty – Living truthfully in your words and actions and thoughts

April: Perseverance – The ability to work through situations even when there are obstacles or challenges in the way

May: Responsibility – To take action and understand how our choices affect others, ourselves, and the world

June: Creativity – Using your imagination to create something or solve a problem

Spirit Days

Students that are observed doing acts of respect towards others are given a coin to put into the Bobcat coin bucket in the cafeteria. Students can view the coin level in the bucket. Once the token level reaches the top of the bucket, students are rewarded with a school spirit day. Due to Covid-19 restrictions Spirit Days were not observed.

Bobcat Store

As part of our school-wide behavior support plan, our students earn Bobcat Bucks in the classroom for doing an excellent job following the school and classroom rules. This incentive program offers students a chance to shop at the Bobcat Store using their Bobcat Bucks. Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Bobcat Store was not implemented during the 2020-2021 school year.

MindUp

Our MindUp curriculum includes lessons that use information about the brain to improve behavior and learning for students. Each lesson offers strategies for helping students focus, improve self-regulation, manage stress and have a positive mind-set.

Behavior Fairs

Behavior fairs occur twice a year and are brief lessons given by staff on appropriate school behavior. The fairs are designed to help students become familiar with the school, its policies and procedures (i.e. how to check in late and no running in the hallways). Due to Covid-19 restrictions the Behavior Fairs were not necessary.

Resolution Room

The resolution room is designed to give students a quiet and comfortable location for conflict resolution.

Kindy Cub Nights

Our kindergarten team planned three evenings via Zoom in the spring to help prepare next year's kindergarten students and their parents for school. The evenings were spent working on activities that help future Bobcats prepare for school, fine and major motor skills, and learning alphabet letter basics. Bobcat cubs were able to receive their own school boxes filled with supplies, as well as activities to do at home.

Highly Capable Program

Our highly capable (HiCap) program is one way we challenge and support our identified highly capable students. Our HiCap students are clustered in a classroom at each grade level with other highly capable students and are encouraged to participate in enrichment activities designed to meet the needs of highly capable students. We have provided opportunities for special projects and have redesigned the candidate identification process that is shared with all families in January and utilize common assessments for all students and more specific assessments as candidates are found. Our HiCap leadership team has continued their work to improve upon our HiCap program to identify and support our HiCap students in their learning. For example, we have in the past found that HiCap students can appear more shy or quiet. We have worked to develop better ways to find them given this understanding. We have also worked to better support our HiCap students in their learning, such as through developing and implementing special learning projects during the school year.

Technology Tools

K-5 utilizes Chromebooks.

Assessments

School wide common assessments utilize DIBELS (reading) and STAR (math). Kindergarten also uses WaKids to help us place and best support our students in their learning.

Bobcat Ambassadors

The Bobcat Ambassador program is designed to introduce 4th and 5th grade students to a school and community service and leadership process that will encourage them to pursue student government activities and community service in middle and high school. Two students (one boy, one girl) from each 4th and 5th grade class are selected to be a Bobcat Ambassador for the school year. Students receive training in team building, working collaboratively, respect and diversity.

Character Crossroad

Our counseling team worked hard to design and implement Character Crossroad lessons for each classroom. These hour-long events took place once a month in each classroom. Each grade level explored our monthly themes (such as respect) and learned strategies to support themselves and others.

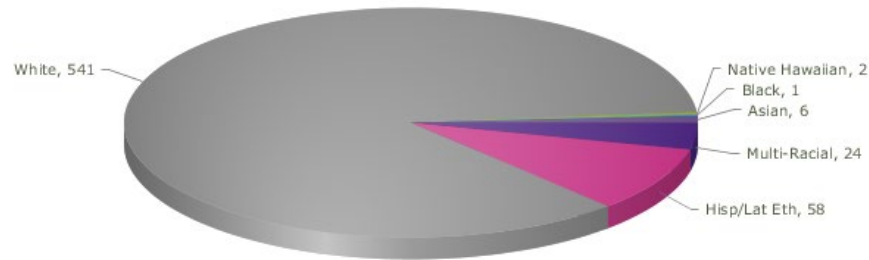
Weekly Art Specialist

Thanks to a full time art teacher, each class had one time each week to explore the amazing world of art. Students painted, weaved, and did printmaking to name just a few activities. A school-wide digital art show with hundreds of pieces of art compiled by students during distance learning gave the community a glimpse of the amazing artistic abilities of LCES students.

Our Students

Student Group	Student Group Type	% of Total Number Of Students	Number Of Students
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	Race	0%	0
Asian	Race	0.95%	6
Black/ African American	Race	0.16%	1
Hispanic/ Latino of any race(s)	Race	9.18%	58
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	Race	0.32%	2
Two or More Races	Race	3.8%	24
White	Race	85.6%	541

Race Distribution for Males and Females in All Grades at Entity 158



State Testing

Smarter Balanced Assessment

This year, the Smarter Balanced Assessments for English Language Arts and Math were not administered to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders due to Covid - 19. Below are previous years' results:

	2018-2019		2019-2020		2020-2021	
4 th Gr. Math	Math	53.1%	Math	Not Assessed	Math	Not Assessed
4 th Gr. ELA	ELA	61.9%	ELA	Not Assessed	ELA	Not Assessed
5 th Gr. Science	Science	57.9%	Science	Not Assessed	Science	Not Assessed

For additional state results, check out the OSPI Website:

<https://washingtonstatereportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/ReportCard/ViewSchoolOrDistrict/100569>

Literacy

Kindergarten classes utilize Lucy Calkins curriculum in reading. The reading series is rooted in best practices and newest thinking. The series includes state-of-the-art charts and tools, methods for teaching reading, and learning progressions in reading for literature and informational texts.

Grades 1-3 use the Wonders program for literacy. Its intervention program, WonderWorks, is flexible, grounded in research, and provides support designed to accelerate students to grade level.

Grades 4-5 use the Read Side-By-Side program for literacy. The program exposes all students to longer, more complex texts, using scripted lessons for fiction and non-fiction novels, book clubs and independent reading.

Schoolwide Program

The Schoolwide Program with 13 para-educators and overseen by a Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) continues with much success. The program offers expanded, embedded para-educator support for each classroom, additional supervision of the playground and cafeteria, along with increased connection between students, teachers, para-educators and parents.

The priorities and goals of the program are:

- Achieve 10% growth in behavior, mathematical thinking, and reading skills
- Integrate instruction and standards across the curriculum (for example, Problem Based Learning)
- Differentiate learning to meet the needs of all students
- Build a positive learning environment with a community focus (parent engagement).

Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)

Our PTO is very active and responsible for many extra events for the students at La Center Elementary. This group of parents and teachers spend countless hours bringing exciting opportunities and programs to our school and community.

La Center Elementary Staff for 2020-2021

We have an outstanding, hardworking, group of individuals dedicated to the success of all children. Below is a list of the staff at La Center Elementary School. All of our staff work to find ways to help children become successful. Thank you to our staff for their energy and dedication to our students.

PK-2 Principal	Michael Nolan
3-5 Principal	Greg Hall
Elementary Secretary	Melissa Lile
Assistant Secretary	Joyce Hantho
Office Assistant	Tasha Clinton
K-2 Counselor	Lisa Halstrom
3-5 Counselor	Tami Karchesky
Resolution Room	Susan Shufeldt
Kindergarten	Jennifer Blankenship, Lisa Graham, Colleen Johnson, Lynette Lindblom, Amy Webberley
First Grade	Megan Cooper, Lois Englund, Miranda Gray, Rita Persic, Denise Skufca
Second Gr.	Kristina Billington, Megan Bright, Nancy Buhrmester, Michelle Cuthbert, Jennifer Matanich, Laura Tomberlin
Third Grade	Liz Crandall, Nicole Dennis, Andi Dupper, Kat Lentz, Shannon Warren
Fourth Grade	Carrie Cablay, Bonnie Lock, Kris McKinney, Teri Schlenz, Haylee Tappan
Fifth Grade	Karen Alanko, Kate Denney, Scott Holt, Glen Jones, Peter Poppert
Special Education	Karen Bachle, Katie Morehouse, Wendi Sumner, Teresa Warnke, Kim York
Music	Tonya McCord
P.E.	Peter Sloniker, Amy Wise
K-12 Media Specialist	Lynn Cooke
K-2 Library Teacher	Kathy Griffith
Library Technicians	Mary Lynn Henderson, Maria Rolph
ELL	Melissa Flatt

School Nurse	Danielle Rivers, Erin Uskoski
Health Room Aide	Katie O'Daniel
Speech/Communication Disorder Specialist	Joelle Morrison, Sonya Young
School Psychologist	Brian Terletzky
Paraeducator...	Darlene Bechtold, Cynthia Arthur, Becky Gore, Rachel Gregg, Debbie Holland, Bo Knight, Brady Lewis, Trisha Mattson, Shelley Putnam, Stacey Schoelich, Kelly Sullivan, Tammy Russo, Darci Taylor, Deena Reed
Special Ed Paraeducators	Jackie Coleman, Allison Irwin, Becca McLachlan, Janelle Regis, Jennifer Stephens, Emily Seastone, Stephanie Tabor
TOSA (Schoolwide)	Michelle Collins
Kitchen	La Dona Brown, Donna Burnett, Kirby Phillips
Lunch Clerk/Cashier	Dana Hantho
Custodial	Bill Bauman, Londa Brown, Nicole Mayfield, Tom Murphy, Tom Rice Eric Stenberg, Rob Williamson

Certificated staff: 49 Support staff: 40