

Puesta del Sol Elementary SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2019 – 2020

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:
Jonathan Shearer

The mission of the Bellevue School District is to serve each and every student academically, socially and emotionally through a rigorous and relevant education that is innovative and individualized. As a learning community that values one another's humanity, we provide courageous support for an equitable and exceptional education for all students.



To affirm and inspire each and every student to learn and thrive as creators of their future world.

Puesta del Sol Elementary School

2019-2020 School Improvement Plan

At Puesta del Sol Elementary School we are committed to sustaining a Spanish Immersion School that ensures a Spanish language learning experience in which all students thrive academically and socially as members of a caring and safe community. Our school mission was created in partnership with parents, teachers and students.

Our work in serving every student, every day in every classroom is grounded in an idea of continuous improvement. Working with the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, we use nine characteristics of successful schools to guide our work.

THE NINE CHARACTERISTICS OF HIGH PERFORMING SCHOOLS

- 1 · Developing a clear and shared focus · 2 · Maintaining high standards and expectations for all students
- 3 · Using effective school leadership · 4 · Engaging in high levels of collaboration and communication · 5
- Providing curriculum, instruction and assessments aligned with state standards · 6 · Ensuring frequent monitoring of learning and teaching · 7 · Delivering focused professional development · 8 · Maintaining a supportive learning environment · 9 · Promoting high levels of family and community involvement

Included in this school improvement plan are details to share the current focus at Puesta del Sol Elementary School, as well as outline our strengths and opportunities for the year ahead. In addition to promoting continuous improvement of student achievement of the state learning goals, we recognize that nonacademic student learning and growth are key elements of student well-being and success. This plan is based on a comprehensive needs assessment of our school and programs, and included active participation and input from building staff, students, families, parents and community members.

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Puesta del Sol School Mission:

Puesta del Sol is a Spanish Immersion School that ensures a Spanish language learning experience in which all students thrive academically and socially as members of a caring and safe community.

SCHOOL BACKGROUND

Instructional Program Overview

Puesta del Sol Elementary is a Spanish language immersion program within the Bellevue School District International Spanish Academy. Since 1986, we have taught the district elementary curriculum in Spanish. Our vision is to educate our students to become global citizens and leaders, developing bilingualism, biliteracy and multiculturalism through a one-way language immersion program model. The Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition defines a one-way full immersion program as one in which the student population consists of majority language speakers with limited to no proficiency in the immersion/minority language, wherein exposure to the target language takes place primarily in the classroom and school. The majority of our population arrives monolingual, with English being the first language in the home. At this time, 11% of the population speak a language other than English in the home.

The language of instruction in the classroom is solely Spanish in Kindergarten through 2nd grade. In 3rd grade, an hour of English language instruction is introduced. The primary use of this time is literacy development and skill building in English writing. English Language Arts instruction time is maintained through 5th grade while content areas like Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Spanish Literacy are delivered in Spanish.

Puesta del Sol teachers and staff are committed to each and every student's success. In addition to a rich and rigorous language learning environment, we are committed to creating a supportive and inclusive school community. Students are supported and enriched through a variety of programs including Special Education, English Language Learning (ELL) services, volunteer/mentors, and before and after school academic and enrichment programs.

Key to our instructional focus at Puesta del Sol are district-supported initiatives such as Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning, Balanced Literacy and Mathematics differentiation and extension. In addition to these high-quality instructional practices, our staff is redeveloping our Spanish language acquisition standards, refining the alignment of the standards between each grade level and with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) proficiency standards.

Puesta del Sol is supported by a committed and generous parent community. PTA fundraising helps the school with instructional assistant classroom support through the Amity Institute intern program. They provide school and classroom grants for additional resources and support. They also organize enrichment activities, including extracurricular programs, and fun family events that bring the entire school community together to celebrate learning.



School Overview

Founded in 1986, Puesta del Sol is a K-5 Spanish immersion choice elementary school. Immersed in the Spanish language and culture from the Spanish-speaking world, students complete the same Bellevue School District curriculum as students outside of the program. As a result, they become proficient in Spanish and English, thriving academically and socially as members of a caring and safe learning community.

Programs Offered

International Spanish Academy (immersion)

School & Student Characteristics ¹

	SCHOOL	DISTRICT ²
Enrollment	546	496
National Board Certified Teachers	23%	28%
Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Meals	7%	18%
Receiving Special Education Services	3%	6%
English Language Learners	6%	24%
First Language Other Than English	11%	42%
Mobility Rate ³	1%	14%

Racial Diversity



14%	Asian
2%	Black
22%	Hispanic
14%	Two or more races
47%	White
N/A	Native American
N/A	Pacific Islander

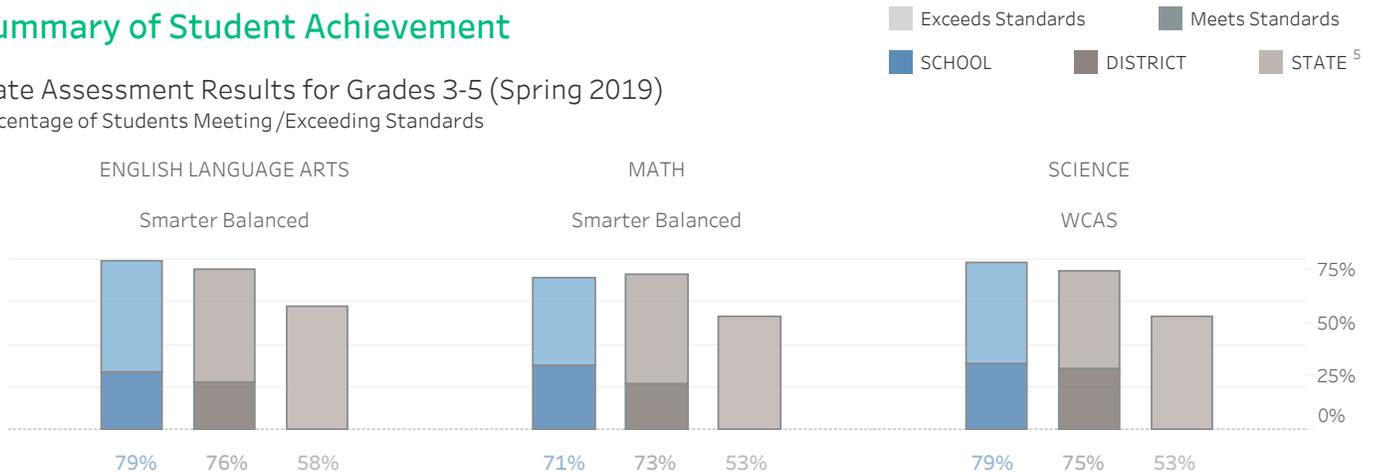
Attendance & Discipline

	SCHOOL	DISTRICT
Average Attendance Rate	96%	95%
Students with < 10 Absences Per Year	73%	72%
Students with 18+ Absences Per Year	4%	7%
Suspension Rate ⁴	0.2%	0.6%

Summary of Student Achievement

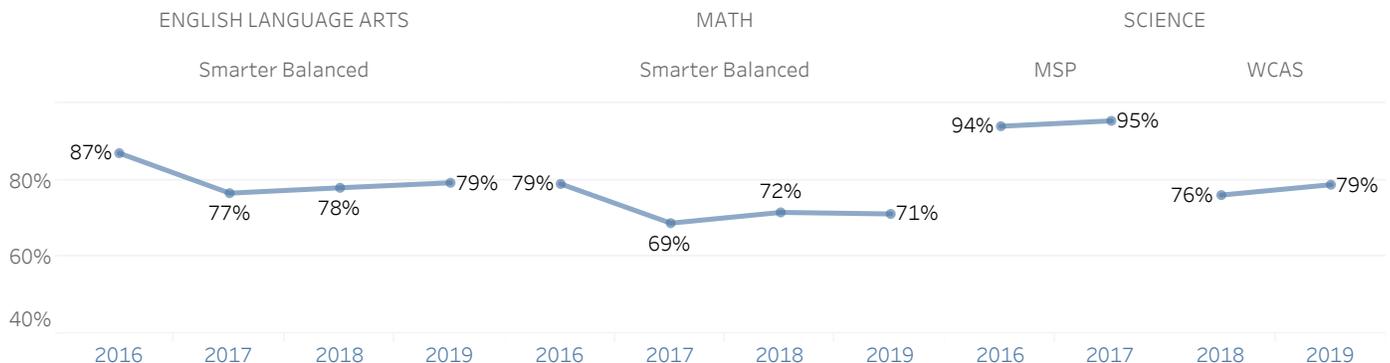
State Assessment Results for Grades 3-5 (Spring 2019)

Percentage of Students Meeting /Exceeding Standards



State Assessment Results for Grades 3-5 in the Last Four Years

Percentage of Students Meeting Standards



Glossary

National Board Certified Teachers

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards offers a voluntary certification process for teachers to show that they have met the organization's standards for effective teaching. Teachers who apply go through a lengthy and rigorous screening process to obtain certification.

Science Assessments - WCAS/MSP

WCAS stands for Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science, first administered in Spring 2018 to students state-wide in grades 5, 8 and 11. The WCAS replaces the WA State MSP science assessment. The WCAS is aligned to Next Generation Science Standards, which emphasize engineering and technology. The standards were adopted by the state in 2013. For more information see www.k12.wa.us/assessment/StateTesting/default.aspx.

Smarter Balanced

Starting in 2014-15, Washington State adopted the Smarter Balanced exams to assess student learning in English language arts and math in grades 3-8 and 10-11. These computer-based exams are aligned to the state's Common Core learning standards. For more information see www.k12.wa.us/assessment/StateTesting/default.aspx.

Special Education Services

Neighborhood schools provide a continuum of special education services. We provide specialty centers as well:

* **Cascade** program for students who benefit from behavioral supports due to emotional stressors.

* **Evergreen** program to serve young adults (ages 18-21) with disabilities.

* **Olympic** program to support students on the autism spectrum.

* **Pacific** program for students with significant developmental and intellectual disabilities.

* **PALS** (Preschool Age Learning) preschool to provide early intervention services for children with special needs (ages 3-5), together with typically developing peers.

End Notes

- 1 School and Student Characteristics**
Data are from October 1, 2018 unless otherwise specified.
- 2 District Average**
The district averages displayed here are the averages for district elementary schools.
- 3 Mobility Rate**
The percent of students who entered or withdrew from the school between October 1 and June 15, based on October 1 enrollment.
- 4 Suspension Rate**
The percent of students who received at least one in-school or out-of-school suspension or were expelled over the course of the school year.
- 5 State Assessment Results**
State pass rate percentages combine "Meets Standard" and "Exceeds Standard."

English Language Arts (ELA)

Student Outcome SMART Goals:

- At least 76% of Class of 2029 (current 3rd graders) will meet state standards in ELA, while meeting WSIF goals for all subgroups.
- We will decrease the gap between our highest and lowest achieving racial subgroups in ELA grades 3-5 by accelerating the growth for the lowest-scoring subgroups while maintaining or increasing proficiency levels of the highest scoring groups.
 - Goal: Decrease the gap from 29% to 25% or lower in 2020.

The tables below show Puesta del Sol’s goal and growth towards all sub groups meeting ELA proficiency. Boxes with an asterisk indicate subgroups where the number of students is not large enough to be shared publicly. Boxes that are highlighted in green indicate areas where Puesta del Sol met its sub group goals. While we celebrate growth, we continue to analyze our actions and implement the strategies identified below to close gaps that have been historically predictable in our school system. Our combined data for grades 3-5 illuminates longer term trends compared to the grade 3 data and serves as the data source for our gap closing goal.

English Language Arts: SBA Proficiency Rates and Goals: Grade 3*

Group	2018	2019		2020
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
All Students	85%	86%	74%	76%
Asian	92%	93%	*	*
Black	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	68%	70%	55%	59%
Two or More Races	86%	87%	80%	81%
White	93%	94%	84%	85%
Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Meals	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	*	*	*	*
English Language Learners	*	*	*	*

*Grade 3 Actuals are not cohort data but based on students in grade 3 of each year

English Language Arts: SBA Proficiency Rates and Goals: Grades 3-5

Group	2018	2019		2020
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
All Students	78%	79%	79%	80%
Asian	89%	90%	84%	85%
Black	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	73%	75%	62%	66%
Two or More Races	77%	78%	91%	92%
White	78%	79%	83%	84%
Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Meals	69%	71%	62%	66%
Students with Disabilities	55%	59%	59%	63%
English Language Learners	*	*	*	*

Our Strengths in This Goal Area:

- Strengths in our Data: The majority of students at Puesta del Sol Elementary perform at or above (Level 3, Level 4) proficiency on the SBA statewide assessment. Third grade pass rate in ELA is 74%, fourth grade pass rate 75%, fifth grade pass rate 90%. Our Tiered Fidelity Inventory, the way we measure the strength of implementation of literacy practices, shows that classroom teachers provide a strong Tier I literacy instruction and use data for planning.
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS): MTSS structures at Puesta del Sol focus on data-driven practices which address achievement gaps and provide focused instruction and interventions.

Key Performance Indicators:

- K-2 Student Progress Monitoring: We will measure growth using TRC and DIBELS scores. These assessments are administered three times per year as both a universal screener and progress monitoring tool.
- 3-5 Student Progress Monitoring: We will measure growth using STAR scores. STAR is used as a universal screener and progress monitoring tool. These are short assessments in reading and math that are administered to all students each fall and spring. The assessments are computer adaptive, which means they adjust to each answer that students provide. Results from STAR assessments are accurate predictors of the Smarter Balanced Assessments so that educators can use Star scores to identify students in jeopardy of missing reading and math yearly progress goals in time to make meaningful adjustments to instruction.
- Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA): Starting in 2014-15, Washington State adopted the Smarter Balanced Assessments to assess student learning in English Language Arts and Math in grades 3-8 and 10-11. These computer-based exams are aligned to the state's Common Core learning standards.

Key Improvement Strategies:

To support student growth and achievement for those performing at, above or below grade level, our school community will meet the academic and non-academic needs in the following ways:

- Implementation of Balanced Literacy: As a staff, we will continue to strengthen our implementation of balanced literacy using Daily 5/ Daily CAFÉ practices as well as ensuring differentiation through guided reading.
- Focused Professional Learning: Professional learning at Puesta del Sol Elementary will be purposefully selected to implement the schoolwide reading model (Daily 5/Daily CAFÉ) as evidenced by an aligned professional development plan and implementation by 100% of teachers (TFI 1.15).
- Collaborative Focus on Culturally Responsive Teaching and Language Acquisition Development: Puesta del Sol teachers will work collaboratively to strengthen classroom instruction. This includes ensuring students experience culturally responsive teaching practices in every classroom. We will also continue to develop and revise grade-level instructional plans aligned to standards and our language acquisition targets at each grade level. We will provide enhanced focus on closing academic opportunity gaps for our subgroups of students whom we aren't yet successfully reaching (Latinx and students with IEPs).

MATHEMATICS

Student Outcome SMART Goals:

- At least 80% of Class of 2029 (current 3rd graders) will meet state standards in Mathematics, while meeting WSIF goals for all subgroups.
- We will decrease the gap between our highest (Two or more Races) and lowest (Hispanic) achieving racial subgroups in Mathematics grades 3-5 by accelerating the growth for the lowest-scoring subgroups by maintaining or increasing proficiency levels of the highest scoring groups.
 - Goal: Decrease the gap from 19% to 16% or lower in 2020.

The tables below show Puesta del Sol's goal and growth towards all sub groups meeting MATH proficiency. Boxes with an asterisk indicate subgroups where the number of students is not large enough to be shared publicly. Boxes that are highlighted in green indicate areas where Puesta del Sol met its sub group goals. While we celebrate growth, we continue to analyze our actions and implement the strategies identified below to close gaps that have been historically predictable in our school system. Our combined data for grades 3-5 illuminates longer term trends compared to the grade 3 data and serves as the data source for our gap closing goal.

Math: SBA Proficiency Rates and Goals: Grades 3-5

Group	2018	2019		2020
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
All Students	72%	74%	71%	73%
Asian	92%	93%	73%	75%
Black	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	63%	66%	58%	62%
Two or More Races	74%	76%	77%	79%
White	71%	73%	76%	78%
Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Meals	62%	65%	50%	55%
Students with Disabilities	27%	34%	47%	52%
English Language Learners	*	*	*	*

Math: SBA Proficiency Rates and Goals: Grade 3*

Group	2018	2019		2020
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
All Students	85%	86%	79%	80%
Asian	100%	100%	*	*
Black	*	*	*	*
Hispanic	64%	67%	65%	68%
Two or More Races	93%	94%	80%	81%
White	90%	91%	89%	90%
Eligible for Free/Reduced Price Meals	*	*	*	*
Students with Disabilities	*	*	*	*
English Language Learners	*	*	*	*

*Grade 3 Actuals are not cohort data but based on students in grade 3 of each year

Our Strengths in the goal area:

- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: Our Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) leadership team guides our school in analyzing data to ensure students are making progress in math and that their needs are being differentiated for in the classroom. Our MTSS process is aligned to standards with decision making that is driven by student data.
- Computer Science Integration: Puesta del Sol is committed to and building toward the integration of computer science across all content areas in grades K-5.

Key Performance Indicators for the 2019-20 School Year include:

- K-1 Student Progress Monitoring: We will measure growth using end of the unit and common assessments.
- 2-5 Student Progress Monitoring: We will measure growth using end-of-unit assessments and STAR assessment.

Key Improvement Strategies:

To support student growth and achievement for those performing at, above or below grade level, our school community will meet the academic and non-academic needs in the following ways:

- Technology Integration for Differentiation and Acceleration: We are increasing opportunities for students to receive individualized differentiation and acceleration using ST Math, a technology resource that tracks student progress and provides individualization based on student skill levels.
- Enhanced Math Instructional Practices: We are working collaboratively to plan for and implement standards-aligned math instruction that supports students developing deep conceptual understanding, math proficiency and a love of math. This includes focusing on instruction that leads students to mastery of the mathematical practice from the CCSS: make sense of problems and persevere in solving them and construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others. We are also integrating computer science and technology integration into their classroom instruction. We are working on these improvements in collaboration with our ITCL and our district curriculum developer.
- Additional Support for 5th Grade Students: To ensure our students leave Puesta del Sol with a strong foundation in math, we are piloting a 5th grade before/after school math club for students who need a bit of extra support to achieve at grade level standards in math. This math club will be led by a classroom teacher with support from our AMITY interns. We will also be piloting math supplemental resources to send home to families to further strengthen math skill development.
- Strengthening Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: We will continue to build out our data-driven system to analyze student data and to use that data to adjust instruction to meet the needs of students in math.
- Co-Teaching Model to Support Inclusion: To support students with disabilities that impact math achievement, our special education teacher is working collaboratively with general education teacher to provide specially designed instruction through a co-teaching model.

Student Well-Being

Student Outcome SMART Goals:

- We will increase student sense of belonging on the Panorama Survey from 72% in fall 2018 to 76% in fall 2019.

Our Strengths in This Goal Area:

- Universal Social Emotional Learning Instruction: All students have access to universal instruction in social emotional learning, social skills lessons and anti-bullying lessons.
- Positive Behavior Intervention Supports: Puesta del Sol has developed strong systems for promoting school-wide positive behaviors. A PBIS leadership team is helping to guide the school in next steps of continuous improvement.

Key Performance Indicators:

- SEL Implementation Learning Walk: We will collect data using the SEL look-for (learning walk) template for Pre-K through 5th grade in order to measure our student access to universal SEL instruction.

Key Improvement Strategies:

To support student growth and achievement for those performing at, above or below grade level, our school community will meet student well-being needs in the following ways:

- Familia de Puesta del Sol: A major focus for the year is building the theme of *family* at Puesta del Sol. In our effort to help students feel like they belong and are connected to teachers and peers, we are structuring activities around the theme of family to help students connect more personally with teachers and build stronger and wider friendships with other students.
- Universal Social Emotional Learning Instruction: All teachers will deliver evidence-based universal SEL instruction in their classrooms to all students as evidenced by the SEL look-for document and create plans for implementation improvement based on strengths and areas for growth.

Family & Community Engagement

We believe that education is the shared responsibility of families, educators and community members and we value and respect the diversity of perspectives, knowledge and abilities that all of our stakeholders bring to our schools. As a school community, we have the important mission of shaping the future of the next generation. The families of our students are essential partners in supporting student academic and social emotional development, community partners play an important role providing services, resources and a network of support to our most vulnerable families. Our educators, administrators and school staff embrace a culture of service focused on working together with families and the community to ensure all students succeed in school and life. We know that the key to our success lies on ensuring that all stakeholders develop the capacity, knowledge and skills needed to collaborate effectively and participate in the education process as equal partners.

SMART Goal for the year:

- At least 20% of families in each subgroup will participate in the family engagement survey administered during winter 2020.

Our Strengths in This Goal Area:

- Vibrant PTSA Partnership: Puesta del Sol has a vibrant PTSA who partners with the school and provides incredible support to the staff and students. The PTSA helps fund enrichment opportunities for students and grants for staff. They fund our AMITY interns who provide academic and language support in the classrooms. They also provide an avenue for parents to advocate for and participate in their children's education. They also coordinate events and extracurricular activities that help build community and relationships between students and families.
- International Spanish Academy (ISA) & the University of Washington: Puesta del Sol is part of the International Spanish Academy whose goal is to offer a language acquisition environment where students can reach advanced proficiency in reading, writing and speaking in Spanish. In partnership with the University of Washington and the Consulate of Spain, Puesta del Sol, Tillicum Middle School, Newport High School and Sammamish High School, are part of this network that serves as a resource of information for families, facilitates partnership and integration across schools and cultivates Spanish language and culture through cross school activities. As part of ISA, seniors in high school come back to Puesta del Sol to provide academic coaching for elementary aged students.

Key Performance Indicators for the 2019-20 School Year:

- Family Survey: In order to better understand what our families need, we will collect participation and perception data using the family engagement survey for Kindergarten through 5th grade.

Key Improvement Strategies:

- Action Team for Partnerships: Puesta del Sol is launching an Action Team for Partnerships – a leadership group made up of staff, families and community to identify strengths and growth areas for family and community partnership at Puesta and make recommendations for next steps.
- Strengthening Two-Way Communication: To strengthen two-way communication between families and the school, the principal holds regular "principal coffees" where parents can meet with the principal to hear about school initiatives and where parents can share their questions or concerns. The school is also partnering with the TPSA in using parent surveys to better understand parent perspectives on topics such as what's working or not working with math instruction at Puesta del Sol.