

Peninsula School District

Middle Schools

Goodman Middle School	253-530-1600
Harbor Ridge Middle School	253-530-1900
Key Peninsula Middle School	253-530-4200
Kopachuck Middle School	253-530-4100

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Please visit our website at www.psd401.net for more information and ideas regarding parent resources and curriculum in Peninsula School District.

April, 2009

Seventh Grade

Parent Guide for Curriculum in the Peninsula School District



*Students Learning...
Teachers Teaching*

A Message to Parents

The goal of this guide is to assist parents in supporting the learning of their children.

It provides information regarding what students are expected to learn at each grade level. This resource provides ideas for what parents can do at home to support the learning goals.

Skills will be introduced at various times throughout the school year. For concepts already taught, practice and review at home is valuable.

Parents and teachers share a tremendous and wonderful responsibility. Together they can provide the motivation for students to work hard and foster the desire to learn.

The Peninsula School District believes in the abilities of our students to achieve the high standards that have been set for them. The partnership of parents, teachers, and community is crucial for student success.

Together we can make a difference for every child.

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Information in this booklet was gathered from various services including the Washington State Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs) and several school districts throughout the state.



Washington State Learning Goals

- GOAL 1** *Read with comprehension, write with skill, and communicate effectively and responsibly in a variety of ways and settings;*
- GOAL 2** *Know and apply the core concepts and principles of mathematics; social, physical, and life sciences; civics and history; geography; arts; and health and fitness;*
- GOAL 3** *Think analytically, logically, and creatively, and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems; and*
- GOAL 4** *Understand the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect career and educational opportunities.*

COMMUNICATION
Washington State Grades K-10
Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)

Students Will . . .

1. Use listening and observation skills to gain understanding
 - ☞ focus attention.
 - ☞ listen and observe to gain and interpret information.
 - ☞ check for understanding by asking questions and paraphrasing.
2. Communicate ideas clearly and effectively
 - ☞ communicate clearly to a range of audiences for different purposes.
 - ☞ develop content and ideas.
 - ☞ use effective delivery of speech.
 - ☞ use effective language and style.
 - ☞ effectively use action, sound, and/or images to support presentations.
3. Use communication strategies and skills to work effectively with others
 - ☞ use language to interact effectively and responsibly with others.
 - ☞ work cooperatively as a member of a group.
 - ☞ seek agreement and solutions through discussion.
4. Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of formal and informal communication
 - ☞ assess strengths and need for improvement.
 - ☞ seek and offer feedback.
 - ☞ analyze mass communication.
 - ☞ analyze how communication is used in career settings.

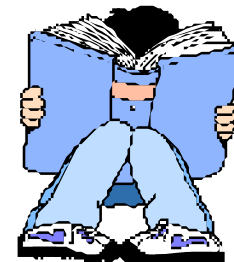


Ways Parents Can Help

- ☞ Discuss in your family verbal and nonverbal messages.
- ☞ Provide opportunities for your child to observe speeches, plays, etc. Help them to analyze the audience, purpose, topic and content.
- ☞ Share your points of view with your child and encourage your child to state his/her opinions. Encourage standard grammar and appropriate response.
- ☞ Assist your child with oral reports. An emphasis at 7th grade is on persuasive (try to convince, move someone to action) and expository (to inform) speeches. Provide constructive feedback including audience, topic, purpose and context.
- ☞ Provide opportunities for your child to participate in family projects and problem solving. Ask for your child to solve problems and offer possible solutions.
- ☞ With your child, talk about what happened during the day.
- ☞ Assist your child to interact positively in groups and individually to solve problems, perform a task and/or resolve conflict.
- ☞ Provide opportunities for your child to interact and have discussion with people of all ages and cultures.
- ☞ Help your child to accept constructive feedback as a way to improve personal skills.
- ☞ Help your child to understand the roles of various people and how communication styles may need to be altered as a result.

**What Parents Can do to Support
 The Learning Process**
















1. Prepare your children to learn. Let them know that school and learning are important and that parents are important partners.
2. Talk often about what is happening in school. Ask specific questions about schoolwork, teachers, and activities.
3. Attend events at your child's school. Back-to-school events, parent/teacher conferences, and other activities give parents a chance to get to know the teacher and to support their students.
4. Create a good learning environment at home. Support and reinforce what is being taught in the classroom. Ask questions that may have more than one answer. Provide supervision for the completion of homework assignments.
5. Visit community resources including libraries and museums. Explore cultural events. Take advantage of varied learning opportunities in the community.
6. Set high expectations and praise children often.
7. Limit television and video games.
8. Be involved in your school by volunteering or assisting teachers in other ways.
9. Allow your child to see you read, write, and use mathematics for pleasure as well as necessity.
10. Read with and to your child daily, no matter his/her age.



READING

Washington State Grades K-10 Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)

Students Will . . .

1. Understand and use different skills and strategies to read
 -  use word recognition and word meaning skills to read and comprehend text.
 -  build vocabulary through reading.
 -  read fluently, adjusting reading for purpose and material.
 -  understand elements of literature - fiction.
 -  use features of non-fiction text and computer software.
2. Understand the meaning of what is read
 -  comprehend important ideas and details.
 -  extend comprehension by analyzing, interpreting, and synthesizing information and ideas.
 -  think critically and analyze author's use of language, style, purpose and perspective.
3. Read different materials for a variety of purposes
 -  read to learn new information.
 -  read to perform a task.
 -  read for literary experience in a variety of forms.
 -  read for career applications.
4. Set goals and evaluate progress to improve reading
 -  re-read to gain confidence and pace in a known text.
 -  re-read or self-correct their reading.
 -  re-read favorite books.



VISUAL ARTS AND MUSIC

Ways Parents Can Help

VISUAL ARTS

- Provide a variety of art supplies for your child to use in your home.
- Provide opportunities for your child to carefully observe and draw from their environment.
- Encourage your child to participate in classes and workshops in the visual arts.
- Visit your library with your child and examine books about famous artists from the past and present.
- Provide opportunities for your child to learn about professional artists' work through books and visits to art museums, art shows, galleries, special exhibitions, street fairs, malls, etc. Have your child observe and discuss the artwork you see using art vocabulary, if possible.
- Discuss how history and world cultures are reflected in the visual arts.

MUSIC

- After attending a performance with your child, discuss how and why the music caused a reaction in the audience.
- Play a variety of music in the home (styles, composers, groups, cultures, etc.) Discuss the differences in music including the student's rationale for liking or disliking the selections.
- Attend musical performances with your child. Discuss the reaction of the audience to the music.
- With your child listen to a piece of music and have your child name the various instruments.
- Challenge your child to focus on subtle musical differences in volume and tone.
- Encourage your child to join music groups, to take music lessons, or to participate in music classes or workshops.
- Discuss how history and world cultures are reflected in music.



VISUAL ARTS AND MUSIC

Washington State Grades K-10

Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)

Students Will . . .

1. Understand and apply arts knowledge and skills
 - ♪ understand arts concepts and vocabulary.
 - ♪ develop arts skills and techniques.
 - ♪ understand the history and traditions of the arts in various cultures.
 - ♪ apply audience skills in a variety of arts settings and performances.
2. Demonstrate thinking skills using artistic processes
 - ♪ apply a creative process in the arts.
 - ♪ apply a performance process in the arts.
3. Communicate through the arts
 - ♪ use the arts to express and present ideas and feelings.
 - ♪ use the arts to communicate for a specific audience and purpose.
 - ♪ evaluate the effectiveness of art presentations of self and others using a responding process.
 - ♪ analyze dance, music, theatre, film, television, electronic media and visual arts encountered in daily life.
4. Make connections within and across the arts, to other disciplines, cultures, life, and work
 - ♪ demonstrate and analyze the connections among the arts disciplines.
 - ♪ demonstrate and analyze the connections between the arts and other content areas.
 - ♪ apply aesthetic criteria to personal and community decision-making.
 - ♪ understand the influence of the arts in shaping and reflecting cultures and history.
 - ♪ understand the influence and role of the arts in the world of work.



READING

Ways Parents Can Help

- 📖 Help your child to explore a wide range of fiction including contemporary and historical poetry as well as memoirs and classics.
- 📖 Share with your child your reactions to different types of books.
- 📖 With your child, discuss favorite books and authors and decide why you like them. Help your child learn more about his/her favorite authors through the use of videos, books, or magazine articles.
- 📖 Encourage your child to show perseverance and commitment in pursuing reading interests and assignments.
- 📖 Help your child to gather information and ideas from a variety of resources before forming opinions or statements.
- 📖 Work with your child to extend his/her vocabulary and to incorporate new learning into speaking and writing.
- 📖 Encourage your child to look for definitions of words that he/she is not familiar with.
- 📖 Encourage your older children to read to younger siblings.
- 📖 Help your child to examine a wide range of nonfiction including policies, public documents (contracts, warranties, guaranties) advertisements, promotional materials, and editorials.
- 📖 Reinforce the importance of reading by letting your child see you and other members of the family enjoy reading on a regular basis.
- 📖 Use school assignments or casual questions from your child as an opportunity to have your child use his/her skills needed to look up new and necessary information.
- 📖 Discuss issues and values from various perspectives as presented in a variety of written materials.



WRITING

We teach and assess the Six Traits of Writing in our classrooms.

The Traits are:

Ideas: Does the message make sense and are there details?

Organization: Is there a beginning and ending? Does the sequencing make sense?

Voice: Does the writing have personality and pizzazz? Does it show individuality?

Word Choice: Are words used correctly? Are new words attempted? Are lively verbs used?

Sentence Fluency: Do the sentences hang together? Do they have a rhythm and flow?

Conventions: Are capitals, punctuation, and readable spelling used? These should be appropriate to the child's developmental level; i.e., depending on whether she/he is a kindergartner or third grader.



WRITING

Washington State Grades K-10 Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)

Students Will . . .

1. Write clearly and effectively
 - ✎ develop concept and design.
 - ✎ use style appropriate to the audience and purpose.
 - ✎ apply writing conventions.
2. Write in a variety of forms for different audiences and purposes
 - ✎ write for different audiences.
 - ✎ write for different purposes.
 - ✎ write in a variety of forms.
 - ✎ write for career applications.
3. Understand and use the steps of the writing process
 - ✎ pre-write: generate ideas and gather information.
 - ✎ draft: elaborate on a topic and supporting ideas.
 - ✎ revise: collect input and enhance text and style.
 - ✎ edit: use resources to correct spelling, punctuation, grammar, and usage.
 - ✎ publish: select a publishing form and produce a completed writing project to share with chosen audience.
4. Analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of written work
 - ✎ assess own strengths and need for improvement.
 - ✎ seek and offer feedback.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

Ways Parents Can Help



- 🚲 Encourage your child to become involved in sports and activity programs in your community or neighborhood.
- 🚲 Plan family outings that involve physical activity (walking, playing sports, etc.).
- 🚲 Watch television with your child, and discuss commercials' "hidden" messages for health and fitness.
- 🚲 Practice healthy eating habits in the home. Involve your child in making good nutritional choices.
- 🚲 Create a plan with your child that balances nutrition, caloric input and output, and physical activity.
- 🚲 Encourage your child to develop positive hygiene habits.



HEALTH AND FITNESS

Washington State Grades K-10

Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)













Students Will . . .

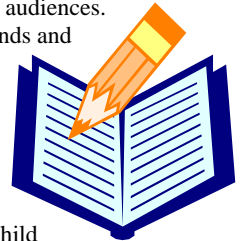
1. Acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain an active life--movement, physical fitness, and nutrition
 - Y develop fundamental physical skills and progress to complex movement activities as physically able.
 - Y incorporate rules and safety procedures into physical activities.
 - Y understand the concepts of physical fitness and develop and monitor progress on personal fitness goals.
 - Y understand nutrition and food nutrients and how they affect physical performance and the body.
2. Acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to maintain a healthy life
 - Y recognize patterns of growth and development, reduce health risks, and live safely.
 - Y understand the transmission and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases.
 - Y acquire skills to live safely.
3. Analyze and evaluate the impact of real-life influences on health
 - Y understand how environmental factors affect one's health.
 - Y gather and analyze health information.
 - Y use social skills to protect health and safety in a variety of situations.
 - Y understand how emotions affect decision-making.
4. Analyze health and safety information to develop health and fitness plans based on life goals
 - Y assess needs and resources.
 - Y develop a health and fitness plan and a monitoring system.



WRITING

Ways Parents Can Help

-  Encourage your child to present legible and interesting writing that makes sense to the reader.
-  Encourage writing by letting your child see you write regularly with enjoyment and for communication with others.
-  Encourage your child to keep a daily journal, a garden journal, a travel log, or other writing notebook.
-  Provide a dictionary and thesaurus for your child to check spelling and look up new words for writing.
-  Share different kinds of writing pieces with your child such as newspaper articles, business letters, public documents, warranties, how-to manuals, promotional materials, consumer reports, short stories, etc.
-  Challenge your child to write a persuasive letter to you or another person to explain why he/she needs a particular item or believes something should be changed.
-  Encourage your child to write for different purposes and audiences. Writing could include letters and thank-you notes to friends and family. In seventh grade, there is an emphasis on persuasive and expository writing.
-  Discuss with your child his/her writing; such as, what he/she likes or dislikes about it and how he/she can improve the writing piece. Talk about its effectiveness (the word choice in an advertisement, the voice of a letter, the details in a news article). Expect to see your child drafting, editing and revising final drafts.
-  Provide opportunities for your child to explore his/her ideas and opinions through writing and graphics.
-  When your child is answering the phone for the family, help him/her to write clear, accurate, concise and legible messages.
-  Discuss with your child a piece of writing and what you both liked and disliked about it. Such writings could be stories, letters, and books you have read together.
-  In your child's writings, always look for what is done well and encourage your child to write by praising his/her writing.




MATHEMATICS

Washington State Grades K-10

Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)

Students Will . . .

Number Sense	Measurement	Geometric Sense
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare and order rational numbers using a number line or list Represent addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of integers Determine the absolute value of a number Mentally add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions, decimals and percents Write the prime factorization of a number Use exponents Apply estimation strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solve problems involving similar figures Read and make scale drawings Determine the slope of a line Solve problems involving conversions within or between measurement systems Determine surface area and volume of prisms and cylinders and verify formulas Apply formulas to determine the volume of pyramids and cones 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize and draw two dimensional representations including nets and perspective drawings of three dimensional figures Graph ordered pairs on a coordinate plane
Probability and Statistics	Algebraic Sense	Reason and Problem Solve Mathematically
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Represent proportional relationships using graphs or tables Represent probability experiments in multiple ways including tree diagrams and organized lists Determine the theoretical probability of an event to predict outcomes Describe a data set using median, mean, mode and range and evaluate each measure Construct and interpret histograms, stem and leaf plots, circle graphs and box and whisker plots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solve two step linear equations Represent proportional relationships using graphs, tables or equations Understand the concept of equality and inequality using the symbols =, ≠, >, <, ≤ or ≥ Use variables to write expressions or equations or determine the value of a variable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate situations Formulate questions & define the problem Construct solutions 
Use Mathematical Reasoning	Communicate Knowledge & Understanding of Mathematical Language	Computation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze and evaluate information Predict results, make inferences & conjectures based on situation analysis Draw conclusions & verify results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gather information Organize and interpret information Represent and share information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add, subtract, multiply and divide rational numbers

SOCIAL STUDIES

Ways Parents Can Help

- ✦ Discuss the varied cultures and countries that are represented in our state and community.
- ✦ Discuss issues regarding the state of Washington. These could include history, economics, varied geography and government from statehood to present.
- ✦ Use maps to contrast and compare various regions in the state of Washington.
- ✦ Provide opportunities for your child to visit various museums and displays pertaining to our region and cultures.
- ✦ Encourage your child to make a family map (with your help) showing where relatives live. Have your child specify longitude and latitude and the relative time difference for those relatives living away from the Seattle area.
- ✦ Provide opportunities for your child to visit older relatives. Encourage him/her to ask about life when grandparents were the same age and what they remember about major events in history or in their lives.
- ✦ Discuss with your child how citizenship rights change with different governments.
- ✦ Encourage your child to read fiction and/or non-fiction materials that support topics being discussed in his/her social studies classes.
- ✦ Have regular discussions with your child regarding current world and domestic issues.



SOCIAL STUDIES

Washington State Grades K-10 Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)

Students Will . . .

1. Understand the major concepts of Geography
 - ♦ use maps, charts, and other geographic tools to understand the spatial arrangement of people, places, resources, and environments on Earth's surface.
 - ♦ understand the physical and human characteristics of places and regions.
 - ♦ observe and analyze the interaction between people, environment, and culture.
2. Understand major ideas in History
 - ♦ examine and understand major ideas, themes and cause and effect relationships in the U.S., World, and Washington State.
 - ♦ investigate, compare and contrast interpretations of historical events.
 - ♦ understand the origin and impact of ideas and technological developments on history and social change.
3. Understand the basic principles of Civics
 - ♦ understand and explain the core values of democracy as set forth in documents such as the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.
 - ♦ analyze the purpose of government and laws.
 - ♦ understand the purpose and organization of international relationships and how U.S. policy is made.
 - ♦ understand the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and democratic involvement.
4. Understand the basic concepts of Economics
 - ♦ understand and analyze the effect of economic systems on individuals, groups, and society.



MATHEMATICS

Ways Parents Can Help

- ☞ Whether your child has math homework for the day or not, encourage your child to spend at least 15 minutes doing math related activities (practice basic facts, computer math games, etc.)
- ☞ Find ways to help your child practice basic facts including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.
- ☞ When you're grocery shopping with your child, have him/her keep an ongoing, mental estimation of the amount of the total bill. Compare and discuss the accuracy of the answers.
- ☞ Ask questions such as, "What do you need to find out?" "How can you get the information?" "What do you need to do next?" "Can you make a prediction?"
- ☞ When dining out, challenge your child to estimate and then to calculate the cost of each person's meal including the tax and tip. Then discuss how accurate the estimate was to the actual bill.
- ☞ As needed, assist your child in organizing his/her assignments and keeping track of his/her progress. Math notebooks can assist in organizing work.
- ☞ In interactions with your child, try to portray positive images and values about mathematics.
- ☞ Help your child to practice skills in fractional equivalents of decimals (.25=1/4).
- ☞ Compare metric and U.S. systems of measurement.
- ☞ Find a graph in a newspaper, magazine, or on the Internet. Have your child answer questions by looking at the graph; such as, "What item on the graph is most used?" "What does this tell you?" "How does this information compare to other information in the article?"
- ☞ Provide a study place for your child. If possible, provide a calculator, graph paper, notebook paper, a ruler with metric and standard units, and a dictionary.
- ☞ Math is everywhere, yet many children don't see it. Look for ways to point out and reinforce math skills at home. For example:
 - Talk about how you use math at work or in the home.
 - Involve your child in tasks that require computing, measuring, estimating, building, following directions, problem solving and reasoning.
 - Look for activities that require your child to use his or her math skills such as building scale models, cooking, planning trips, and playing logic games.
- ☞ Encourage your child to participate in games and activities that teach and/or reinforce mathematics and thinking. For example, look for games that...
 - require and develop skill with mental computation and estimation.
 - require players to use their math skills.
 - involve the development of strategies.
 - require players to think about the probability of certain events occurring.
 - require the use of spatial visualization skills.
 - require logical thinking.
- ☞ When you see articles that have data that might interest your child, such as sports statistics, data on teenage smoking, or facts about natural disasters, share them and talk about what the numbers mean.
- ☞ Share your problem-solving strategies and techniques, mental computation strategies, and estimation strategies. Have your child teach you some. Work on the same problem, then compare strategies as well as answers.
- ☞ Invite your child to explain what was learned in math class or have him or her teach it to you. This type of interaction provides an opportunity for your child to help clarify his or her thinking, to practice new skills, and to practice communicating mathematically.
- ☞ If your child has access to a computer, look for software that reinforces and teaches math concepts. Help your child learn to use math utilities such as spreadsheets and graphing programs.

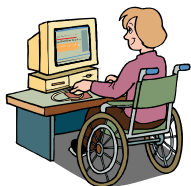
For additional resources: www.psd401.net/math

SCIENCE

Washington State Grades K-10 Essential Academic Learning Requirements (EALRs)

Students Will . . .

1. Know and apply scientific concepts and principles to understand the properties, structures, and changes in physical, earth/space, and living systems
 - ✓ understand how properties are used to identify, describe, and categorize substances, materials, and objects and how characteristics are used to categorize living things.
 - ✓ understand how components, structures, organizations, and interconnections describe systems.
 - ✓ understand how interactions within and among systems cause changes in matter and energy.
2. Know and apply the skills, processes, and nature of scientific inquiry
 - ✓ develop the knowledge and skills necessary to do scientific inquiry.
 - ✓ understand the nature of scientific inquiry.
3. Know and apply science concepts and skills to develop solutions to human problems in societal contexts
 - ✓ apply knowledge and skills of science and technology to design solutions to human problems or meet challenges.
 - ✓ analyze how science and technology are human endeavors, interrelated to each other, society, the workplace, and the environment.



SCIENCE

Ways Parents Can Help



- ☛ In seventh grade, there is an emphasis on Life Science that includes plants, animals, cells and heredity, human biology and health and environmental science. These topics can often be supported during family outings, activities and discussion.
- ☛ Encourage your child to develop a variety of strategies to obtain an answer or solution. Discuss which solution would be best and why.
- ☛ In the environment discuss how plants and animals are organized into different groups according to need and function.
- ☛ Watch the news together, and discuss local environmental issues. What are some impacts on the environment? How do changes in the environment affect humans, plants and animals?
- ☛ Discuss how engineers, architects, doctors, farmers and others use science and technology in their jobs.
- ☛ Read and discuss with your child stories and biographies of inventors such as Altschul, Curie, Fahrenheit, Fleming, Banneker, Morse, Otis, and Blount. Discuss the contributions of men and women in scientific developments.

