

# Annual Report 2016

316 West Naches Avenue  
Selah, WA 98942  
509-698-8000

A Look at the...

# Selah School District

*Cultivating Life-Long Learners*



## A Look At Who We Are— The Selah School District!

**W**elcome to the Selah School District—Home of the Vikings!  
While learning about our District, our school system is located in the heart of Selah, a community spread across the top of the small hills overlooking Yakima—the state's eighth most populated city.

Selah Schools serve approximately 3,500 students spread across four traditional campuses, but also includes an early learning center and alternative learning program. The District embraces the opportunity to challenge students to learn more, to initiate a desire and curiosity to expand thinking, and to apply knowledge to real-world settings.

Since the late 1800's the community has valued the importance of providing an education to its young people. From its first brick school to the modern facilities of today, the Selah School District is redefining the way it approaches the learning process. A set of core beliefs guide the District called ***The Viking Way***. As part of *The Viking Way*:

- We believe that ***strong character*** is at the heart of preparing our students for lifelong success.
- We believe that every student is ***capable of making valuable contributions*** to his or her community in the classroom, on the team, and at home.
- We believe that every student ***will graduate prepared for college and career opportunities***.

*The Viking Way* leads us to a culture of excellence where our schools are known not simply as good places to learn, but great places for our young people to engage in their education for the betterment of themselves and our community. We are proud to share these beliefs to produce an uncommon experience for Selah students.

We are the Selah School District—***Cultivating Life-Long Learners!***

# A Look at The Viking Way...

*Creating a Culture of Learning*



## What is Culture?

**C**ulture is comprised of the shared assumptions, beliefs, values, traditions and norms that define a group of people. Culture can be thought of as the "personality" of the organization. The Selah School District is focusing on strengthening our culture by having an intention focus on **The Viking Way**. *The Viking Way* is the behaviors and actions that are aligned with the Selah School District's mission, core purpose and beliefs.

### A Look at Our Purpose...

#### ***Our Mission***

The Selah School District, in partnership with students, parents, and community, cultivates a culture of life-long learning for all.

#### ***Our Core Purpose***

To ensure high levels of learning for all students.

### A Look at Our Beliefs...

Strong **CHARACTER** is at the heart of preparing our students for lifelong success.

Every student is worthy and **CAPABLE** of making meaningful contributions to his or her communities.

In a culture of excellence, every student graduates on time prepared for **COLLEGE** and **CAREER** opportunities.

Our beliefs can be remembered easily through three terms: **Character**, **Capable** and **College** and **Career** ready. If anyone behaves or acts in a way that exemplifies our beliefs, then we'd call that *The Viking Way*. With our shared beliefs in place as the foundation, our district will create a culture of excellence where high levels of learning is ensured for all students.

## A Message from Our Superintendent...

**W**elcome to the Selah School District! My name is Shane Backlund and I am honored to be in my fifth year in Selah as Superintendent and in my 16th year here overall. Selah is such a wonderful place and I'm so thankful for our staff, parents and especially our students.



*Shane Backlund*

Looking back over the past few years it's safe to say our district has undergone several major changes. Change isn't easy, but the great news is that we are now past many of the major changes and ready to write a new chapter for a new year!

Our theme as a district this year is **Cultivating Growth**.

The theme speaks to our goal of working on developing and improving upon the solid foundation we've built through our realignment process. We hope to grow as a staff, grow in our relationships with parents & community, and most importantly help students grow in their learning. After all, that's why we exist...to ensure high levels of learning for all students!

To help ensure high levels of learning for all, the School Board has established a set of District priorities that guide our work. These priorities include:

**Collaboration for Student Learning**—People working together in interdependent teams create the

best opportunity for students to learn. This is true not only for teachers, but for all staff throughout the district. A collaborative culture has been an emphasis of the district for several years; its continued importance is essential to the success of students and the professional development of staff.

**Environments for Success**—Within every building and program in the district, the hope is to cultivate environments where students and adults can grow. This means making it a point to focus on items such as proactive behavior measures, student attendance and staff morale to help create the best climate possible.

**Closing the Achievement Gap**—Eliminating gaps in achievement among students based on race, language, economic status and disability ensures the district's core purpose is realized. The demographics in Selah continually change and working to ensure equity of opportunity, access, services, programs and resources can help every student reach their full potential.

**Readiness for Early Learners**—The pre-k through 3rd grade years are essential to a child's development and ensuring early readiness is the best proactive measure we can take to assure our students succeed. This includes reaching into the community to support child development before students enroll in school as well as strengthening programs within the district that focus on the early learner.

As always, thank you for your continued support of our district and for being a part of **The Viking Way!**

## A Look at Our School Board...

The Board of Directors is comprised of five elected officials representing individual areas within the Selah School District Boundaries.

In Selah, school board directors play a crucial role in developing policies and making decisions on educational and social issues. Board members are also directly accountable to patrons in their districts, serving as a link between members of the community and schools. Also, in Selah, members oversee an approximate \$42 million budget, are accountable for approximately 540 staff, set priorities for the district, establish standards for what students should learn, adopt policies and budgets, and work as a team with administrators, teachers, parents, students and the community to foster a safe and productive learning environment.



*Kelliann Ergeson;*  
*President*



*Jeff Hartwick;*  
*Vice-President*



*Kathy Lambert;*  
*Legislative Rep*



*Jamie Morford;*  
*Board Member*



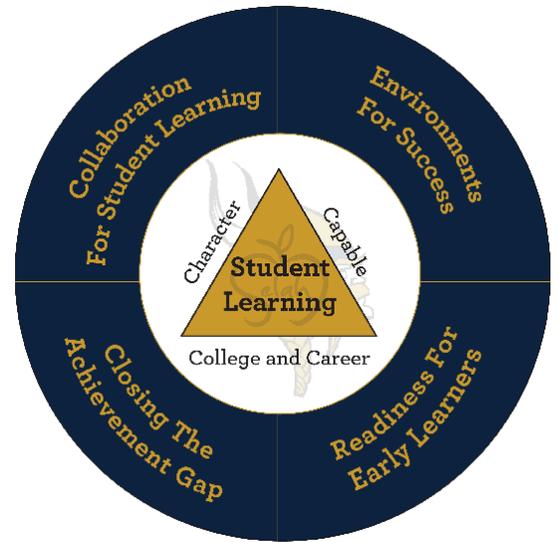
*Norma Smith;*  
*Board Member*

# Selah School District Three Year Priorities 2016-2019

In the fall of the 2016-2017 school year the Selah School District Board of Directors adopted a new set of priorities to help guide the work of the district over the next few school years.

The new 3-Year Priority Plan was created through input from stakeholders during a ThoughtExchange process, a review of current district achievement data, and from collaborative dialogue amongst district leaders.

The purpose of the plan is to shine a light on areas of emphasis for the district. It doesn't encompass all the district's work but rather helps place increased attention on items that could have a positive impact on the success of students in Selah.



## A Look at Our Priorities...



### Collaboration For Student Learning

*People working together in interdependent teams create the best opportunity for students to learn.*

This is true not only for teachers, but for all staff throughout the district. A **collaborative culture has been an emphasis** of the district for several years; its continued importance is essential to the success of students and the professional development of staff.



### Environments For Success

*Within every building and program in our District, we cultivate environments where students and adults can grow.*

This means making it a point to focus on items such as **proactive behavior measures**, **student attendance** and **staff morale** to help create the best climate possible.





## More District Priorities...



### Closing The Achievement Gap

*Eliminating gaps in achievement among students based on race, language, economic status and disability ensures that our core purpose is realized.*

**T**he demographics in Selah are continually changing and working to ensure **equity** of opportunity, access, services, programs and resources **can help every student reach their full potential.**



### Readiness For Early Learners

*The pre-k through 3rd grade years are essential to a child's development and ensuring early readiness is the best proactive measure we can take to assure our students succeed.*

**T**his includes reaching into the community to support child development before students enroll in school as well as strengthening programs within the district that **focus on the early learner.**



# A Look at Our Students...



<b>Total Enrollment Head Count</b> (*Oct. 3, 2016)	<b>3,655</b>	
Gender	M	1,869 (51.0%)
	F	1,786 (49.0%)
<b>Total Enrollment FTE</b> *District is funded on FTE	<b>3,564.96</b>	

<b>Free and Reduced</b> (*May 2016)		
Free and Reduced Lunch	47.9%	
<b>Special Programs</b> (*May 2016)		
Special Education	14.2%	
Transitional Bilingual	6.8%	
Migrant	3.3%	

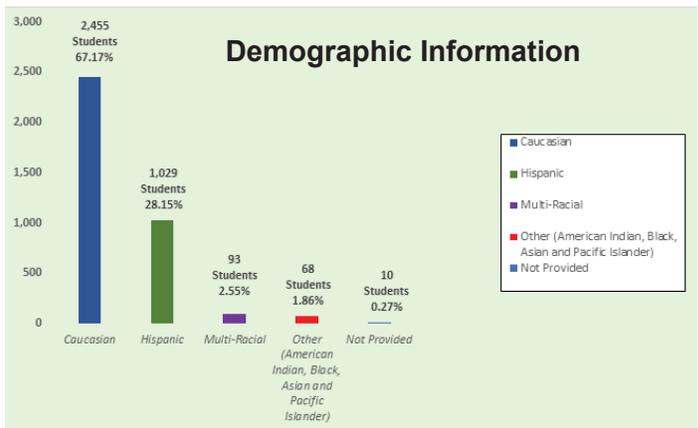
<b>Absences</b> (*2015-2016 School Year)		
Unexcused Absence Rate	0.8%	

<b>Graduation Rate</b> (Class of 2015)		
Adjusted 4-Year Cohort Graduation Rate	80.0%	

<b>Graduation By the Numbers</b>		
2016 Selah High School Graduates	205	
2016 Selah Academy Graduates	12	

<b>Other Academic Facts</b> (May 2015)		
Students Taking AP Classes or College in the High School Courses	93	
Students in Running Start	99	

<b>Enrollment By Grade</b> (*Head Count Oct. 3, 2016)	<b>3,655</b>
<b>John Campbell Primary</b>	<b>830</b>
Kindergarten	283
First Grade	275
Second Grade	272
<b>Selah Intermediate School</b>	<b>790</b>
Third Grade	268
Fourth Grade	270
Fifth Grade	252
<b>Selah Middle School</b>	<b>818</b>
Sixth Grade	273
Seventh Grade	285
Eighth Grade	260
<b>Selah High School</b>	<b>1,121</b>
Ninth Grade	309
Tenth Grade	270
Eleventh Grade	267
Twelfth Grade	275
<b>Selah Academy</b>	<b>96</b>
Seventh Grade	1
Ninth Grade	11
Tenth Grade	11
Eleventh Grade	28
Twelfth Grade	45



<b>Programs and Opportunities for Students</b>	
<b>Special Education</b> <i>STEP Program</i> <b>Title I</b> <i>Dual Language Immersion</i> <b>Early Childhood Program</b> <i>ELL/LAP</i> <b>Speech/Language Program</b> <i>Highly Capable Program</i> <b>Extra Curricular Sports and Activities</b>	<b>College in the High School</b> <i>HomeLink Program</i> <b>Homeless Education Program</b> <i>Student Mentor Program</i> <b>Advanced Placement</b> <i>Running Start/Skills Center</i> <b>Career and Technical Education</b> <i>Visual and Performing Arts</i>



## A Look at Our Staff...

<b>Total Number of Staff (Head Count)</b>	<b>520</b>
Certificated Staff	264
Classified Staff	236
Administrators	15
District Administrators	5
<b>Total Staff FTE</b>	<b>410.263</b>
Certificated Staff	258.077
Classified Staff	152.186
<b>Teaching Information</b> (*2015-2016 School Year)	
Classroom Teachers	206
Average Experience of Teachers	14.6 Years
Teachers with at Least a Masters Degree	59.2%



## A Look at Selah School District Funding...

For the 2016-2017 school year, the District's operating budget is approximately \$42 million. Budget resources are derived from state support, local taxes and federal dollars. In Selah, during the current year, state support accounts for 80% of the District's budget, local taxes contribute 13%, and 7% is derived from federal support.

### For 2016-2017, the District Manages the Following Funds:

#### • General Fund Budget

The General Fund Budget is the most important allocation because the budget of \$42 million provides for the District's annual operation.

#### • Associated Student Body Fund

John Campbell, Selah Intermediate, Selah Middle School, Selah High School and Selah Academy operate ASB funds. The District's General Fund provides no contribution to ASB accounts and District funds and ASB dollars cannot be combined.

#### • Debt Service Fund

The Debt Service Fund is used to service voted and non-voted debt.

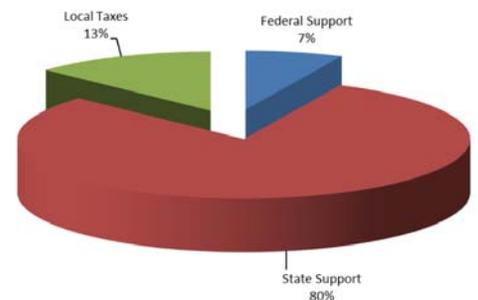
#### • Capital Projects Fund

The Capital Projects Fund accounts for bond projects and non-bond projects. The Capital Projects Fund can only be used as outlined by state law.

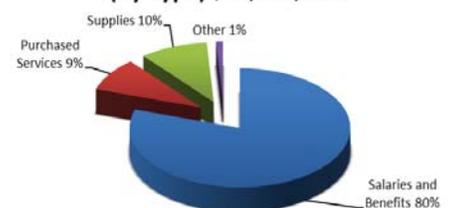
#### • Transportation Vehicle Fund

This fund is used for school bus replacement. During the 2016-2017 school year, the District purchased two school buses.

### 2016-2017 BUDGET RESOURCES \$42,137,854



### 2016-2017 BUDGET EXPENDITURES (By Type) \$41,151,500



## A Look at Our Facilities...

Four traditional campuses serve approximately 3,600 students. Also, the District offers additional programs targeted toward varying educational needs. In 2012, the District passed a \$30.5 million bond with funds being used for the construction of Selah Middle School, improvements to Selah High School and the remodel of the Sunset Building.

### Total Number of Facilities/Programs **7**

- Robert Lince Early Learning Center
- John Campbell Primary (Grades K-2)
- Selah Intermediate School (Grades 3-5)
- Selah Middle School (Grades 6-8)
- Selah High School (Grades 9-12)
- Selah Academy (Grades 9-12)
- Selah Home Link Program (Grades K-8)



## A Look at Teaching and Learning...

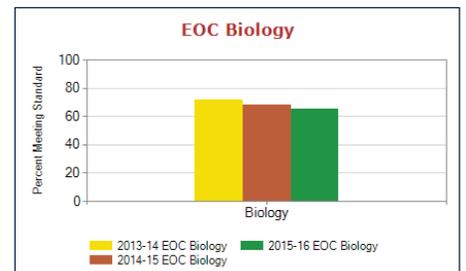
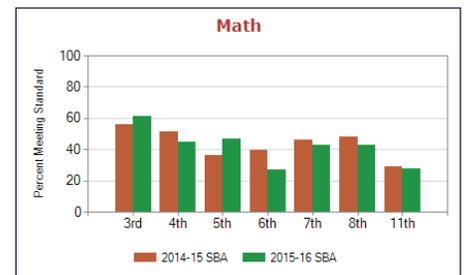
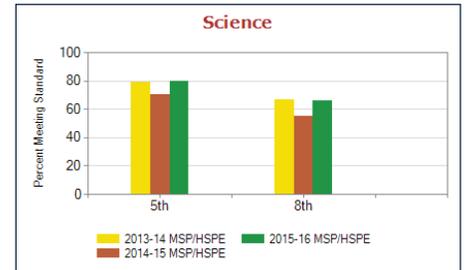
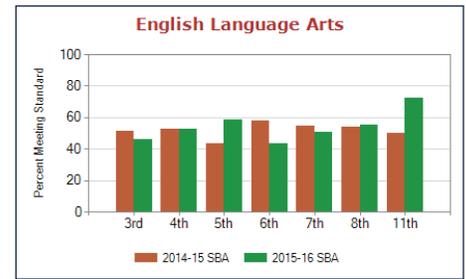
The Selah School District's core purpose is to **ensure high levels of learning for all students**. We will successfully educate a diverse population of students by providing:

- **Instruction that prepares all students for productive lives through varied curriculum and research-based best practices.**
- **A world-class, professional staff**
- **Quality experiences that develop well-rounded individuals.**
- **An increase in our community's pride in its schools.**

The District is committed to challenging students to learn more, to initiate a desire and curiosity to ex-

pand thinking, and to apply knowledge to real-world settings. To maximize student achievement, we must support teachers, administrators and parents. We are committed to having our students acquire the Grade Level Expectations from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction and the state standards as outlined in the Essential Academic Learning Requirements. We provide leadership and facilitate programs related to curriculum, instruction, staff development, assessment and technology.

Please contact the Teaching and Learning Office if you have any questions about testing, standards and educational requirements.



For more district performance information please access

<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/summary.aspx?groupLevel=District&schoolId=296&reportLevel=District&year=>

## A Look at What is Note Worthy...

We like to celebrate noteworthy news. Here is a sampling of what is positively happening in our schools and classrooms:

- Football Team Fifth Consecutive **State Academic Championship**. Other varsity athletic teams honored as State Academic Champs.
- Varsity Athletic Teams Honored by the WIAA for **Academics**.
- FCCLA Knowledge Bowl Earns Second **National Championship**.
- FCCLA and DECA Students Attend **National Conferences**.
- Students Compete in **Academic Contests**.

- Student **Work Published**.
- Advanced **Technology**.
- **1:1 Student Devices**.
- Intermediate Teachers Selected as **Engineering Fellows**.
- State **Teacher Leader**.
- Students Attend **Presidential Inauguration**.
- Selah **Musicians Honored**.
- **Drama** Performances.
- **Vikonnect**.
- **STEM** Learning.
- Early Learning **Interventions**.
- **CSL Time**.
- **Reading and Math** Nights.
- **Pride Patrol**.

- **Student Led Conferences**.
- Girls' Cross-Country Crowned **State Champions**.
- Girls' Soccer Advances to State **Final Four**.
- Bowling **State Team Champions**.
- State **Coach of the Year**.
- Individual **Wrestling Champions**.

