



Who We Are

What makes Echo Lake unique is the extraordinary staff members who put their heart and soul into teaching. It is rare to find such a diverse group of people who all work so well together and learn from each other. We embrace the diversity of the student population and want to find the best hands-on, student-centered learning tools available in order to help them succeed.

As of September 2008, 461 students were enrolled at Echo Lake. Of that, 53% were minority, with:

- Asian 30%
- Black 9.5%
- Hispanic 9%
- Multiracial 4%
- Hawaiian/Pacific Islander .5%
- Native American .5%
- White 47%

The ELL (English Language Learners) program supports learning in the classroom to provide the best education for all students.

Parents Are Our Partners

Echo Lake Elementary truly appreciates the commitment of community members and the sense of family they promote. Parents and guardians are encouraged to take part in their child's schooling. Among the opportunities available are: volunteering in the classroom, joining the PTA, and becoming a Site Council Member (where parents work with staff to increase student achievement).

Awards & Accomplishments

Echo Lake was recognized as one of eighteen Apple Distinguished Schools in the United States last fall. The only school in Washington to receive the award, Echo Lake has implemented a 21st Century vision of education using Apple technology.

Three of our educators have been recognized by the Apple Corporation as an Apple Distinguished Educator for possessing an identified expertise in educational technology, as well as being an innovator in the effective implementation of technology in the classroom.

Three of our teachers have received the Teaching + Technology Coaching Initiative through the Puget Sound Center for Teaching, Learning, and Technology. This grant provided training for teachers to coach and provide assistance to colleagues who are working towards integrating technology.

Echo Lake produced and created a documentary about technology integration in the classroom. This documentary, entitled "Technology Engages All Learners", received the 2005 Aegis Award, Communicator Award and Telly Award, three of the most prestigious awards in video and film.

6-30-08



ECHO LAKE ELEMENTARY



Welcome to Echo Lake

The mission of Echo Lake Elementary is to create a positive learning environment for students, staff and community by promoting academic excellence, collaboration, and mutual respect. We honor and respect each child's unique characteristics and value our diversity.

Mary Koontz, Principal

Paul Shanahan, Principal

19345 Wallingford Ave. N.

Shoreline, WA 98133

(206) 361-4338

http://schools.shorelineschools.org/echo_lake/

Academic Programs

Solid academic programs and student achievement are directly related. Therefore, we offer students a strong foundation in reading, writing, math, social studies and science. Echo Lake recognizes that



reading, writing, and math are the foundation for learning and provide the following programs to increase students' skills in these areas:

Fast ForWord - A scientifically based computer program that accelerates learning by developing cognitive skills, memory, attention, and processing and sequencing skills. This program requires 50 minutes of instruction, five days per week.*

Writers in Residence - To help all students cultivate strong, enduring writing skills, Echo Lake has partnered with Pacific Northwest Writers Association to launch the Writers in Residence Program. This program brings professional writers into the classroom for multi-week writer's workshops.

Destination Reading - A research-based approach that provides phonics and comprehension instruction. This is used with the "Need to Read" and Special Education programs.

At the same time, Echo Lake staff members believe in a well-balanced education. We offer a strong hands-on curriculum in all subjects and Integrated Arts, Band and Strings, as well as a variety of before and after-school activities.

Extra-curricular Activities

Our students enjoy a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities. This year we are beginning a partnership with the YMCA to bring wonderful opportunities to our students after school. The program, called Kids University, is jointly planned

and provided at Echo Lake. YMCA classes include a variety of offerings, including in season sports and fitness, science and art classes. In addition the school provides Indoor Games, Homework Club, Digital Photography, Techsperts, Primary Math Club, Math Olympiad, Singing Club, and Jumprope Club.

Service Learning

Service learning is a method of teaching and learning that combines academic work with service to neighborhood and community. Students learn by reaching beyond classroom walls.

Echo Lake helps students acquire and retain academic knowledge and skills, and become more engaged in their studies through service learning. The program motivates students to learn and improves interpersonal and leadership skills. Enhances personal development and helps develop students who are active, positive contributors to society.

New York Library Project: Second graders held a book drive to provide a library for their pen pals at a New York City school. Far surpassing their goals of 300, the students shipped 1000 books to Agnes Y. Humphrey School for Leadership PS/MS 27 in Brooklyn.

Community Garden Project: Third graders teamed with Embrace Shoreline members to create a community garden. The third graders will use the garden to study Structures of Life as part of a science unit. Students selected native plants, raised money, and built beds for the garden.

Environment Grant: Our sixth grade classes served as stewards of the Interurban Trail and the school grounds. In exchange for the volunteer hours, the City of Shoreline gave the students \$2,600 for Camp Orkila scholarships.



Laptops for Students

Since the fall of 2005-2006, every student in grades 4-6 have a laptop that they can use at school and at home.

This has provided students and staff with the skills and access to appropriate technologies to enhance the quality of teaching and learning, provided efficiencies in time and work, and enabled more effective communications within the entire school community.

Students use technology at school in a variety of ways such as organizing their thoughts or pre-writing with graphic organizers, conducting multi-media research, and completing math problems with virtual tools that were not possible in the classroom before. Now, they use all of these tools at home to complete their homework, increasing success for all students.

In addition, students use an electronic calendar to keep track of assignments and due dates. Parents can stay easily connected to their child's progress by having access to all of their child's assignments and work calendar.

Grades K-3 also has one-to-one capabilities with seven carts of 15 laptops each to share between their classes.

Echo Lake continues to move toward the future of new possibilities to improve the education of all our students.

