



## School Improvement Grants

As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Seattle Public Schools was awarded funding to implement school improvement plans in three schools: Cleveland High, Hawthorne Elementary, and West Seattle Elementary.

These grants will support a whole school transformation model with seven components:

1. Effective instruction
2. Effective school leadership
3. Focused and additional time for staff and students
4. Professional growth and recognition
5. Building a culture that supports student learning
6. Engaged families and community
7. Enrichment opportunities

Over the next three school years (2010-11 through 2012-13):

- Staff will receive additional common planning time and professional development.
- Students will receive additional hours of focused instruction each year.
- Staff will use data to focus on meeting the needs of every student, and annual growth will be expected of all.
- Schools will actively engage and communicate with their families and communities.

Together, these efforts will create high-quality schools and accelerate academic achievement for all students.

# Seattle Public Schools

## School Improvement Grants

Seattle Public Schools (SPS), the largest school district in Washington state, serves a diverse population of nearly 46,000 students in 88 schools. Under the leadership of Superintendent Maria Goodloe-Johnson, the District is implementing a five-year strategic plan, *Excellence for All*, which focuses on raising achievement for all students, retaining and attracting great teachers, and increasing efficiency.

School Improvement Grants (SIGs) will build on recent efforts to align curriculum, strengthen professional development, and expand advanced learning opportunities throughout the District. Grants will support the development of two school models: at the elementary level, a model for strong, neighborhood schools serving students with a range of needs; and at the high school, an all-city draw school that prepares all students for higher education and careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and connects them to those local industries.

## Hawthorne Elementary School SIG Plan



Hawthorne Elementary School, located in the Mount Baker neighborhood of south Seattle, serves a diverse population of students and families. Using School Improvement Grant funding, Hawthorne will focus on strong academic and arts education.

- **Arts education**—Hawthorne will expand its current partnership with Powerful Schools, a community-based organization, to strengthen arts opportunities in the classroom and after school. Powerful Schools and a new arts teacher will expand a program that brings artists into the classroom. Hawthorne will also work with a coalition of arts organizations to provide students with a wide array of after-school opportunities.



## Hawthorne Elementary School Fast Facts Fall 2009 Data

### Students

- 239 Students enrolled
- 18.8% Special education
- 76.6% Eligible for free or reduced price lunch
- 33.5% Bilingual
- 51.3% Black
- 19.3% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 15.5% Hispanic
- 9.2% White
- 4.6% Native American

### Teachers

- 17 Teachers
- 7.1 Average years of teacher experience
- 82.4% Teachers have master's degree
- 100% Classes taught by highly qualified teachers



SEATTLE  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS

*Every student achieving,  
everyone accountable.*

- **Increased learning time**—Students at Hawthorne will start school four days early to get a jump start on the school year and establish the school's new, clear mission focused on student achievement. Students will receive up to 45 additional hours of focused instruction each year for the three-year term of the grant.
- **Professional development**—Staff at Hawthorne will receive additional common planning time and professional development. Teachers will be supported by intervention specialists with advanced training and background in reading and math instruction to help students who are struggling. The principal will also be supported by a school operations manager, which allows the principal to serve as a full-time instructional leader.
- **Family and community engagement**—Families will be deeply involved in the design of Hawthorne's transformation. Their involvement will be sustained over time through a Family Engagement Action Team led by a coordinator at the school, who will use multiple avenues to connect with, communicate to, and directly involve families in student and school's success. The school will host five community events throughout the year.

## Hawthorne Elementary School Improvement Timeline

### Year One: 2010-2011

- Implement early start to the school year for all students
- Schedule additional professional development for teachers during the summer to focus on meeting the needs of all students
- Launch and support Family Engagement Action Teams
- Communicate regularly with families and provide engagement opportunities
- Provide formal mid-year evaluation feedback sessions for teachers
- Establish monthly progress monitoring with the District

### Years Two and Three: 2011-2012 and 2010-13

- Implement principal and teacher evaluations based on improvements in student achievement
- Provide coaching and support for teachers and principals
- Provide regular updates on SIG progress
- Implement performance-based budgeting