Welcome to Glacier Middle School, a place where student growth is our priority focus! Our strong community ties are at the core of what makes Glacier a great school. There is not a day of the week that Glacier is not buzzing with activity. Whether it is the regular school day, the community athletic events, or music festivals, our building is more than a place of learning, it is a hub of our vibrant community. At Glacier we focus on the whole student day. Whether students compete for us on the athletic field, entertain us on the stage, perform in our band or choir, serve in our ASB, or participate in the many other activities in our school, Glacier students are encouraged to extend their learning beyond the classroom. Our staff have established a series of collective commitments which dedicate our behaviors and actions around student growth.

At Glacier Middle School, we acknowledge where we need to grow, where we are good, and further acknowledged that being good is the enemy of great. During the 2012-2013 school year, staff was engaged in a back to school meeting in where we focused on developing a collective set of commitments that focused on individual adult behaviors which fostered student learning.

continued on page 2

Glacier Middle School opened its doors for the first time in September of the 2004-05 school year. Located on the site of the old White River High School, the campus now has a fresh new look. Updated paint and flooring brightens the halls and classrooms. The main gymnasium floor was replaced with a new wood floor complete with our Grizzly logo. The art room was refurbished and expanded. Heating systems and plumbing systems were updated or added in identified areas. The center parking lot was repaved to add student drop off zones and a concrete courtyard complete with basketball hoops was added to the site. The front of the school was recreated with landscaping and signage to create an inviting entrance for middle school families. During the summer of 2006 the roof on the main gym was replaced. Inside, the end walls were painted with green the main school color to make it look and feel more like Glacier Middle School. In addition, the track was resurfaced so that middle school track meets could be held at this facility with the grandstand available for spectator seating.

The main campus at what is now Glacier Middle School was originally built in 1962. At that time the campus consisted of the main classroom building, the vocational building, the main gym and the 3 story brick building that is now the district office. In 1993, a new music building with 4 additional classrooms was added, as well as a new school office building and an auxiliary gymnasium. Over the next 10 years, additional portable classrooms were added, outbuildings were modified, and the District Bus Garage was relocated to another site.

The Glacier Middle School site currently comprises approximately 172,000 square feet of building space. Notable features include a lighted football field with stadium seating, an Auditorium, four basketball/pitch fields and a spectacular view of Mt. Rainier. The site is also home to the District Office, the District Kitchen, the District Print shop and Mailroom, the Clothing Bank and District Storage Facilities.

Glacier Middle School is located on the North end of C Street, just 3 blocks east of Highway 410.

Its doors are open to families and the community. Come visit!

The ESEA “Leave No Child Behind” school report card for Glacier Middle School is available at http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us. Select the District and then School.
The first step was to develop shared knowledge with staff by reflecting on how we would need to behave if they were going to become the school we wanted to become. Staff developed a series of commitments that reflected professional dispositions that would foster and support student growth. In a group discussion, we analyzed the concept of establishing collective commitments to our students, parents, and each other. Our analysis included a deep focus on specific behaviors we felt were important and that we could collectively make a deep and meaningful commitment to. At the end of a rather deliberate focus group activity the staff at Glacier Middle School made the following commitments.

GMS Collective Commitments

1. We commit to modeling PROFESSIONALISM. This means bringing our best each day, engaging in school-wide collaboration, and celebrating!
2. We commit to setting nothing less than HIGH EXPECTATIONS. This means setting high standards, holding students accountable for learning, expecting all students to do their personal best every day, and inspiring all students to be in control of their own education.
3. We commit to the use of RIGOR in our lessons. This means seeking opportunities to implement higher level thinking skills: analysis, synthesis, and evaluation.
4. We commit to using effective teaching STRATEGIES. This means will implement and share a variety of teaching strategies with team and in our classroom.
5. We commit to using LEARNING TARGETS. This means providing student friendly learning targets with checks for understanding & providing clear learning targets for each lesson.
6. We commit to having a unified RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION. This means identifying students most in need, approaching formative assessment with a commitment to address student misconceptions (skill gap), frequently checking student progress and respond accordingly, using data from quick check for planning and enrichment activities, and using assessment scores to drive teaching practices.
7. We commit to establishing RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS. This means treating all students dignity respect, building empowering relationships with positive interaction with students, believing in every student, creating a caring culture by greeting students with a smile and enthusiasm ‘I-Care’ mentality, and engaging each student before class.
8. We commit to showing COMPASSION to all of our students. This means each student receives a clean slate every day and promoting and model a culture of acceptance and compassion.
9. We commit to keeping our students SAFE. This means speaking positively in all environments with all student staff and parents, empowering students with social skills that will create a positive environment, building physical and emotional safety, and creating and maintaining an environment where students and staff feel safe and valued.

Our staff is committed to the hard work necessary to help each student at Glacier find success. Our school mission identifies our commitment to ensuring high levels of learning for all students. This has been and will continue to be our mission as we serve the White River community and its students this school year.

Sincerely,
Greg Borgerding
Principal

Volunteers in Our Schools

In today’s schools, there are simply far more jobs and responsibilities than there are people to do them. By helping with special events and routine tasks, volunteers allow teachers and staff to focus additional time helping students learn and grow. The school can accomplish more, and offer children and families more services, with your help. Volunteering in a school is an exciting experience and a privilege for both the school and volunteer. Our schools have volunteer registration forms which each volunteer must fill out in advance of volunteering. Every volunteer must pass a Washington State Patrol Criminal Background Check. Every volunteer is issued a district name tag, so that students and staff will recognize you.

Thank you for volunteering in our schools!

District Focus Areas

1. Determine and implement K-12 math interventions or students that are not learning
2. Increase Rigor, Relevance and Relationships, including Safe & Civil concepts for White River High School students
3. Ensure guaranteed and viable curriculum, instructional practices, staff collaboration and communication in math, reading and science across all schools for all grade levels
4. Determine “best practices” for technology use that supports student learning and seek funding to implement such practices
5. Develop and implement practices to recruit, retain and support high quality staff
6. Determine and implement practices that will provide long term financial stability for the White River School District

District & Glacier Middle School Mission Statement

To ensure high levels of learning for all students preparing them for successes beyond high school