



**WHITE SALMON VALLEY  
SCHOOLS**

*KEY TO THE FUTURE*

Whitson Elementary School  
P.O. Box 1279  
White Salmon, WA 98672

Vicki Prendergast, Principal  
(509) 493-1560

Date: August 12, 2009

Dear Whitson Elementary School Parent/Guardian:

The Whitson Elementary staff is committed to the success of our school. To provide a quality education for each of our students we continue to take steps to improve. The school day at the elementary school for the 2009-10 school year will be lengthened by 40 minutes to allow us to increase the amount of instructional time daily. We will continue to offer full day, everyday kindergarten, as well as a ninety minute to two hour uninterrupted reading block. Targeted reading and math interventions are available during the school day and after school for selected students. In addition, there will be a full-time enrichment content specialist to reinforce content knowledge and skills.

Our district is also supporting improvement efforts in our school as well as throughout the district by providing weekly release time during the 2009-10 school year for teacher collaboration and professional development. In the area of mathematics our district has completed a math adoption process and we are moving forward with implementation. We are utilizing a district-wide math coach to assist in facilitating collaborative teamwork and provide professional development to support the successful implementation of the math curriculum.

As part of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001, Title I schools in Step 1 of School Improvement, we must provide parents the opportunity to move their child/children into a school that has made adequate yearly progress (AYP). AYP is determined by the WASL scores of the school's students and the unexcused absence rate.

Whitson Elementary School is a Title I school that has not met adequate yearly progress (AYP) in reading and math for two consecutive years and is in Step 1 of School Improvement. Therefore, your child is eligible to move to a neighboring school that has met adequate yearly progress (AYP). This option is called Public School Choice. Transportation is free. Whitson Elementary School will remain in improvement until the students meet improvement standards for two years

Because the school has moved into Step 1 of School Improvement, you have the option of requesting Public School Choice. You may select to move your child/children to one of these schools which were selected because of their proximity, and they have both met AYP standards in reading and math:

School 1 – Trout Lake Elementary      School 2 – Mill A Elementary

To sign your child/children up for Public School Choice, return the attached form by August 24, 2009 to the Whitson Elementary office. You will receive information about enrollment and start dates to confirm your request. Please note that we cannot guarantee a specific school until all requests are previewed. If you have questions contact Vicki Prendergast at phone: 509-493-1560 or email at [vicki.prendergast@esd112.wednet.edu](mailto:vicki.prendergast@esd112.wednet.edu).

Vicki Prendergast, Principal



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**Public School Choice**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate School of Choice:**

Trout Lake Elementary: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Mill A Elementary: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Transportation is free from the White Salmon Valley Transportation Center to and from the School of Choice.**

Will your child/children require transportation from the White Salmon Valley Transportation Center to the school of choice in the morning? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Will your child/children require transportation to the White Salmon Valley Transportation Center from the school of choice in the afternoon? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this form to the Whitson Elementary School Office by August 24, 2009.*