Building Quick Facts

Principal: Jeff Johnson
Secretary: Frances Love
Year Built: 1986
Square Footage: 15,790
Enrollment: 316 students

Notable:
~ Thirteen additional portables on-site to help support the school
~ Challenger is the only alternative high school in the district

What Makes Challenger High School Special

Challenger High School is the alternative high school for the Bethel School District. Challenger continues to expand learning opportunities for students through personalized and individualized connections with teaching staff. Students thrive in a small group atmosphere with an individualized education plan for each student. Challenger High School serves roughly 315 students in grades 9-12 and has 14 classroom teachers, an academic counselor, and a social worker serving our students. Our students excel in a small group atmosphere with individualized academic plans and one-on-one mentoring support.

- Challenger expects students to take responsibility to raise their skills and understanding to achieve higher levels of mathematics, writing and reading. Through scholarships and recognition, we honor students dedicated to improving those skills.
- We are expanding the variety of programs and times to attend those programs to meet the individual needs of the students.

Parents & Community

Parents and community involvement are important aspects of the culture at Challenger High School. Parents and community members are invited to participate in College and Career Planning nights, Open House events, and student-led conferences throughout the year.

The CHS Site Council takes an active role in school decision-making. Our school provides ample opportunity for parents and community members to support the school in the form of clubs, chaperones, and instructional aides. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering. All prospective volunteers will need to fill out an application and submit to a background check.

Bethel Family Center continues to assist families with support of local food banks and food drives. We also provide holiday meals and gifts for several families in our community.

Our building may be available for community usage. Please contact us for more information.

Raising Standards

In 2014-15, our school showed strong continued gains on the High School Proficiency Exam (HSPE) and End of Course Exams (EOC). More students graduated from Challenger in 2014 than have ever before. Our strategic plan calls for all students to focus on mathematics, writing, reading and science to enable them to graduate. The Challenger teachers are also focused on insuring that all students are college and career ready by implementing the Common Core State Standard across the curriculum.

Top-Notch Staff

CHS has 15 classroom teachers, of which 12 teach core academic classes. They average 17.4 years of experience and 73.3 percent have a master’s degree. One hundred percent of teachers at CHS meet the ESEA highly qualified definition. They are joined with wonderful support staff who have students’ best interest in mind in all that they do.

School Success

CHS is known for raising the bar in education, in and out of the classroom. Most recently, CHS students have been meeting graduation requirements and moving on to post-high school education, training, and/or career opportunities. In the 2014-15 school year 137 CHS students completed their high school graduation requirements and earned their high school diplomas. The flexible learning environment and additional support help many students find success and complete their high school educations.
Challenger High School did not meet adequate yearly progress (AYP), as defined by the No Child Left Behind Act. Of the measured categories, the school met 54.5% of the required participation and proficiency goals in the areas of reading and math. The school is in Step 3 of School Improvement. Bethel School District is in Step 2 of School Improvement under AYP. To view school performance towards proficiency and participation goals, visit http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/.

AYP is determined primarily by year-to-year student performance on standardized tests. Each year individual schools and the school district must “raise the bar” in gradual increments. The goal is to have 100 percent of students achieve proficiency in each subject area.

The Bethel School District began participating in Smarter Balanced Testing in 2014. Below is a summary of the academic performance on all available SBA and EOC subject tests.

For additional information about school performance, visit http://bethelsd.org/pages/bsd403/School_Board/Data_Dashboard or http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015 SBA RESULTS</th>
<th>2015 EOC RESULTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>11th Grade</strong></td>
<td><strong>10th Grade</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHS</td>
<td>District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELA</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>————</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Biology</strong></td>
<td><strong>District</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>————</td>
<td>69.7%</td>
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MORE INFORMATION: FACTS & FIGURES

About the Bethel School District
The Bethel School District is a dynamic district that covers about 202 square miles in southeast Pierce County. Over 18,000 students attend the district’s 17 elementary schools, six middle schools, three comprehensive high schools, one alternative high school, and online academy. In 2010, a skills center was built in partnership with six other districts.

Bethel has won numerous national awards in technology and communications, as well as state awards in professional development, energy conservation, and the arts.

Budget information
In 2014-15, the district’s General Fund budget was about $200.7 million, which is approximately $11,363 per student. Bethel’s budget demonstrated a strong commitment to educational excellence. 71.2% percent of the budget funded direct classroom support and another 24.6% went to indirect support. That means a total of 95.8% of expenditures supported classroom activities.

District revenues come from the state and federal governments as well as through local tax collections. The district also oversaw a Capital Projects Fund of $37.6 million for construction, a Transportation Vehicle Fund budget of $2 million for the purchase of buses and transportation equipment, a Debt Service Fund of $17.5 million for the purpose of paying principal and interest on voter approved bonds, and $4.7 million in Associated Student Body funds, which support student activities.

Staff and resources are allocated each year based on the number of students and the types of programs, located at the school. More information about district budgets can be found on the district website.