



# Snoqualmie Valley School District

## 2022-23 Quick Facts



**Our Vision:** *To become the best school district in Washington State by any measure.*

**Our Mission:** *Educate all Snoqualmie Valley children to prepare them for college, career, and citizenship.*

**Our Focus:** Snoqualmie Valley School District (SVSD) provides comprehensive high-quality educational opportunities, academic rigor and student support services in a positive, safe and inclusive school environment. Student achievement is our top priority — to ensure *all* students are college- or career-ready when they graduate. In recent years, the number of students choosing rigorous academic courses have trended upward in our growing district and we've expanded opportunities to explore Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways and connect with professionals. A wide range of extracurricular experiences helps students explore their interests. Our community also helped define eight key characteristics that comprise our Portrait of a Graduate. This is part of our district's commitment to ensure every Snoqualmie Valley student is prepared for the future they choose, both academically and with the soft skills they will need to thrive and find joy in their life choices.

- Our Schools:**
- 6 Elementary Schools (P-5): Cascade View, Fall City, North Bend, Opstad, Snoqualmie, Timber Ridge
  - 3 Middle Schools (6-8): Chief Kanim, Snoqualmie, Twin Falls
  - 1 Comprehensive High School (9-12): Mount Si High School
  - 1 Alternative High School (9-12): Two Rivers (a Big Picture school)
  - 1 Parent Partnership Program (K-12) for families who prefer to school their children at home
  - 1 Mount Si Online Learning Program (9-12), and a 100% Remote Learning option (K-12)

**Our Students:** Our district serves approx. 7,200 students in preschool through grade 12, and students with special needs through age 21. Enrollment has grown about 12% in the past 10 years. Our 4-year graduation rate is 98%.

**Our Reach:** Located about 30 miles east of Seattle, Snoqualmie Valley School District spans more than 400 square miles, making it one of the largest geographically in Washington State. We serve communities in Fall City, North Bend, Snoqualmie and unincorporated east King County areas reaching to Snoqualmie Pass.

- Our Awards:**
- Snoqualmie Valley School District received the **2022 Community Partner Award** from Encompass Northwest for its collaboration and support during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **US News & World Report** named Mount Si High School on its **Best High Schools** lists for seven years, based on reading, math and college readiness data.
  - SVSD received the **Best Communities for Music Education** award from the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation for outstanding music education in 2018 and 2020.
  - A national website (publicschoolreview.com) places Mount Si High School in the **top 10%** of Washington high schools in 2021, based on National Center for Education Statistics and WA Dept. of Education data.
  - **Newsweek** named Mount Si High School to its **Top STEM High Schools** list in 2020, and to its **America's Top 500 High Schools** list in 2016 for preparing students for college.
  - In 2020, three Snoqualmie Valley schools earned **Washington State School Recognition** from the State Board of Education for closing achievement gaps among English Learner (EL) and low-income students.
  - Mount Si Jazz Band has been selected seven times to perform among the top 15 school bands in the nation at the prestigious **Essentially Ellington Jazz Competition** in New York, 2014-2022.
  - King County's Green Schools Program recognized **Mount Si's Green Team** in 2022 for its restoration activities, community partnerships, and efforts to raise awareness around sustainability and conservation.
  - **AP College Board Honor Roll** celebrated SVSD for increasing student participation and performance on Advanced Placement (AP) exams for six consecutive years!
  - SVSD schools received **School of Distinction** state awards for placing in the top 5% of schools for significant improvement in student achievement over a five-year span.
  - SVSD Transportation earned **outstanding safety inspections** from the State Patrol for 17 consecutive years.
  - The district's Business Services department maintains a high **Aa1 bond rating** from Moody's Investors Service.



# Snoqualmie Valley School District

## 2022-23 Facts (continued)



### Our Leader:

Superintendent Lance W. Gibbon, Ed.D., joined the Snoqualmie Valley School District in 2021 from the Oak Harbor School District. He has been serving children in public schools in Washington State for more than 30 years, in the roles of superintendent, assistant superintendent, elementary principal, assistant principal, professional developer for technology and music teacher. He is also a long-time professional musician and arts supporter. To learn more, read his [biography](#) on the website.

### Our Staff:

Our district employs approximately 800 fulltime and part-time school staff members. Snoqualmie Valley School District was named a National Board Accomplished District for at least 20% of its teachers having achieved National Board Certification.

### Our School Board:

Geoff Doy, Gary Fancher, Melissa Johnson, Carolyn Simpson, Ram Dutt Vedullapalli

### Our History:

- Thanks to voter approval of a 2015 school bond, our district has expanded its capacity to serve a growing student enrollment and made timely improvements to existing schools. Timber Ridge Elementary School was added in 2016 along with safety and security enhancements at all Snoqualmie Valley schools, and a new gymnasium at Snoqualmie Elementary School was completed in 2017. In fall of 2019, the district converting it's Freshman Campus into Snoqualmie Middle School to help with middle school crowding. This coincided with opening of the newly-constructed Mount Si High School, which now serves up to 2,300 students in grades 9-12. The final phase of that construction, a new Performing Arts Center, concluded in 2021.
- SVSD uses state-of-the-art technology throughout its classrooms to help engage and empower students in their learning and prepare them for college and careers. Classrooms have touch-screen TVs, interactive whiteboards, and web-based curriculum. In 2018, the district expanded its computer science education from high school courses to age-appropriate coding classes for all students in Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. In 2019, a One-to-One Computing Initiative equipped all students in grades 6-12 with a laptop computer to use at school and home, to ensure equitable access to resources. Our 1:1 device roll-out was expanded to Preschool through 5th grade in 2020, when it was necessary to pivot to remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- We believe great teaching is essential to successfully engaging students in learning. The district invests in quality professional development, instructional coaching support, and collaboration time for educators to share best practices and continue to grow their expertise.
- The District began important community conversations and training around Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in 2019. Student voice is a key part of making sure all students feel supported and that all belong. Leading with equity in educational practices, learning environments, curriculum and resource allocation remains a priority.

### Our Volunteers:

Students and staff benefit from strong community support and generous parent involvement. Volunteer opportunities in our schools range from reading buddies or tutors/mentors for an hour a week, teaching after-school enrichment activities and coaching. Local businesses offer internships and serve as mentors to help students explore career aspirations. The **Snoqualmie Valley Schools Foundation** ([www.svsfoundation.org](http://www.svsfoundation.org)) supports district-wide initiatives and innovation grants, while **Parent Teacher Student Associations (PTSA)** at every school raise funds for student activities, scholarships and resources. Snoqualmie Valley schools are better because of its caring community. *If you would like to get involved, please contact your local school.*

### Our Communication:

- Visit the **District Website** ([www.svsd410.org](http://www.svsd410.org)) to learn more about Snoqualmie Valley schools.
- Sign up for **E-News** to receive email updates from the district and/or specific schools.
- Join us on **Facebook**: [www.facebook.com/svsd410](https://www.facebook.com/svsd410) and **Twitter**: [@SnoqValleySD](https://twitter.com/SnoqValleySD).
- **Family Access** lets parents monitor their student's grades, attendance, missing work, and meal accounts.
- Check the **E-Calendar** for comprehensive school dates and activities.
- Visit **E-Flyers** for family-friendly activities submitted by community partners.