

# Amistad Elementary

## About Our School



Dear Amistad Families and Friends:

What a great year 2007/2008 was for our children! We celebrated the academic achievement of our students in many areas, and are especially proud of our students' growth in Reading and Writing. Amistad won the Kennewick School District award for the highest growth scores (from Fall to Spring) for ALL third grade students. These same students broke the school record, with 85% of students reading at grade level.

Our number one priority is the safety of all students and staff. We continue to implement our discipline plan that includes clear expectations and consequences, positive reinforcement for good behavior, and communication between school and your home.

Reading continues to be an important focus at our school. **We can't stress enough the importance of reading with your child for at least 20 minutes every day.** Four students won new bikes from REI through the Bikes for Books program sponsored by our local Masons! Last year our students read **1,517,000** extra minutes outside of the school day. Our reading program includes many different facets, which include our ImagineIt! curriculum.

We continue to assess our students' progress through the WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning), the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing and Functional Level Tests using the DRA (Developmental Reading Assessment) results. We saw tremendous gains in our 3<sup>rd</sup> grade MAP scores (Math and Reading), 4<sup>th</sup> grade WASL (Reading +3); (Math +9); (Writing +16) and 5<sup>th</sup> grade WASL (Reading +14), (Math +4). According to the National Center for Education Achievement; Amistad was the **ONLY** school in the Kennewick School District that had *Strong Performance* indicators in 3, 4, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades in all WASL tested areas. We use these results to drive our instruction. Teachers use data to make important decisions to tailor your child's education to best meet his/her needs. If you have any questions about these tests or the results, please call our school office.

Amistad's **Academic Achievement Goals** are:

- **Reading Goal**--ALL students will increase 35 points overall on the WASL by 2009
- **Math Goal**--continuously enrolled students will
  - demonstrate an increase of 30 percentage points overall on the Math WASL by 2009.
- **Third Goal** focuses on the **achievement gap** with a decrease of 30 percent in all academic areas as measured by the WASL and District assessments by 2009.

Our staff believes that all students can meet standards set by the state and *rigor* is an important component of every lesson. Not only are students of all grade levels able to demonstrate knowledge but students are challenged to analyze, synthesize, and apply what they learn to other subjects. This is most evident in the use of student self assessment using rubrics and anchor papers. Teachers are deliberate in defining the results required and using these results to drive their instruction.

The entire staff at Amistad Elementary is pleased to be working with your child. If you have ideas about how we might better serve your family, please call us. If you are interested in volunteering at our school, please don't hesitate to let us know. We have a spot open for you! **We believe that a strong family, school and community partnership is crucial to the development of our children.**

Sincerely,  
The Amistad Staff  
Lori A. McCord, Principal

For information about our school, including demographics and test scores, please visit the **OSPI** website at <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/> and select **Kennewick School District**, then **Amistad**.

## Special Programs

- Kennewick Opportunities for Gifted (KOG)
- Title 1 / School-wide
- Migrant and Bilingual
- Kennewick High and Amistad Student Partnership
- Bilingual Kindergarten, First, Second and third Grade
- Marimba Band
- Amistad Chorus
- Destination Imagination Teams
- ECEAP

## We encourage your support

It has been said, "It takes a village to raise a child." In the Kennewick School District, we believe that education must be a cooperative effort among parents, students, staff, and the community. Your support is vital to our goals of achieving the very best education possible for every student. You're invited to participate in our school activities and programs. Please give us a call to volunteer.



## Facilities

Amistad was built in 1992. It sits on 11 .7 acres and has 44,473 square feet. During the 2000-2001 school year, Amistad was used for the following activities:

- Parks and Recreation Basketball
- Community Schools evening classes
- Grid Kids Football
- Tri-City Junior Soccer
- Variety of PTO and school activities
- Immunization Clinic
- Even Start Program
- Los Ninos Educados
- Family Literacy
- Migrant Summer School
- Community Schools
- GED Classes
- Amistad Summer School
- Summer Meals for Children Program