



Highlights from Site Team Action Plans, Yakima 2015-16

1. Held an open forum on diversity to begin the conversation and develop a voice for all.
2. Conducted a baseline survey of student perceptions on school-related diversity issues.
3. Organized school wide professional development for all 150 staff members based on activities learned at the UnityWorks training.
4. Scheduled school assemblies on multicultural topics, including Quest for Respect.
5. Put the reader board in English and Spanish to increase parent engagement.
6. Developed monthly lessons on diversity and acceptance for the entire student body.
7. Posted photos of our students in the halls and the lunchroom, also a world map, artwork from different areas of the world, and other displays highlighting diversity.
8. Started a student-run Multicultural Club.
9. Partnered with feeder middle schools, having high schoolers help younger students learn about our human family by researching and presenting information on six different countries, including the history, geography, languages, music, art, dance, food, cultures and customs—all in English and Spanish.
10. Partnered with feeder middle schools to support the integrated arts program, including student volunteers assisting with multicultural art projects, the YAMA orchestral group, and a schoolwide study and presentation of winter traditions from around the world.
11. Organized a family cultural night involving all students, staff, faculty and many parents, in order to learn about and celebrate the diverse cultures in our school and community.
12. Participated in the Stand Against Racism campaign.

Student Population Metrics

Yakima School District, UnityWorks pilot program site



The Yakima School District serves a diverse population of almost 16,000 students and is the largest Latino-majority district in Washington State. The Yakima metropolitan area has a population of about 250,000. Almost 45% of the county is Hispanic and 39% of school children speak a language other than English at home. 84% of the students in the Yakima District receive free or reduced-price lunch, and 25% of families with

children live below the poverty line. In addition, 29% of the population does not have a high school diploma, 15% are single-parent households, and median household income is \$44,419.

(Refs: www.yc-life.org, www.yakimaschools.org and <http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us>).

School	No. of Students	School	No. of Students
Davis High	2,097	Lewis & Clark Middle	839
Eisenhower High	2,030	Stanton Academy	334
Franklin Middle	869	Washington Middle	761
Garfield Elementary	551	Wilson Middle	825

Note: There are currently 8 UnityWorks schools. The Yakima School District plans to add 3-4 more in June.