

Head of School's Board Report

November 20, 2014

Student assessments, data collection and data analysis is our focus as we complete the first round of assessments. Professional development, teacher training, and instructional planning follows the data analysis to target student needs.

I. BUILDING LEADERSHIP AT HLA

- A. Shlomit Lipton, Director of Hebrew Education Studies at Hebrew Charter School Center (HCSC) continues to support the Hebrew staff at HLA. She visits our school and provides professional development for all Hebrew staff.
- B. Director of Curriculum and Instruction (DCI) and two general studies teachers attended The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Conference (ASCD) held in Florida. These staff members then turn-keyed the information they gathered from workshops attended.
- C. HOS and Director of Curriculum and Instruction visited a K-8 charter school to learn about their middle school and curriculum.
- D. Hindie Weissman and HOS continue to meet with the Performance Based Incentive Plan (PBI) committee to establish the guidelines for the PBI plan 2014-2015.

II STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF THE ORGANIZATION

- A. General Studies teachers will be attending Teachers College grade specific workshops on topics such as The Art of Evidence Based Argument and Critical Reading on December 17, 2014.
- B. The ESL teacher attended a training session at NYC Charter School Center.
- C. All teachers continue to have scheduled performance meetings with their directors.
- D. Filling all teaching positions continues to be a priority. A Hebrew floater teacher and a full time Hebrew teacher have been hired. We continue to actively recruit for Hebrew teachers. One general studies teacher returned from maternity leave and is working with fifth grade students. HLA continues to advertise in a variety of newspapers, websites and Facebook.
- E. The two Literacy coaches assigned from Teachers College continue their work with teachers.
- F. The math coaches continue to provide grade level and teacher specific support through the analysis of student data and differentiated instruction to target student strengths and weaknesses.
- G. The lower grade Literacy Coach consultant continues to meet with grade level teams K-2 to review the units of study, and establish the road map for instruction.

- H. Teachers update their OnCourse page weekly. One Kindergarten teacher has started a blog for her class. Children and parents respond to this blog. This Kindergarten teacher has also taught her co-teachers on the grade how to set up a class blog.

III COMMUNITY

- A. The Executive Committee of the P.O. will meet with the Head of School on November 25th 2014 to discuss key issues regarding HLA.
- B. The P.O. will hold its monthly General Membership meeting on November 25th, 2014.
- C. The 5th grade Parent Middle School Meeting took place on November 5th, 2014.
- D. HLA Middle School consultant continues to meet with the parents of each 5th grade student to help them complete their middle school application.
- E. Parent Teacher conferences took place on November 5, 2014. Teachers followed up with phone conferences for parents who were unable to attend.
- F. The HLA Community /Parent Liaison continues to work on recruitment for school year 2015-16.

IV CREATING A PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CULTURE

- A. HLA works hard to ensure 95% attendance compliance. Children who achieve 100% attendance are awarded with an attendance certificate. The Social Worker works with families to ensure that children maintain 95% attendance.
- B. HLA is conducting the first round of Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) assessments. These assessments are in reading, language usage, and math. The information gained from these assessments informs teachers of specific areas of need in literacy and mathematics. Each child’s achievement and growth over time is available.
- C. Teachers have completed the first round of Fountas and Pinnell assessments.
- D. Professional development Day was November 4th, 2014, when teachers were in attendance without children. Teachers participated in workshops such as: How to set up a Kid Blog, Differentiated Instruction in Math, Turn-key of ASCD conference information, and Creating and Collecting Hebrew materials for novice, intermediate and heritage learners.

V STUDENT ENROLLMENT DATA

Current Student Engagement as of November 17, 2014

Overall attendance as of November 17, 2014 is 94.8%

Student Enrollment

Grade K - 87	Grade 1- 87	Grade 2 -87	Grade 3 -76	Grade 4 - 77	Grade 5 -59
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Student Gender

Total Enrollment	Female #/Percentage	Male #/Percentage
473	236/49.9%	237/50.1%

Special Education Services

ICT	Speech	SETSS	Counsel.	OT	PT	HES	Crisis Mgmt./Health Mgmt. Para	Total # IEP's
27	52	24	22	27	6	1	1	71/15%

% of time spent in Special Education Program

0-20% = 22 children

21-59%= 22 children

60% and above = 27 children

Operations Report to the HLA Board of Trustees

I. Technology

a. OnCourse

- i. Student data for the 2014-15 SY continues to be verified and entered. Links for parents to reach classroom pages on OnCourse are available on the HLA website.

b. Network Outsource

- i. IT complaints continue to be tracked and monitored on a regular basis. Network Outsource comes three times monthly for maintenance. Staff continues to have the ability to contact the helpdesk for minor issues.

c. Lightsail

- i. 50 iPads have been purchased for use of the Lightsail program for 4th and 5th grade students. Configuration of the iPads is expected to be completed by November 21, 2014. The student library has been selected based on student F&P scores from June 2014.

II. Food Service

- a. NYSED Child Nutrition has accepted and approved HLA's letter of corrective action addressing findings from the Administrative Review conducted on March 26, 2014. Fiscal action is required as a result of certification and benefit issuance errors, snacks served in the afterschool program and errors in the meal pattern. The estimated reclaim is based on the federal and State portion of the review. The total reclaim is for the Administrative Review period, February 2014 and is estimated to be between \$800 and \$900.

- b. NYSED CN Income Verification process has been completed with guidance from our CN representative. We continue to process each application according to NYSED regulations. Currently there are 249/52.7% FREE students, 52/10.9% REDUCED students, 171/36% FULL students. Total FRPL is 63.6%.

III. Insurance and Benefits

- a. HLA currently has 65 employees.

- i. 53 are enrolled in Medical with 1 in COBRA (total 54)
- ii. 27 are enrolled in Vision with 0 in COBRA.
- iii. 49 are enrolled in Dental with 0 in COBRA.
- iv. 34 are enrolled in our 401K program.

IV. Student Recruitment

- a. The HLA web site has been updated to include applications for the 2015-16 school year. We have started our advertising campaign with several community newspapers, radio stations and online sites in the Russian, Israeli, Caribbean, and other communities. We have been receiving applications daily. Tuesday tours at the school have also started to attract interested parents.