



FRIENDS
OF
ASCENSION

CHARTER SCHOOL
ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

SCHOOL YEAR

JULY 1, JUNE 30,
2005 - 2006

IMPROVING THE EDUCATION
OF CHILDREN



To The Residents of Minnesota:

As a public school, a charter school necessarily incurs the public's trust, both in expending public funds and in educating public school children.

As a sponsor of charter schools, Friends of Ascension believes it also incurs the public's trust in fulfilling its oversight obligations. The purpose of this report is to honor that trust by reporting, to the public, the academic and fiscal performance of Friends of Ascension sponsored schools.

Friends of Ascension
March 2007

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Friends of Ascension

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HOW WE BEGAN: Friends of Ascension became involved in education by supporting Ascension School in 1999, a grade school in an area of North Minneapolis which has the following demographics:

- Almost one-third of the population (31.7%) have incomes below the poverty level.
- Minority population = 76.7%
 - ◊ African American = 51.2%
 - ◊ Asian = 17.9%

Source: U.S. Census 2000 Information.

Although affiliated with the Catholic parish of Ascension Church, 90% of the student body of Ascension School is non-Catholic.

In 1999, before Friends of Ascension implemented the Saxon math program in the school, Ascension grade school performed at a 21% proficiency rate on the Minnesota mathematics standardized assessment tests. Friends of Ascension also assisted the school with implementing the Core-Knowledge sequence developed by E.D. Hirsch, Jr. and the Core-Knowledge Foundation. In 2000, Ascension School achieved an 80% proficiency rate on both the Minnesota standardized mathematics and reading assessment tests. The success continues: In 2005, the students achieved a 91% proficiency rate on the math test and a 95% proficiency rate on the reading test.

In 2003, Friends of Ascension decided to expand its reach, while maintaining its stated mission to improve the education of children, and sponsor quality charter schools.

Due to the tremendous success achieved at Ascension School with the Core-Knowledge sequence and Saxon math, Friends of Ascension sponsors only those charter schools which implement a content-rich curriculum. Friends of Ascension also requires that its sponsored schools implement a phonics-based reading program rich in literature and a sequential math curriculum typified by the Saxon or Singapore math programs.

Friends of Ascension is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Minnesota corporation, incorporated in 1999. Friends of Ascension is a member of the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits and is registered with the Minnesota Office of the Attorney General.

ASSETS

Current Assets:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Cash and equivalents, undesignated | \$260,818 |
| Cash and equivalents, board designated | \$182 |
| Investments, board designated | \$4,197,147 |
| Pledges receivable - current | \$342,317 |
| Total Current Assets | \$4,800,464 |
| Pledges Receivable - Long-term portion | \$657,683 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$5,458,147 |

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Net Assets:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Unrestricted net assets: | |
| Operating | \$260,818 |
| Board designated | \$4,197,329 |
| Total Unrestricted Net Assets | \$4,458,147 |
| Temporarily restricted net assets | \$1,000,000 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS | \$5,458,147 |

Why Content Rich?

Friends of Ascension sponsors only those charter schools which provide students a content-rich curriculum such as the core knowledge sequence or the classical trivium. Why? Because foundational knowledge is critical to life success.

A primary academic difference between the advantaged and disadvantaged child is vocabulary size. Advantaged high school graduates generally know eighty-thousand words, whereas disadvantaged students know half that. Does it matter? Absolutely.

Knowledge builds on knowledge, and obtaining that knowledge requires more than phonemic skill: it requires having a wide vocabulary in order to *understand* what you're reading. How do you obtain a wide vocabulary? It necessarily results from exposure to a correspondingly wide knowledge.

Bill Gates frequently addresses school students, telling them that wide reading and general knowledge are critical to competence. Why does he believe that? Bill Gates, after all, is indisputably a critical thinker engaging in creative competencies which some say are more important than knowing facts. But Bill Gates, and others like him, know a lot of facts. If he didn't he couldn't be such a critical, creative thinker. In fact, psychologists tell us that knowing more makes one better able to learn new things and to think critically — that critical thinking comes only *after* factual knowledge.

Moreover, independent studies repeatedly demonstrate that, where schools emphasize broad factual knowledge, students become more curious and engaged. They're being set-up for success.

Adapted from *Why Core Knowledge Promotes Social Justice, You Can Always Look It Up — Or Can You*, and *Why General Knowledge Should be a Goal of Education in a Democracy*, all by E.D. Hirsch, Jr.

Characteristics of Friends of Ascension Sponsored Schools:

The right curriculum: Content-Rich

Friends of Ascension sponsors those schools dedicated to providing students a classic, content-rich education based on proven methods.

The right academic standards: High

All Friends of Ascension sponsored schools demonstrate a no-excuses philosophy, which recognizes that all children can learn. The schools employ frequent testing to measure student progress.

The right size: Small

Friends of Ascension schools are smaller than traditional schools, generally less than 300 students. The schools also have lower student/staff ratios, some less than 15:1.

The right learning environment: Secure

Friends of Ascension sponsored schools establish behavior standards in language, dress, and manners.

The right oversight: Accountable

Friends of Ascension holds each school accountable for its academic and fiscal performance. Friends of Ascension measures performance and requires schools to enact remedial action when necessary. Friends of Ascension has revoked one charter and initiated revocation proceedings in two other cases, which caused both schools to enact corrective action.

Core Knowledge

Summary: The Core Knowledge sequence is based on the proven method that education is more effective when students learn a specified body of common content in a coordinated, grade-by-grade sequence that permits them to build on prior knowledge without repetition or gaps. The Core Knowledge sequence promotes equality by not assuming students will learn needed information from sources outside school.

In each grade, students are exposed to a broad range of historical, scientific, and cultural topics that build on one another to prepare for later educational success. This wide range of subject matter not only develops cultural literacy but also builds the strong vocabulary necessary for reading comprehension.

Instructors teach the subject matter in the manner most effective for them, but the content is specified and builds from year to year. Following are examples of specific content requirements for each grade (this is not an all-inclusive list):

| | Math | Science | History |
|--|--|--|--|
| K | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Computation 2. Geometry 3. Money | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Human body 2. Magnetism 3. Seasons and weather | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Native American people 2. Early exploration 3. Presidents |
| 1 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Addition, subtraction, equations 2. Linear, weight, and capacity 3. Measurement of time | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Germs, disease 2. Electricity 3. Geographical features | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ancient Egypt and early Mesopotamia 2. Maya, Inca, Aztec civilization 3. American Revolution |
| 2 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fractions 2. Multiplication 3. Temperature | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Digestive and excretory systems 2. Simple machines 3. Life cycles | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Asia: India and China 2. Ancient Greece 3. Civil War and Civil Rights |
| 3 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decimals 2. Division 3. Mass and volume | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Muscular, skeletal and nervous systems 2. Light and optics 3. Ecology | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ancient Rome 2. The Vikings 3. American Colonies pre-revolution |
| 4 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Multiple 3-digit numbers 2. Geometric formulas 3. Polygons and quadrilaterals | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Circulatory and respiratory systems 2. Chemistry: atoms, solutions 3. Meteorology | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Europe in the Middle Ages 2. Early and medieval African Kingdoms 3. China: dynasties and conquerors |
| 5 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratio and percent 2. Probability and statistics 3. Pre-algebra | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reproductive systems 2. Atoms, molecules and change 3. Vascular and non-vascular plants | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meso America 2. Russia 3. Feudal Japan |
| <p>Language Arts: Language Arts began with phonemic awareness, and decoding, so that mastery of these skills is achieved by grade 3. All grades, from K-8, emphasize vocabulary building and comprehension, primarily through literature ranging from Mother Goose, Fairy Tales, and Aesop's Fables in K; Alice in Wonderland, Norse Mythology, and Iroquois Legends in grade 3; Don Quixote, Shakespeare's Midsummer Night's Dream, Chief Joseph and Frederick Douglass speeches in grade 5; to Tolstoy and Dostoyevsky short stories, Maya Angelou poetry, and Martin Luther King Jr.'s essays and speeches in grade 8. Greek and Latin roots and foreign phrases commonly used in English are also studied to enhance comprehension.</p> | | | |

For more information about The Core Knowledge Sequence, visit: www.coreknowledge.org

Enrollment: 74 Students

Grades Served: 9-11

Adding one grade each year
until grades 9-12 attained

Racial:

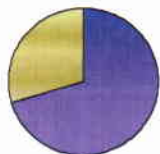


97% Students of Color

Ascension Academy opened in 2004.

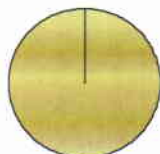
The school offers small class size; individualized learning plans, service learning opportunities, and technology training.

Economic:



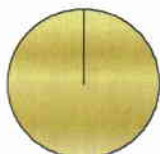
70% Receiving
Free or Reduced Lunch

Language:



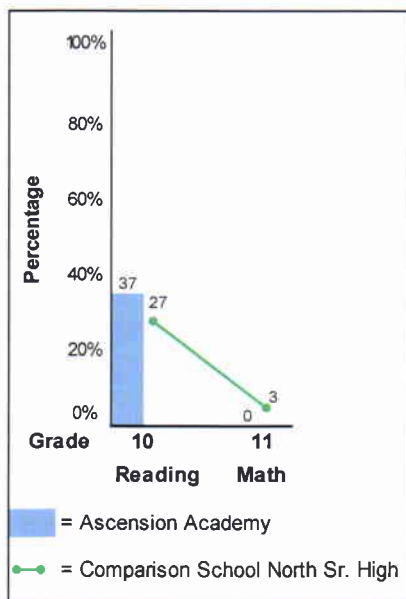
0% English Language

Special Education:

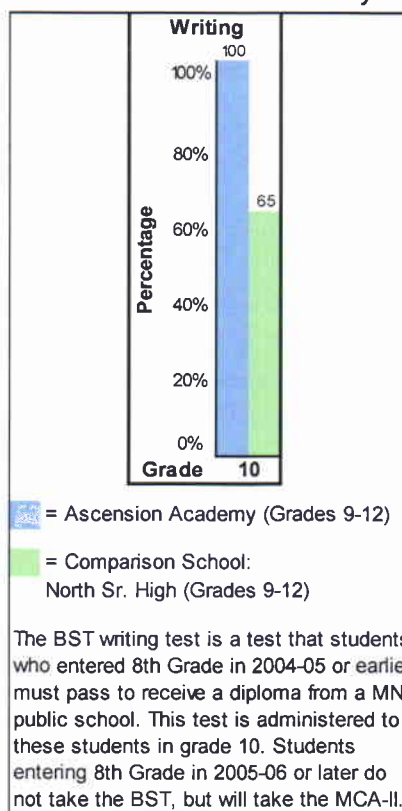


0% Special Education

MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)



BST Student Proficiency



AYP Results (all students)

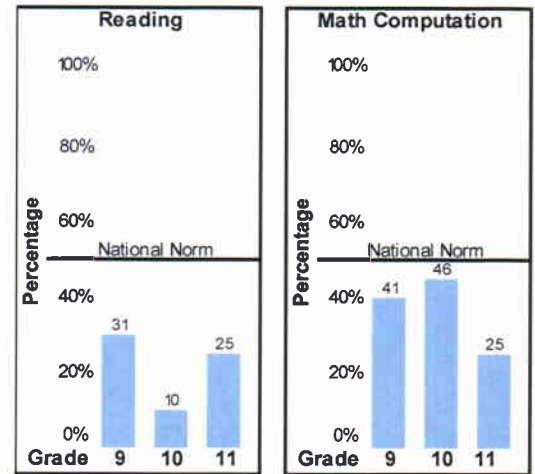
| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| Ascension Academy | 37 | Y | N | Y | Y |
| Comparison School: North Sr. High | 1,087 | Y | N | Y | Y |

Mission: Provide low-income youth with a content-based, classical academic high school education. To teach morality, healthy sexuality, and character values, encouraging self-discipline based on respect and responsibility, and developing a sense of service within its community.

Turnover

| Staff | | Student | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| | % 04/05 Staff Returned in 2005/06 | Grade | % 04/05 Students Returned in 2005/06 |
| Teachers | 86% | 9 | 70% |
| Media Specialists | NA | 10 | 68% |
| Other Licensed | NA | 11 | 92% |
| Paraprofessionals | NA | TOTAL | 72% |
| Administrators | 100% | | |
| TOTAL | 90% | | |

Iowa Tests of Educational Development % At/Above Grade Level



■ = Ascension Academy (Grades 9-12)

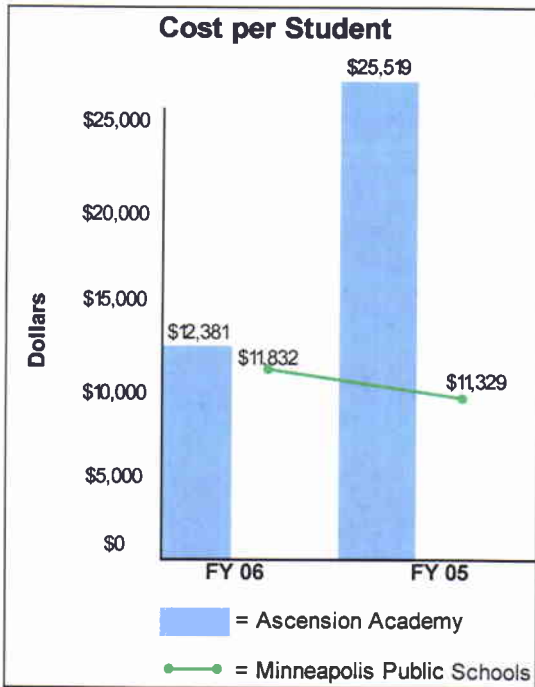
My child feels like he is really a part of something and that he matters.

- Parent, Ascension Academy



Ascension Academy works hard with my child to meet goals and is working toward a good future.

- Parent, Ascension Academy



FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$622,384 | 66.8% |
| Federal | \$164,328 | 17.7% |
| Gifts/Other | \$144,530 | 15.5% |
| | <u>\$931,242</u> | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$365,719 | 40.5% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | \$107,694 | 11.9% |
| | <u>\$473,413</u> | 52.4% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | \$42,869 | 4.7% |
| | <u>\$516,282</u> | 57.1% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$90,911 | 10.0% |
| Supplies/Other | \$53,767 | 6.0% |
| | <u>\$144,678</u> | 16.0% |
| Facility | \$226,816 | 25.1% |
| Student Transportation | \$16,027 | 1.8% |
| | <u>\$903,803</u> | 100.0% |



I'm really glad to have my child be a part of this school.

- Parent, Ascension Academy

| Parent Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|---|--|----------|-------------------|------------|---------------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction | | | | | | |
| • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | | | | | Question not asked | |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 67% | 33% |
| 3. Safety | | | | | | |
| • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | | | | | Questions not asked | |
| 4. Individualized Attention | | | | | | |
| • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 33% | 67% |
| 5. Teacher Quality | | | | | | |
| • The school's teachers are well qualified. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 17% | 83% |
| • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. | | 0% | 0% | 16% | 67% | 17% |
| • The school has high expectations for teachers. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 33% | 67% |
| 6. School Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school's management provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 83% | 17% |
| • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | | | | | Question not asked | |
| 7. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building is clean. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 67% | 33% |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | | | | Question not asked | |
| 8. Transportation | | | | | | |
| • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 20% | 80% |
| 9. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 33% | 67% |
| 10. Behavior | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. | | 0% | 0% | 17% | 50% | 33% |
| • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | | 0% | 0% | 16% | 67% | 17% |

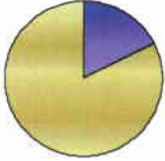
| Staff Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school leadership cares about the staff. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 90% | 10% |
| • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 10% | 90% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • The school board addresses the needs of the school. | | 0% | 0% | 10% | 80% | 10% |
| • The school board supports the school leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 20% | 80% |
| • The school board supports the teaching staff. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 10% | 90% |
| 3. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 0% | 10% | 0% | 80% | 10% |
| 4. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| 5. Team | | | | | | |
| • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 20% | 80% |
| 6. Resources | | | | | | |
| • The school has adequate financial resources. | | 0% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 70% |
| • I have sufficient classroom materials. | | 0% | 45% | 0% | 45% | 10% |
| 7. Accountability | | | | | | |
| • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. | | 0% | 0% | 10% | 10% | 80% |
| • I enjoy working at this school. | | | | | Question not asked | |
| • The leadership provides adequate communication. | | | | | Question not asked | |

Enrollment: 172 Students

Grades Served: K-4

Adding one grade each year until grades K-8 attained

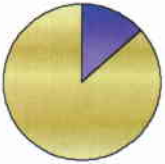
Racial:



17% Students of Color

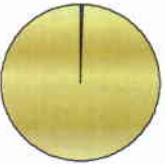
Beacon Academy opened its doors in September 2004 and attributes its success to the rigorous, content-rich Core Knowledge foundation, strong character education and service curriculum, daily instruction in Spanish from kindergarten through all grades, Professional Development structured through a Quality Compensation Grant, a strong base of parent involvement, and a committed board of directors.

Economic:



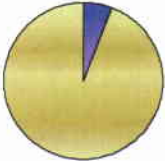
13% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch

Language:



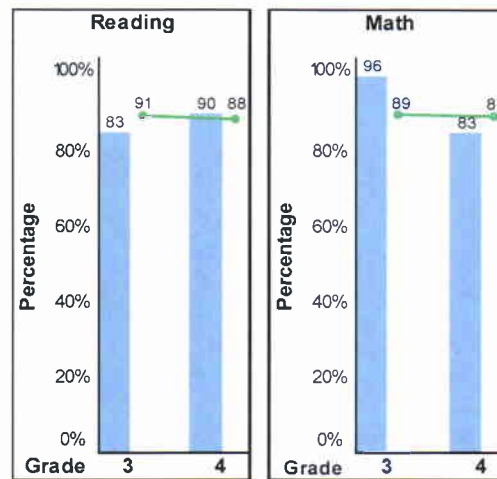
1% English Language Learners

Special Education:



6% Special Education

MCA II Student Proficiency



■ = Beacon Academy (Grades K-5)
 ●—● = Comparison School Sunset Hill Elementary (Grades K-5)



AYP Results (all students)

| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|---|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| Beacon Academy | 172 | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Comparison School: Sunset Hill Elementary | 516 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Mission: Provide Twin Cities west metro families with a proven, rigorous and content-rich curriculum integrated with sequential Spanish-language instruction.

Turnover

| Staff | | Student | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| | % 04/05 Staff Returned in 2005/06 | Grade | % 04/05 Students Returned in 2005/06 |
| Teachers | 75% | 1 | 43% |
| Media Specialists | — | 2 | 69% |
| Other Licensed Professionals | — | 3 | 86% |
| Paraprofessionals | 0% | 4 | 77% |
| Administrators | 50% | TOTAL | 68% |
| TOTAL | 66% | | |

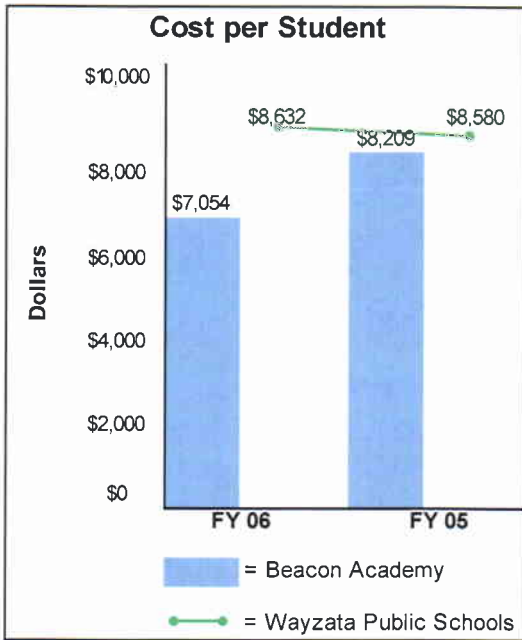


| NWEA Measures of Academic Progress | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Grade | READING | | | MATH | | |
| | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 3 | 82% | 50% | 27% | 91% | 43% | 29% |
| 4 | 87% | 38% | 24% | 87% | 41% | 46% |

What I like about Beacon Academy, is that everyone is respected as somebody in that you are always able to get awards nomatter who you are or how old you are.



Beacon 4th grader



FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$1,133,764 | 84.8% |
| Federal | \$141,886 | 4.6% |
| Gifts/Other | \$61,824 | 10.6% |
| Total Revenue | \$1,337,474 | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$488,427 | 40.3% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | \$126,566 | 10.4% |
| | \$614,993 | 50.7% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | \$17,291 | 1.4% |
| | \$632,284 | 52.1% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$108,241 | 8.9% |
| Supplies/Other | \$87,619 | 7.2% |
| | \$195,860 | 16.2% |
| Facility | \$311,765 | 25.7% |
| Student Transportation | \$73,308 | 6.0% |
| Total Expenses | \$1,213,217 | 100.0% |



Beacon Academy stands out because of its attention to values and

| Parent Survey Result | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|---|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction | | | | | | |
| • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 12% | 88% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | | 0% | 2% | 0% | 23% | 74% |
| 3. Safety | | | | | | |
| • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | | 0% | 4% | 1% | 18% | 82% |
| 4. Individualized Attention | | | | | | |
| • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | | 0% | 1% | 4% | 24% | 71% |
| 5. Teacher Quality | | | | | | |
| • The school's teachers are well qualified. | | 0% | 0% | 4% | 13% | 83% |
| • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. | | 0% | 1% | 26% | 20% | 54% |
| • The school has high expectations for teachers. | | 0% | 0% | 16% | 16% | 68% |
| 6. School Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school's management provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 9% | 16% | 76% |
| • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | | 0% | 1% | 5% | 10% | 84% |
| 7. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building is clean. | | 1% | 6% | 2% | 27% | 63% |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 2% | 13% | 10% | 35% | 39% |
| 8. Transportation | | | | | | |
| • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | | 5% | 12% | 15% | 28% | 40% |
| 9. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | | 1% | 2% | 0% | 16% | 80% |
| 10. Behavior | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. | | 0% | 5% | 4% | 38% | 54% |
| • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | | 1% | 4% | 7% | 23% | 65% |

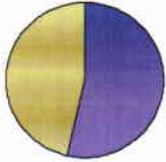
| Staff Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|------------|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school leadership cares about the staff. | | 0% | 9% | 0% | 0% | 91% |
| • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. | | 0% | 9% | 9% | 55% | 27% |
| • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 9% | 0% | 45% | 45% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • The school board addresses the needs of the school. | | 0% | 0% | 9% | 73% | 18% |
| • The school board supports the school leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 9% | 36% | 55% |
| • The school board supports the teaching staff. | | 0% | 27% | 0% | 45% | 27% |
| 3. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 9% | 55% | 9% | 27% | 0% |
| 4. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 18% | 82% |
| 5. Team | | | | | | |
| • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 36% | 64% |
| 6. Resources | | | | | | |
| • The school has adequate financial resources. | | 0% | 0% | 36% | 45% | 18% |
| • I have sufficient classroom materials. | | 0% | 36% | 0% | 45% | 18% |
| 7. Accountability | | | | | | |
| • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 36% | 64% |
| • I enjoy working at this school. | | | | | Question not asked | |
| • The leadership provides adequate communication. | | | | | Question not asked | |

Enrollment: 172 Students

Grades Served: 5-7

Adding one grade each year until grades 5-12 attained

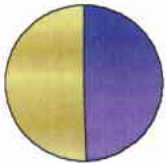
Racial:



53% Students of Color

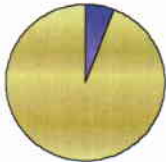
The Academy of BioScience has small class sizes and a safe, disciplined and value-driven learning environment. While its academic program includes the arts and humanities, science - especially the biosciences - is integrated throughout. Students have an extended school day featuring enrichment and remediation activities, field trips, science and math projects, art, and writing.

Economic:



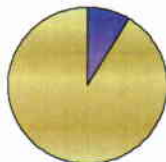
49% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch

Language:



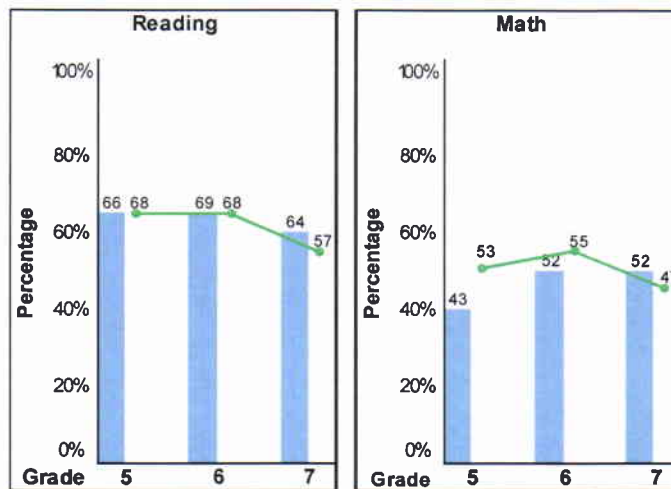
6% English Language Learners

Special Education:



9% Special Education

MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)



■ = Academy of BioScience (Grades 5-7)
● = Fridley Middle School (Grades 5-8)



AYP Results (all students)

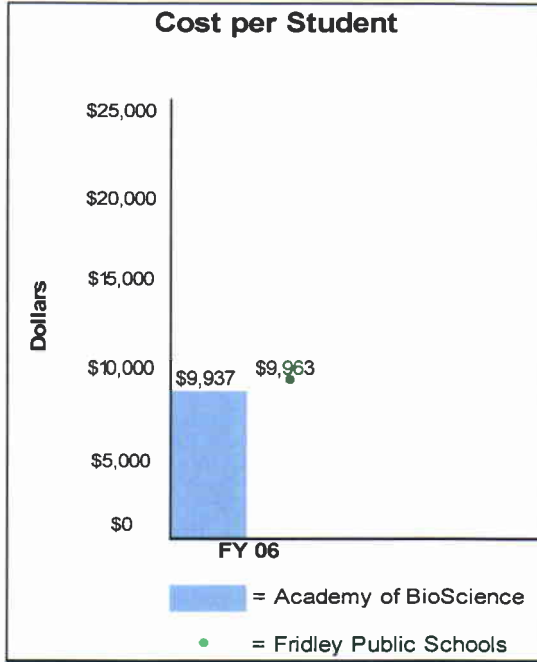
| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|--|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| BioScience Academy | 149 | Y | Y | NA | Y |
| Comparison School: Fridley Middle School | 753 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Mission: Provide an exciting college-prep liberal arts program with a particular focus on the life sciences.



| NWEA Measures of Academic Progress | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | READING | | | | MATH | | | |
| Grade | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 5 | 48% | N/A | 55% | 26% | 55% | N/A | 60% | 8% |
| 6 | 70% | N/A | 55% | 45% | 68% | N/A | 68% | 12% |
| 7 | 64% | N/A | 43% | 37% | 74% | N/A | 68% | 12% |





FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$1,375,537 | 82.1% |
| Federal | \$110,707 | 6.6% |
| Gifts/Other | \$188,378 | 11.3% |
| | <u>\$1,674,622</u> | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$507,504 | 32.3% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | \$125,154 | 8.0% |
| | <u>\$632,658</u> | 40.3% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | \$45,022 | 2.8% |
| | <u>\$677,680</u> | 43.1% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$150,873 | 9.7% |
| Supplies/Other | \$172,964 | 11.0% |
| | <u>\$323,837</u> | 20.7% |
| Facility | \$440,567 | 28.1% |
| Student Transportation | \$127,781 | 8.1% |
| | <u>\$1,569,865</u> | 100.0% |

BioScience is a nice and fun place to learn.
- Student, Academy of BioScience

| Parent Survey Results | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | | | | | |
| 2. Communication • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | | | | | |
| 3. Safety • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | | | | | |
| 4. Individualized Attention • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | | | | | |
| 5. Teacher Quality • The school's teachers are well qualified. • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. • The school has high expectations for teachers. | | | | | |
| 6. School Leadership • The school's management provides clear leadership. • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | | | | | |
| 7. Facility • The school building is clean. • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | | | | |
| 8. Transportation • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | | | | | |
| 9. Class Size • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | | | | | |
| 10. Behavior • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | | | | | |

Did
Not
Participate

| Staff Survey Results | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership • The school leadership cares about the staff. • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | | | | | |
| 2. Communication • The school board addresses the needs of the school. • The school board supports the school leadership. • The school board supports the teaching staff. | | | | | |
| 3. Facility • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | | | | |
| 4. Class Size • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | | | | | |
| 5. Team • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | | | | | |
| 6. Resources • The school has adequate financial resources. • I have sufficient classroom materials. | | | | | |
| 7. Accountability • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. • I enjoy working at this school. • The leadership provides adequate communication. | | | | | |

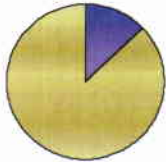
Did
Not
Participate

Enrollment: 156 Students

Grades Served: 6-10

Adding one grade each year until grades 6-12 attained

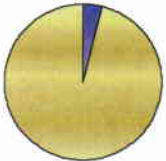
Racial:



13% Students of Color

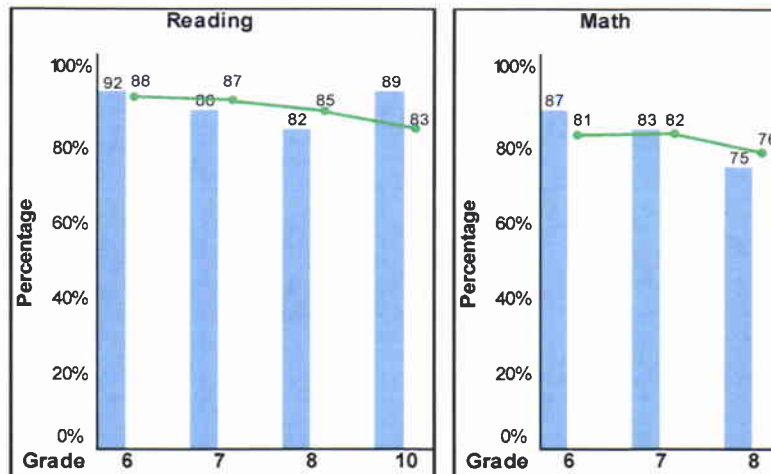
Eagle Ridge Academy offers a college-prep educational program based on true inquiry, awe, intellect, and character.

Economic:



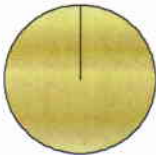
4% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch

MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)



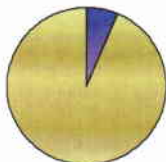
■ = Eagle Ridge Academy (Grades 6-10)
● = Comparison Schools Valley View Middle (Grades 6-8) & Edina Sr. High (Grade 10)

Language:



0% English Language Learners

Special Education:



10% Special Education



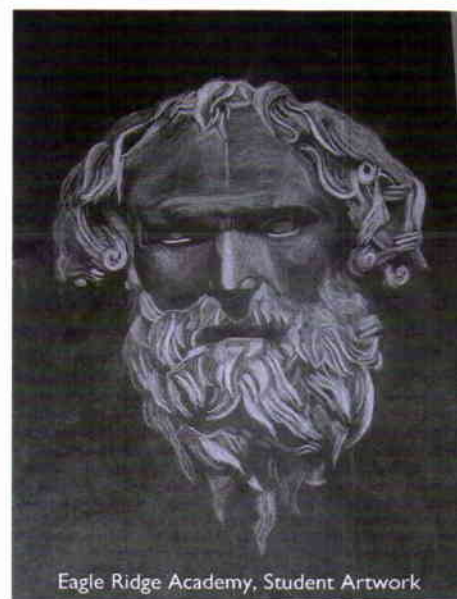
AYP Results (all students)

| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|---|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| Eagle Ridge Academy | 145 | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Comparison Schools: Valley View Middle & Edina Sr. High | 1,218 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Mission: Provide children with an education that demands the best in behavior, attitude and effort, and challenges each child to achieve his and her highest potential.

Turnover

| Staff | | Students | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| | % 04/05 Staff Returned in 2005/06 | Grade | % 04/05 Students Returned in 2005/06 |
| Teachers | 70% | 6 | 67% |
| Media Specialists | 0% | 7 | 68% |
| Other Licensed Professionals | 0% | 9 | 67% |
| Paraprofessionals | 0% | TOTAL | 67% |
| Administrators | 100% | | |
| TOTAL | 73% | | |



Eagle Ridge Academy, Student Artwork

NWEA Measures of Academic Progress

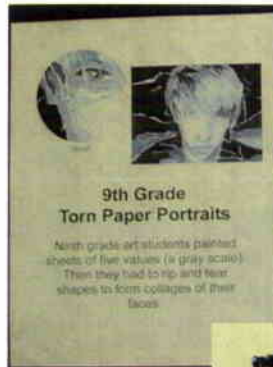
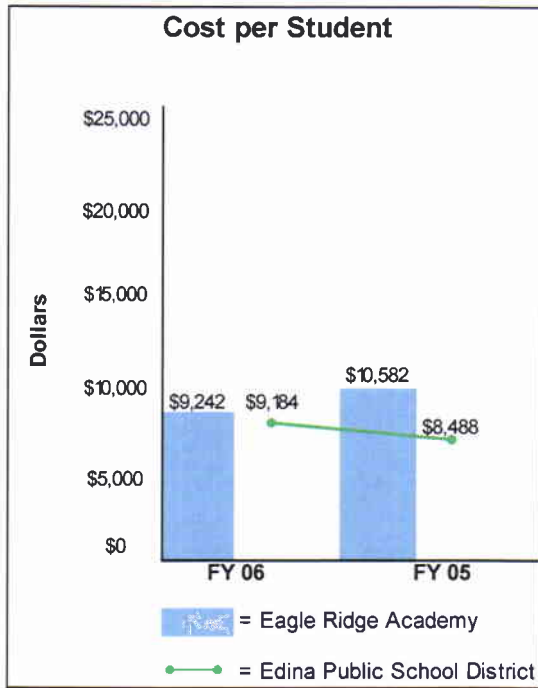
| Grade | READING | | | | MATH | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 6 | 82% | NA | 40% | 0% | 95% | NA | 65% | 19% |
| 7 | 77% | 70% | 45% | 32% | 87% | 91% | 53% | 22% |
| 8 | 62% | 67% | 39% | 25% | 79% | 84% | 71% | 29% |
| 10 | 79% | 78% | 46% | 13% | 87% | 88% | 48% | 30% |

Latin is a language we learn at Eagle Ridge. I can see the root words in other languages, including English.

- Student, Eagle Ridge Academy

The teachers at Eagle Ridge are able to help us each individually as much as we need it.

- Student, Eagle Ridge Academy



Eagle Ridge Academy, Student Artwork

FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$1,295,388 | 82.8% |
| Federal | \$181,630 | 11.6% |
| Gifts/Other | <u>\$87,112</u> | <u>5.6%</u> |
| | \$1,564,130 | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$547,711 | 36.8% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | <u>\$135,731</u> | <u>9.1%</u> |
| | \$683,442 | 45.9% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | <u>\$39,615</u> | <u>2.7%</u> |
| | \$723,057 | 48.6% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$142,334 | 9.6% |
| Supplies/Other | <u>\$97,173</u> | <u>6.5%</u> |
| | \$239,507 | 16.1% |
| Facility | \$456,852 | 30.7% |
| Student Transportation | <u>\$68,655</u> | <u>4.6%</u> |
| | \$1,488,071 | 100.0% |



The smaller environment gives Eagle Ridge more of a family-like setting and makes me feel like I am important and have a voice.

- Student, Eagle Ridge Academy

| Parent Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|---|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction | | | | | | |
| • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | | 2% | 10% | 0% | 41% | 47% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | | 6% | 14% | 0% | 37% | 43% |
| 3. Safety | | | | | | |
| • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | | 0% | 2% | 0% | 48% | 50% |
| 4. Individualized Attention | | | | | | |
| • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | | 2% | 14% | 0% | 39% | 45% |
| 5. Teacher Quality | | | | | | |
| • The school's teachers are well qualified. | | 2% | 4% | 0% | 37% | 57% |
| • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. | | 5% | 11% | 0% | 48% | 36% |
| • The school has high expectations for teachers. | | 2% | 4% | 0% | 46% | 48% |
| 6. School Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school's management provides clear leadership. | | 6% | 10% | 0% | 33% | 53% |
| • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | | 2% | 17% | 0% | 40% | 46% |
| 7. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building is clean. | | 0% | 12% | 0% | 29% | 61% |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 0% | 40% | 0% | 14% | 48% |
| 8. Transportation | | | | | | |
| • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | | 4% | 16% | 0% | 24% | 57% |
| 9. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | | 0% | 2% | 0% | 27% | 71% |
| 10. Behavior | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. | | 0% | 4% | 0% | 35% | 63% |
| • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | | 2% | 8% | 0% | 37% | 53% |

| Staff Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school leadership cares about the staff. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 30% | 70% |
| • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 50% | 50% |
| • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 70% | 30% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • The school board addresses the needs of the school. | | 20% | 20% | 0% | 50% | 10% |
| • The school board supports the school leadership. | | 20% | 30% | 0% | 50% | 0% |
| • The school board supports the teaching staff. | | 20% | 10% | 0% | 60% | 10% |
| 3. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 0% | 80% | 0% | 20% | 0% |
| 4. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | | 0% | 10% | 0% | 70% | 20% |
| 5. Team | | | | | | |
| • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 10% | 90% |
| 6. Resources | | | | | | |
| • The school has adequate financial resources. | | 0% | 30% | 0% | 60% | 10% |
| • I have sufficient classroom materials. | | 10% | 0% | 0% | 90% | 0% |
| 7. Accountability | | | | | | |
| • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 60% | 40% |
| • I enjoy working at this school. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 50% | 50% |
| • The leadership provides adequate communication. | | 0% | 20% | 0% | 40% | 40% |

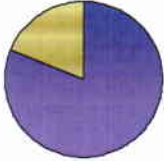


Enrollment: 101 Students

Grades Served: 5-7

Adding one grade each year until grades 5-8 attained

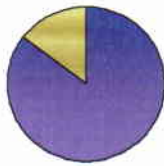
Racial:



81% Students of Color

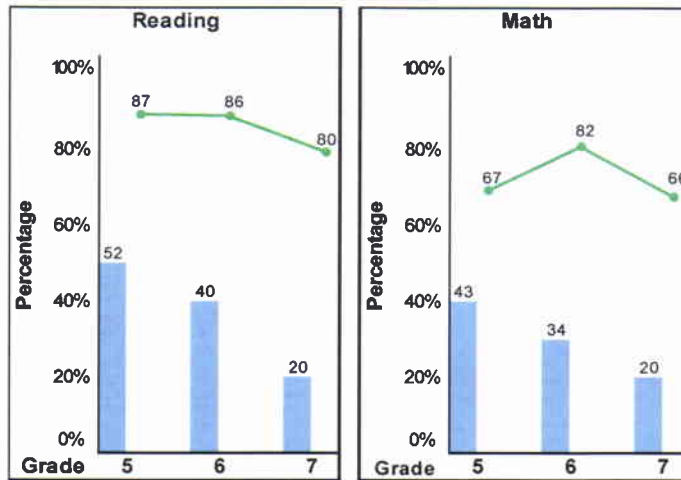
Minneapolis Academy prepares its students to live thoughtful and purposeful lives equipped with the critical thinking skills that are necessary in their pursuits.

Economic:



85% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch

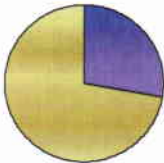
MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)



■ = Minneapolis Academy (Grades 5-7)

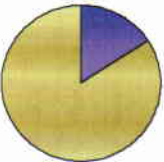
● = Comparison School Field Elementary (Grades 5-8)

Language:



28% English Language Learners

Special Education:



16% Special Education



AYP Results (all students)

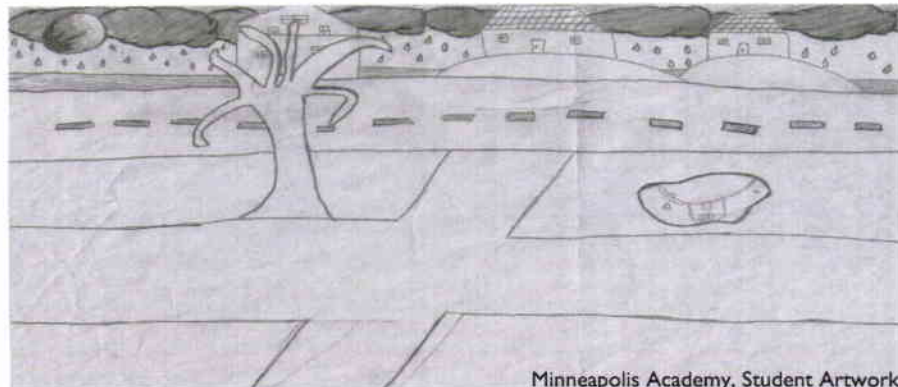
| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| Minneapolis Academy | 101 | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Comparison School: Field Elementary | 487 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Mission: To provide all students with the knowledge, skills, and character to graduate from high school and ultimately from a competitive college or university.

| Turnover | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Staff | | Student | |
| | % 04/05 Staff Returned in 2005/06 | Grade | % 04/05 Students Returned in 2005/06 |
| Teachers | 100% | 5 | 73% |
| Media Specialists | 0% | 6 | 82% |
| Other Licensed Professionals | 0% | 7 | 84% |
| Paraprofessionals | 0% | TOTAL | 81% |
| Administrators | 100% | | |
| TOTAL | 100% | | |



| NWEA Measures of Academic Progress | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | READING | | | | MATH | | | |
| Grade | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 5 | 41% | -- | 18% | 59% | 64% | -- | 36% | 50% |
| 6 | 58% | 55% | 25% | 50% | 58% | 55% | 20% | 45% |
| 7 | 30% | 32% | 22% | 30% | 44% | 48% | 30% | 37% |



Minneapolis Academy, Student Artwork



FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$945,760 | 74.1% |
| Federal | \$164,968 | 12.9% |
| Gifts/Other | \$165,896 | 13.0% |
| | <u>\$1,276,624</u> | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$451,055 | 39.2% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | \$95,703 | 8.3% |
| | <u>\$546,758</u> | 47.5% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | \$2,886 | 0.4% |
| | <u>\$549,644</u> | 47.9% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$152,666 | 13.4% |
| Supplies/Other | \$125,476 | 10.9% |
| | <u>\$278,142</u> | 24.3% |
| Facility | \$242,247 | 21.1% |
| Student Transportation | \$77,092 | 6.7% |
| | <u>\$1,147,125</u> | 100.0% |

Minneapolis Academy is the best thing that happened to my child.

- Parent, Minneapolis Academy

| Parent Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|---|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction | | | | | | |
| • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | | 0% | 0% | 4% | 26% | 70% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | | 4% | 13% | 4% | 26% | 52% |
| 3. Safety | | | | | | |
| • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 17% | 83% |
| 4. Individualized Attention | | | | | | |
| • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | | 0% | 0% | 13% | 17% | 70% |
| 5. Teacher Quality | | | | | | |
| • The school's teachers are well qualified. | | 0% | 0% | 9% | 30% | 61% |
| • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. | | 0% | 4% | 13% | 22% | 61% |
| • The school has high expectations for teachers. | | 0% | 0% | 13% | 22% | 65% |
| 6. School Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school's management provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 9% | 26% | 65% |
| • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | | 0% | 0% | 4% | 26% | 70% |
| 7. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building is clean. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 17% | 83% |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 0% | 0% | 4% | 35% | 61% |
| 8. Transportation | | | | | | |
| • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | | 0% | 9% | 9% | 17% | 65% |
| 9. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | | 0% | 4% | 0% | 26% | 70% |
| 10. Behavior | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. | | 4% | 4% | 4% | 22% | 65% |
| • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | | 0% | 9% | 0% | 13% | 78% |

| Staff Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school leadership cares about the staff. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 11% | 89% |
| • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 38% | 63% |
| • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 33% | 67% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • The school board addresses the needs of the school. | | 0% | 0% | 11% | 22% | 67% |
| • The school board supports the school leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 11% | 11% | 78% |
| • The school board supports the teaching staff. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 44% | 56% |
| 3. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 56% | 44% |
| 4. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| 5. Team | | | | | | |
| • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 11% | 89% |
| 6. Resources | | | | | | |
| • The school has adequate financial resources. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 22% | 78% |
| • I have sufficient classroom materials. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 22% | 78% |
| 7. Accountability | | | | | | |
| • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 11% | 89% |
| • I enjoy working at this school. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 22% | 78% |
| • The leadership provides adequate communication. | | 0% | 11% | 0% | 33% | 56% |



Enrollment: 186 Students

Grades Served: K-5

Adding one grade each year until grades K-8 attained

Racial:



100% Students of Color

Pride in accomplishment, civic responsibility and morally correct behavior are the cornerstones of the educational development of New Millennium's children. While students are provided a content-rich education and learn about all cultures, students receive emphasized instruction in Hmong culture.

Economic:



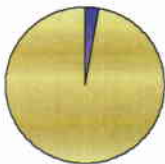
96% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch

Language:



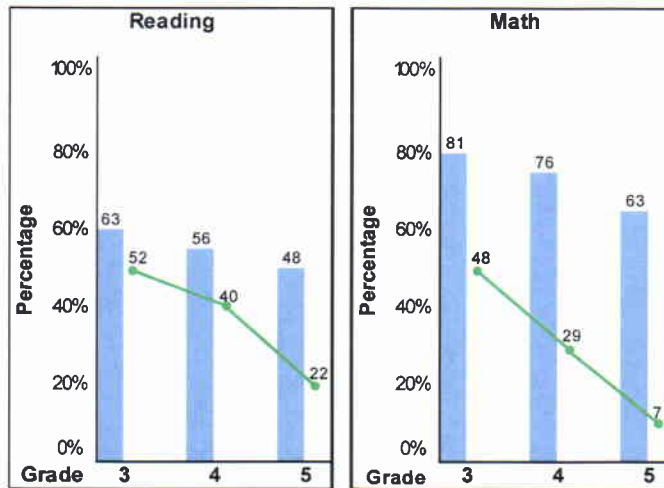
99% English Language Learners

Special Education:



3% Special Education

MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)



■ = New Millennium Academy (Grades K-5)

● = Bethune Elementary (Grades K-5)



AYP Results (all students)

| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|--|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| New Millennium Academy | 84 | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Comparison School: Bethune Elementary | 226 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Mission: To use educational innovations and strong parent/community participation to maximize student achievement for children from primarily low-income families, whose home language is often Hmong

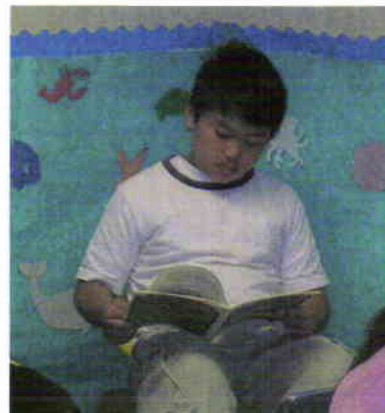
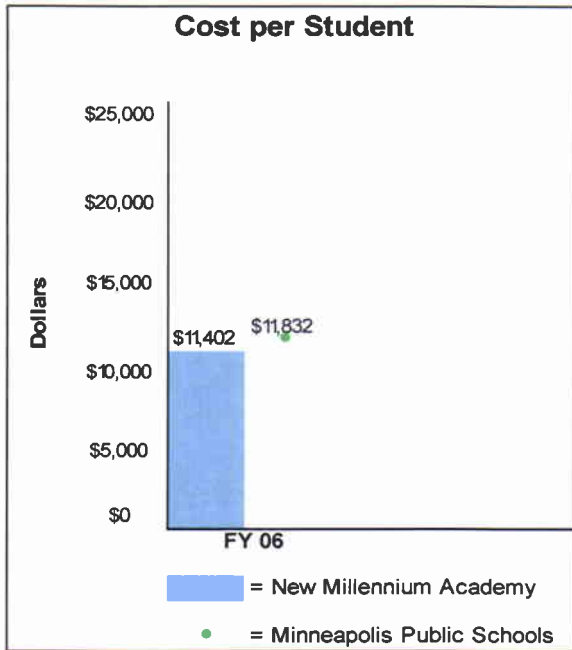


New Millennium is great and New Millennium also made me smart. I like everything about New Millennium.

- Student, New Millennium Academy

| NWEA Measures of Academic Progress | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Grade | READING | | | MATH | | |
| | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 3 | 21% | NA | 0% | 42% | NA | 68% |
| 4 | 17% | NA | 28% | 39% | NA | 83% |
| 5 | 32% | NA | 36% | 22% | NA | 86% |





FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$1,769,403 | 77.9% |
| Federal | \$302,920 | 13.3% |
| Gifts/Other | \$199,792 | 8.8% |
| | \$2,272,115 | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$719,466 | 34.1% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | <u>\$285,620</u> | <u>13.5%</u> |
| | \$1,005,086 | 47.6% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | <u>\$57,209</u> | <u>2.7%</u> |
| | \$1,062,295 | 50.3% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$176,913 | 8.5% |
| Supplies/Other | <u>\$173,605</u> | <u>8.2%</u> |
| | \$350,518 | 16.7% |
| Facility | \$542,937 | 25.7% |
| Student Transportation | <u>\$153,587</u> | 7.3% |
| | \$2,109,337 | 100.0% |

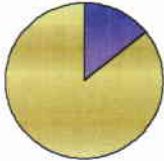
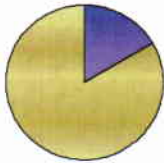
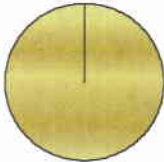
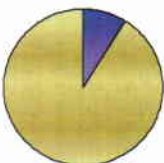
At New Millennium I get to learn things that I haven't learned before.

- Student, New Millennium Academy

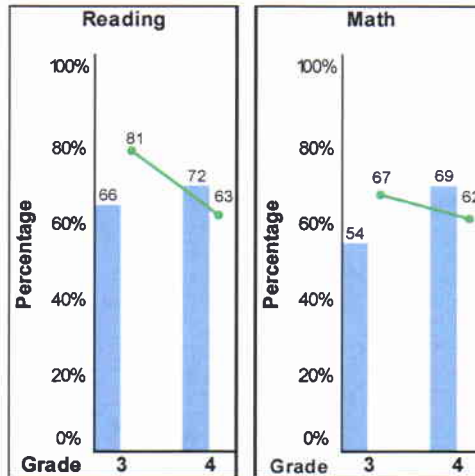
| Parent Survey Results | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | | | | | |
| 2. Communication • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | | | | | |
| 3. Safety • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | | | | | |
| 4. Individualized Attention • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | | | | | |
| 5. Teacher Quality • The school's teachers are well qualified. • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. • The school has high expectations for teachers. | | | | | |
| 6. School Leadership • The school's management provides clear leadership. • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | | | | | |
| 7. Facility • The school building is clean. • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | | | | |
| 8. Transportation • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | | | | | |
| 9. Class Size • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | | | | | |
| 10. Behavior • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | | | | | |

Did
Not
Participate

| Staff Survey Results | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership • The school leadership cares about the staff. • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | 0% | 33% | 0% | 33% | 33% |
| 2. Communication • The school board addresses the needs of the school. • The school board supports the school leadership. • The school board supports the teaching staff. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 67% | 33% |
| 3. Facility • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 83% | 17% |
| 4. Class Size • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | 0% | 20% | 0% | 20% | 60% |
| 5. Team • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | 0% | 17% | 0% | 33% | 50% |
| 6. Resources • The school has adequate financial resources. • I have sufficient classroom materials. | 0% | 17% | 0% | 83% | 0% |
| 7. Accountability • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. • I enjoy working at this school. • The leadership provides adequate communication. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 67% | 33% |

Enrollment: 203 Students
Grades Served: K-4
Adding one grade each year until grades K-8 attained
Racial:

14% Students of Color
Economic:

17% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch
Language:

0% English Language Learners
Special Education:

9% Special Education

Paideia Academy provides an excellent educational option for students living in southern suburbs of the metro area. The word 'Paideia' connotes a theory of student-centered learning and the conscious pursuit of each child's intellectual, artistic, and social education.

MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)


■ = Paideia Academy (Grades K-4)
 ● = Comparison School: Cedar Park Elementary (Grades K-5)


AYP Results (all students)

| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|---|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| Paideia Academy | 203 | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Comparison School: Cedar Park Elementary | 581 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Mission: To provide an academically rigorous, content-rich classical education that gives all young scholars the opportunity to shine in a culture that promotes accelerated academic achievement, fosters character development and personal growth, and values the importance of language, music and arts.

Paideia Academy was created to:

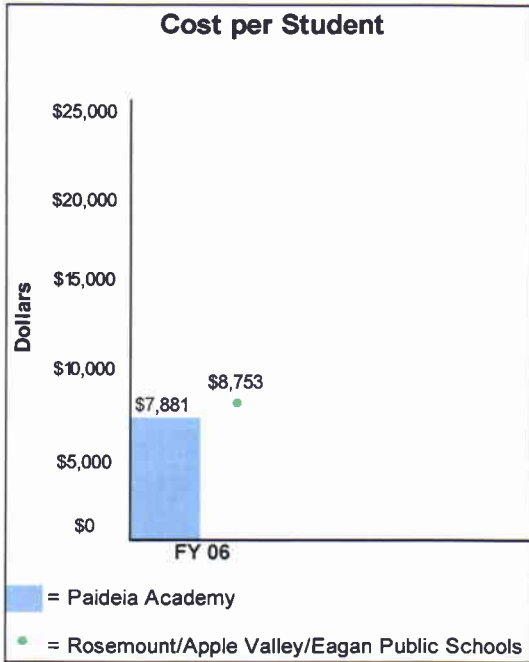
- ◇ Provide an innovative and quality educational program for students, using a combination of the Core Knowledge Sequence and a classical curriculum that sets high but attainable standards.
- ◇ Use the ancient liberal arts tradition of the Trivium - Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric - to guide teaching methodology and to optimize student learning.
- ◇ Ensure that each student has the fundamental skills and knowledge to form a strong foundation for higher education and a desire for lifelong learning.
- ◇ Establish art and music as core subject.
- ◇ Provide all students with language programs in **both** Spanish and Latin.
- ◇ Establish a learning community of students, teachers and parents that models and encourages character development, respect for diversity, and a sense of responsibility towards society.
- ◇ Address family and student issues related to educational achievement and citizenship of its youth. This is best accomplished through strong and ongoing community partnerships.
- ◇ Implement a year-round school calendar.

| NWEA Measures of Academic Progress | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Grade | READING | | | | MATH | | | |
| | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 3 | 84% | NA | 52% | | 81% | NA | 48% | |
| 4 | 90% | NA | 55% | | 100% | NA | 70% | |

I like the teachers at Paideia, they make learning fun. They are very helpful.

- Student, Paideia Academy





FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$1,400,266 | 83.4% |
| Federal | \$98,924 | 5.9% |
| Gifts/Other | \$180,091 | 10.7% |
| | \$1,679,281 | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$481,833 | 31.2% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | <u>\$250,040</u> | <u>16.2%</u> |
| | \$731,873 | 47.4% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | <u>\$25,887</u> | <u>1.6%</u> |
| | \$757,760 | 49.0% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$140,884 | 9.2% |
| Supplies/Other | <u>\$124,360</u> | <u>8.1%</u> |
| | \$265,244 | 17.3% |
| Facility | \$520,679 | 33.7% |
| Student Transportation | <u>\$475</u> | 0.0% |
| | \$1,544,158 | 100.0% |



*Paideia is miles above the normal elementary schools in the area.
Thank you so much for providing this alternative!
- Parent, Paideia Academy*

| Parent Survey Results | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction | | | | | |
| • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | 3% | 3% | 0% | 21% | 73% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | |
| • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | 0% | 12% | 0% | 36% | 52% |
| 3. Safety | | | | | |
| • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | 0% | 0% | 6% | 33% | 61% |
| 4. Individualized Attention | | | | | |
| • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | 3% | 9% | 3% | 39% | 45% |
| 5. Teacher Quality | | | | | |
| • The school's teachers are well qualified. | 0% | 6% | 3% | 9% | 82% |
| • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. | 0% | 6% | 18% | 9% | 67% |
| • The school has high expectations for teachers. | 0% | 3% | 6% | 12% | 79% |
| 6. School Leadership | | | | | |
| • The school's management provides clear leadership. | 3% | 6% | 12% | 15% | 64% |
| • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | 0% | 3% | 12% | 21% | 64% |
| 7. Facility | | | | | |
| • The school building is clean. | 0% | 9% | 3% | 36% | 52% |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | 0% | 12% | 3% | 52% | 33% |
| 8. Transportation | | | | | |
| • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | Question not asked | | | | |
| 9. Class Size | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | 3% | 0% | 0% | 21% | 76% |
| 10. Behavior | | | | | |
| • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. | 3% | 3% | 6% | 21% | 67% |
| • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | 6% | 0% | 6% | 30% | 58% |

| Staff Survey Results | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership | | | | | |
| • The school leadership cares about the staff. | 0% | 0% | 10% | 30% | 60% |
| • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. | 0% | 0% | 20% | 30% | 50% |
| • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | 0% | 10% | 0% | 50% | 40% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | |
| • The school board addresses the needs of the school. | 0% | 0% | 20% | 50% | 30% |
| • The school board supports the school leadership. | 0% | 0% | 10% | 50% | 40% |
| • The school board supports the teaching staff. | 0% | 10% | 10% | 60% | 20% |
| 3. Facility | | | | | |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | 0% | 20% | 0% | 50% | 30% |
| 4. Class Size | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | 0% | 10% | 0% | 10% | 80% |
| 5. Team | | | | | |
| • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| 6. Resources | | | | | |
| • The school has adequate financial resources. | 0% | 10% | 30% | 30% | 30% |
| • I have sufficient classroom materials. | 0% | 20% | 0% | 70% | 10% |
| 7. Accountability | | | | | |
| • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| • I enjoy working at this school. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 10% | 90% |
| • The leadership provides adequate communication. | 0% | 10% | 0% | 60% | 30% |

Enrollment: 71 Students

Grades Served: K-4

Adding one grade each year until grades K-5 attained

Racial:



99% Students of Color

Soul Academy serves a diverse student population largely representative of African Americans which include homeless and transient families.

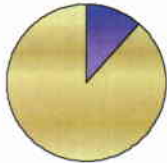
Successful Core Knowledge implementation at this school will give these students an opportunity that would ordinarily be denied them.

Economic:



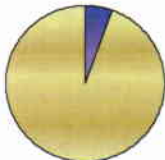
99% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch

Language:



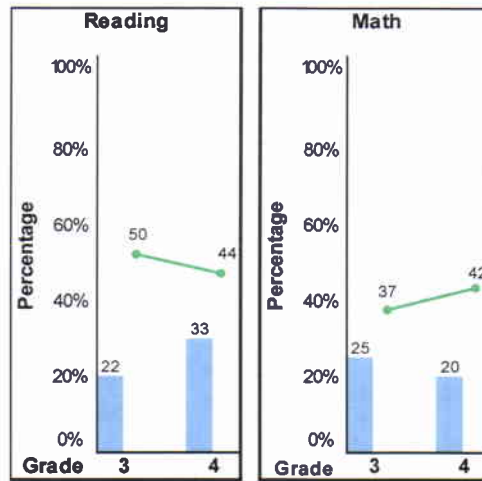
11% English Language Learners

Special Education:



6% Special Education

MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)



■ = Soul Academy
 ● = Comparison School: Andersen Elementary (Grades K-5)



AYP Results (all students)

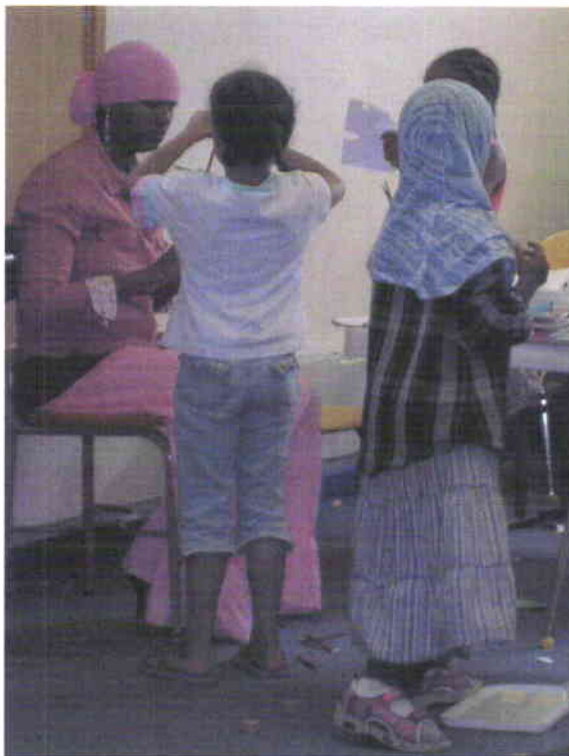
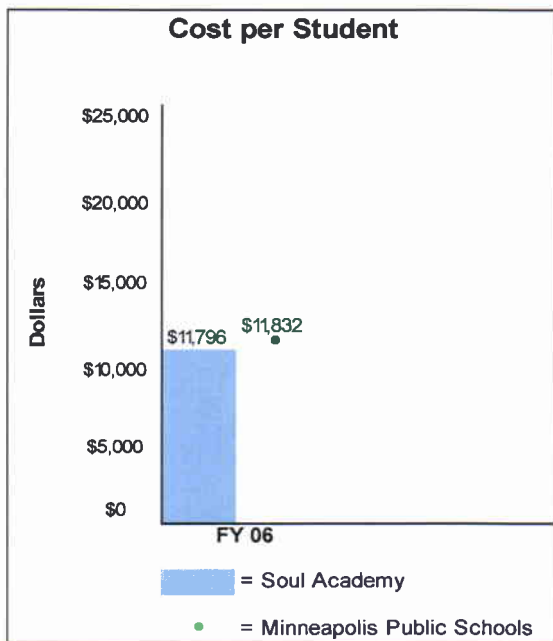
| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|--|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| Soul Academy | 71 | N | N | NA | NA |
| Comparison School: Andersen Elementary | 417 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

Mission: To offer a solid curriculum that avoids gaps while emphasizing the humanities and learning from many cultures. Soul Academy also features small class sizes, longer school days, and a mentoring program called Epals.



| NWEA Measures of Academic Progress | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Grade | READING | | | | MATH | | | |
| | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | |





Fy 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$718,295 | 78.7% |
| Federal | \$193,936 | 21.3% |
| Gifts/Other | \$288 | 0.0% |
| | \$912,519 | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$414,328 | 45.7% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | \$53,390 | 5.9% |
| | \$467,718 | 51.6% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | \$18,613 | 2.1% |
| | \$486,331 | 53.7% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$99,468 | 12.8% |
| Supplies/Other | \$93,243 | 10.3% |
| | \$192,711 | 23.1% |
| Facility | \$144,151 | 15.9% |
| Student Transportation | \$66,043 | 7.3% |
| | \$889,236 | 100.0% |



*I am very pleased with my child's progress at Soul Academy.
Keep up the good work!*

- Parent, Soul Academy

| Parent Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|---|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction | | | | | | |
| • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | | 0% | 0% | 7% | 13% | 80% |
| 3. Safety | | | | | | |
| • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | | 7% | 0% | 0% | 7% | 86% |
| 4. Individualized Attention | | | | | | |
| • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | | 0% | 0% | 27% | 7% | 67% |
| 5. Teacher Quality | | | | | | |
| • The school's teachers are well qualified. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 7% | 93% |
| • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. | | 0% | 7% | 0% | 13% | 80% |
| • The school has high expectations for teachers. | | 7% | 0% | 20% | 7% | 67% |
| 6. School Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school's management provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 7% | 13% | 80% |
| • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | | 0% | 7% | 20% | 7% | 67% |
| 7. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building is clean. | | 0% | 7% | 7% | 33% | 53% |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 7% | 0% | 13% | 13% | 67% |
| 8. Transportation | | | | | | |
| • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | | 7% | 0% | 0% | 13% | 80% |
| 9. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | | 0% | 0% | 7% | 20% | 73% |
| 10. Behavior | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. | | 0% | 0% | 7% | 33% | 60% |
| • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | | 0% | 0% | 33% | 7% | 60% |

| Staff Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school leadership cares about the staff. | | | | | | |
| • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. | | | | | | |
| • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | | | | | | |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • The school board addresses the needs of the school. | | | | | | |
| • The school board supports the school leadership. | | | | | | |
| • The school board supports the teaching staff. | | | | | | |
| 3. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | | | | | |
| 4. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | | | | | | |
| 5. Team | | | | | | |
| • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | | | | | | |
| 6. Resources | | | | | | |
| • The school has adequate financial resources. | | | | | | |
| • I have sufficient classroom materials. | | | | | | |
| 7. Accountability | | | | | | |
| • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. | | | | | | |
| • I enjoy working at this school. | | | | | | |
| • The leadership provides adequate communication. | | | | | | |

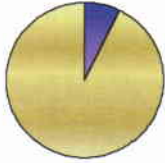
Did
Not
Participate

Enrollment: 251 Students

Grades Served: K-8

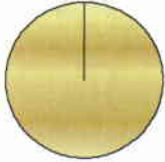
Adding one grade each year until grades K-12 attained

Racial:



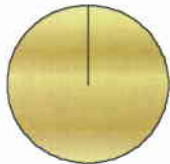
7% Students of Color

Economic:



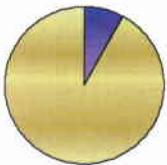
0% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch

Language:



0% English Language Learners

Special Education:

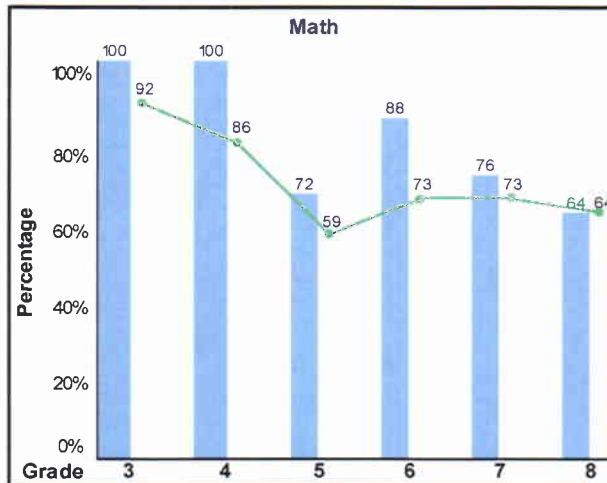
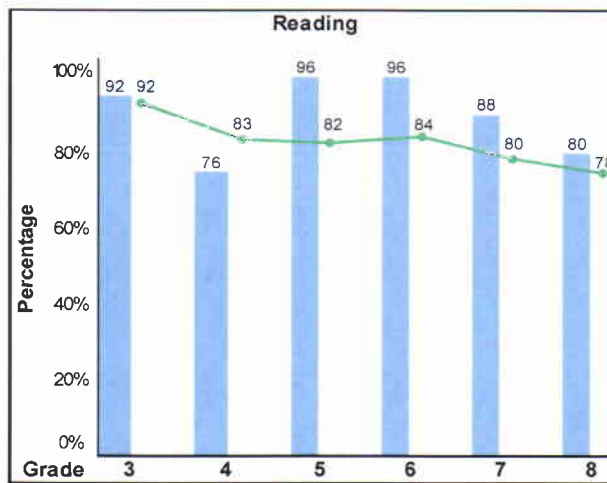


8% Special Education



St. Croix Preparatory Academy is founded by parents who believe that a quality education results from a partnership between parents, students and the school. The school and its parents believe St. Croix Preparatory Academy's vision for academic excellence and commitment to developing the personal character and leadership potential of each student cannot be fulfilled without parental involvement.

MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)



■ = St. Croix Preparatory Academy (Grades 3-8)
 ●— = Comparison Schools: Stonebridge Elementary (Grades 3-6) & Stillwater Jr. High (Grades 7-8)

Mission: St. Croix Preparatory Academy will develop each student's academic potential, personal character and leadership qualities through an academically rigorous and content-rich educational program grounded in the classical tradition.

Turnover

| Staff | | Student | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| | % 04/05 Staff Returned in 2005/06 | Grade | % 04/05 Students Returned in 2005/06 |
| Teachers | 79% | K | 100% |
| Media Specialists | 0% | 1 | 96% |
| Other Licensed Professionals | 100% | 2 | 100% |
| Paraprofessionals | 100% | 3 | 100% |
| Administrators | 100% | 4 | 96% |
| | | 5 | 96% |
| | | 6 | 96% |
| | | 7 | 96% |
| TOTAL | 86% | TOTAL | 98% |

AYP Results (all students)

| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|--|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| St. Croix Preparatory | 251 | Y | Y | Y | Y |
| Comparison Schools: Stonebridge Elementary & Stillwater Jr. High | 1,609 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

NWEA Measures of Academic Progress

| Grade | READING | | | MATH | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 3 | 88% | 20% | 30% | 96% | 46% | 42% |
| 4 | 84% | 24% | 40% | 96% | 48% | 44% |
| 5 | 92% | 20% | 52% | 100% | 28% | 64% |
| 6 | 92% | 12% | 40% | 96% | 32% | 44% |
| 7 | 92% | 36% | 44% | 96% | 8% | 76% |
| 8 | 92% | 28% | 44% | 92% | 28% | 56% |

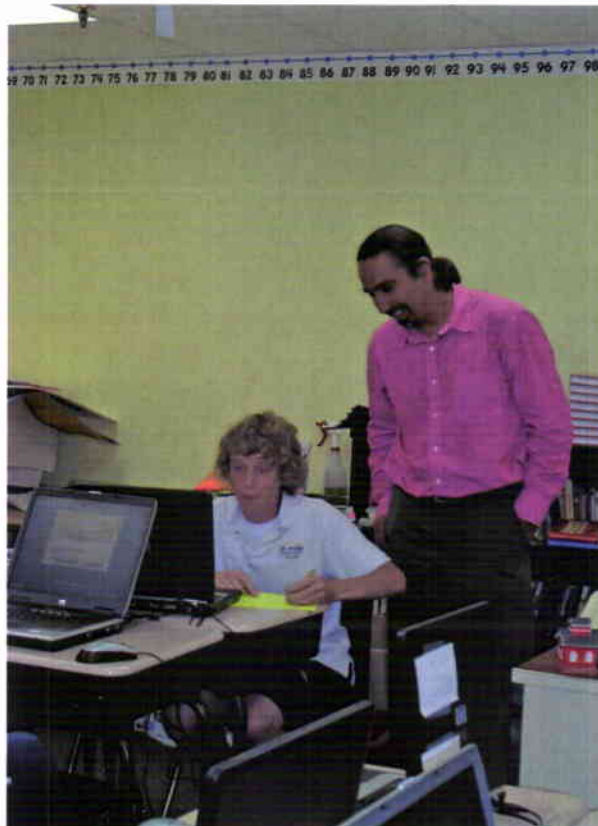
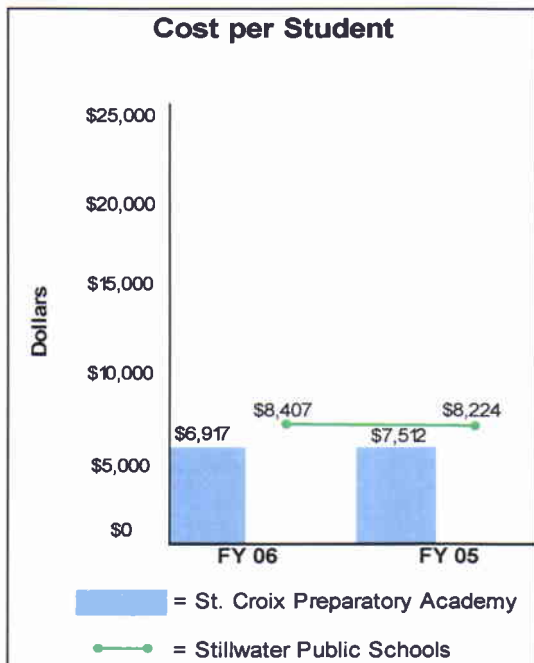


We get brain waves here.

I like getting smart.

- Kindergarten Student,

St. Croix Preparatory Academy



FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$1,524,836 | 87.3% |
| Federal | \$113,438 | 6.5% |
| Gifts/Other | <u>\$109,012</u> | 6.2% |
| | \$1,747,286 | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$822,282 | 48.1% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | <u>\$168,608</u> | 9.9% |
| | <u>\$990,890</u> | 58.0% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | <u>\$33,642</u> | 2.0% |
| | \$1,024,532 | 60.0% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$223,278 | 13.3% |
| Supplies/Other | <u>\$110,753</u> | 6.5% |
| | <u>\$334,031</u> | 19.8% |
| Facility | \$345,756 | 20.2% |
| Student Transportation | <u>\$0</u> | 0.0% |
| | \$1,704,319 | 100.0% |



Our children's academics have excelled.

- Parent, St. Croix Preparatory Academy

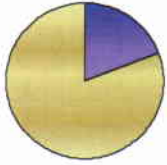
| Parent Survey Results | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|---|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Satisfaction | | | | | |
| • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | 0% | 2% | 1% | 26% | 71% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | |
| • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | 5% | 5% | 2% | 21% | 67% |
| 3. Safety | | | | | |
| • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | 0% | 4% | 7% | 22% | 67% |
| 4. Individualized Attention | | | | | |
| • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | 2% | 5% | 5% | 28% | 60% |
| 5. Teacher Quality | | | | | |
| • The school's teachers are well qualified. | 0% | 6% | 4% | 26% | 65% |
| • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. | 0% | 5% | 26% | 21% | 49% |
| • The school has high expectations for teachers. | 0% | 4% | 14% | 22% | 60% |
| 6. School Leadership | | | | | |
| • The school's management provides clear leadership. | 1% | 5% | 6% | 26% | 62% |
| • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | 4% | 6% | 9% | 15% | 67% |
| 7. Facility | | | | | |
| • The school building is clean. | 2% | 5% | 0% | 40% | 52% |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | 20% | 29% | 9% | 32% | 11% |
| 8. Transportation | | | | | |
| • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | 2% | 5% | 5% | 9% | 79% |
| 9. Class Size | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | 0% | 7% | 2% | 24% | 66% |
| 10. Behavior | | | | | |
| • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. | 0% | 6% | 4% | 27% | 63% |
| • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | 1% | 8% | 13% | 23% | 56% |

| Staff Survey Results | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| 1. Leadership | | | | | |
| • The school leadership cares about the staff. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 30% | 70% |
| • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | |
| • The school board addresses the needs of the school. | 0% | 0% | 10% | 20% | 70% |
| • The school board supports the school leadership. | 0% | 0% | 10% | 20% | 70% |
| • The school board supports the teaching staff. | 0% | 0% | 10% | 20% | 70% |
| 3. Facility | | | | | |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | 11% | 44% | 11% | 33% | 0% |
| 4. Class Size | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 33% | 67% |
| 5. Team | | | | | |
| • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 10% | 90% |
| 6. Resources | | | | | |
| • The school has adequate financial resources. | 0% | 0% | 40% | 10% | 50% |
| • I have sufficient classroom materials. | 0% | 10% | 0% | 20% | 70% |
| 7. Accountability | | | | | |
| • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. | 0% | 10% | 0% | 10% | 80% |
| • I enjoy working at this school. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 10% | 90% |
| • The leadership provides adequate communication. | 0% | 0% | 0% | 20% | 80% |

Enrollment: 166 Students

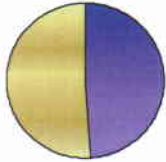
Grades Served: K-5

Racial:



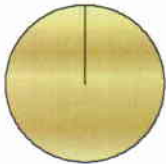
19% Students of Color

Economic:



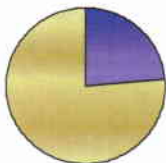
49% Receiving Free or Reduced Lunch

Language:



0% English Language Learners

Special Education:

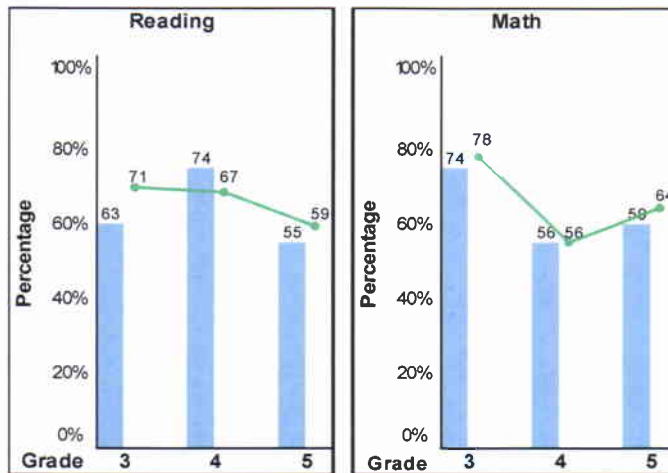


23% Special Education

Stride Academy expands existing educational options for students living in Central Minnesota in the St. Cloud, Sartell-St. Stephens, and Sauk Rapids-Rice School Districts. Stride offers challenging curriculum for all students in a year-round calendar. Classes meet on repeating "45-days on, 15-days off" cycles, throughout the year.

Using a synthesis of research-based and rigorous curriculum, students excel academically through real-life educational experiences in a challenging, caring, and student-centered environment.

MCA II Student Proficiency (Meets or exceeds standards)



■ = Stride Academy (Grades K-5)

● = Madison Elementary (Grades K-5)



AYP Results (all students)

| | Total # Students | Reading | Math | Attendance | Participation |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|---------|------|------------|---------------|
| Stride Academy | 79 | Y | Y | NA | Y |
| Comparison School: Madison Elementary | 505 | Y | Y | Y | Y |

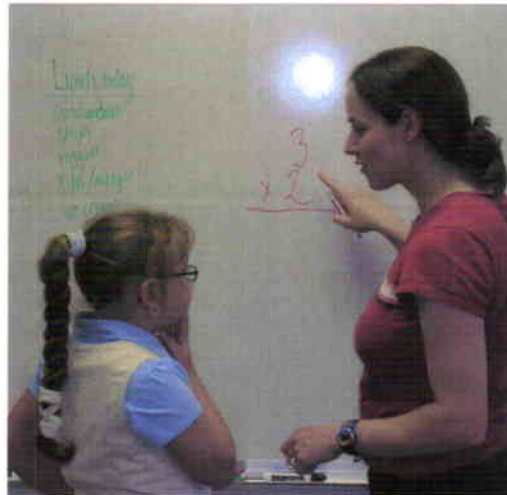
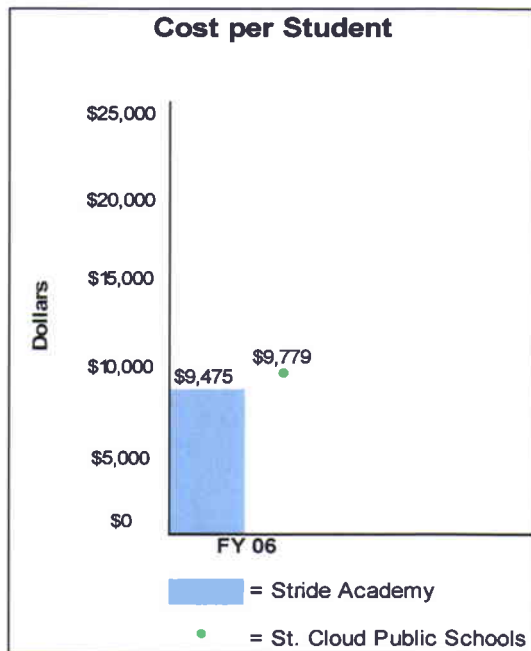
Mission: To offer an exceptional program focused on developing student foundational skills and knowledge in all core academic areas. By meeting each student's unique educational, emotional, and social needs, students are empowered to become responsible life-long learners and leaders.



| NWEA Measures of Academic Progress | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Grade | READING | | | | MATH | | | |
| | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels | % Proficient (At/Above Grade Level) | % Proficient for Students 2 Yrs in Program | % Students Increasing One Grade Level | % Students Increasing 2 or More Grade Levels |
| 3 | 77% | NA | 56% | 44% | 70% | NA | 71% | 24% |
| 4 | 59% | NA | 61% | 17% | 68% | NA | 61% | 17% |
| 5 | 70% | NA | 75% | 5% | 87% | NA | 70% | 26% |

I like Stride because it teaches math, reading, science and social studies and the class sizes are not too big so you can get help when you need it.

- Student, Stride Academy



FY 2006 Financial Report

| | Total | % of Total |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Revenue | | |
| State | \$1,161,291 | 79.2% |
| Federal | \$106,531 | 7.3% |
| Gifts/Other | \$198,136 | 13.5% |
| | <u>\$1,465,958</u> | 100.0% |
| Expenses | | |
| Instruction | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$522,188 | 35.8% |
| Classroom Supplies/Textbooks | <u>\$152,759</u> | 10.5% |
| | \$674,947 | 46.3% |
| Instructional & Pupil Support | <u>\$54,872</u> | 3.8% |
| | \$729,819 | 50.1% |
| Administration | | |
| Salaries/Benefits | \$235,270 | 17.5% |
| Supplies/Other | <u>\$107,738</u> | 7.4% |
| | \$343,008 | 24.9% |
| Facility | \$281,254 | 19.9% |
| Student Transportation | <u>\$73,889</u> | 5.1% |
| | <u>\$1,427,970</u> | 100.0% |

I like the principal and assistant principal; they are easy to talk to.

- Student, Stride Academy

| Parent Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|---|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Satisfaction | | | | | | |
| • Overall, I am satisfied with the school. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • I am happy with the frequency and content of communication I receive from the school. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| 3. Safety | | | | | | |
| • The school provides a safe environment for my child/children. | | 0% | 0% | 2% | 17% | 80% |
| 4. Individualized Attention | | | | | | |
| • My child/children receive individualized attention at the school. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| 5. Teacher Quality | | | | | | |
| • The school's teachers are well qualified. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| • The school holds teachers accountable for student performance. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| • The school has high expectations for teachers. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| 6. School Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school's management provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 4% | 31% | 63% | 3% |
| • School leaders are available and open to all members of the school community. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| 7. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building is clean. | | 0% | 0% | 3% | 11% | 86% |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| 8. Transportation | | | | | | |
| • I am satisfied with the school transportation options available to my family. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| 9. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are the right size. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| 10. Behavior | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the students in the school are well-behaved. | | 0% | 0% | 9% | 16% | 75% |
| • The school has the appropriate level of discipline. | | 0% | 12% | 22% | 60% | 5% |

| Staff Survey Results | | Disagree | Somewhat Disagree | Don't Know | Somewhat Agree | Agree |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Leadership | | | | | | |
| • The school leadership cares about the staff. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 22% | 78% |
| • The school leadership monitors the implementation of the curriculum. | | 0% | 0% | 11% | 56% | 33% |
| • The school leadership provides clear leadership. | | 0% | 11% | 0% | 67% | 22% |
| 2. Communication | | | | | | |
| • The school board addresses the needs of the school. | | 0% | 0% | 67% | 22% | 11% |
| • The school board supports the school leadership. | | 0% | 0% | 33% | 44% | 22% |
| • The school board supports the teaching staff. | | 0% | 0% | 44% | 56% | 0% |
| 3. Facility | | | | | | |
| • The school building adequately supports the school's programs. | | 11% | 45% | 0% | 22% | 22% |
| 4. Class Size | | | | | | |
| • Generally, the class sizes are about the right size. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| 5. Team | | | | | | |
| • The other teachers support and collaborate with me. | | 0% | 0% | 11% | 33% | 56% |
| 6. Resources | | | | | | |
| • The school has adequate financial resources. | | 0% | 22% | 11% | 67% | 0% |
| • I have sufficient classroom materials. | | 11% | 33% | 0% | 45% | 11% |
| 7. Accountability | | | | | | |
| • Teachers are accountable for student achievement and performance. | | 0% | 0% | 0% | 11% | 89% |
| • I enjoy working at this school. | | | | | | Question not asked |
| • The leadership provides adequate communication. | | | | | | Question not asked |

Content-Rich Curriculum: What it means

Classical Model

Summary: The Classical Model emphasizes the basics - math, history, language - and prescribes that they be taught in a particular way. The classical model is based on the three learning stages of children: Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric, collectively called the Trivium.

The Trivium

Grammar Phase: Students during this phase are adept at memorization and learn the factual foundation of each subject.

Logic Phase: During this phase, students begin to think independently and place facts into organized statements and arguments.

Rhetoric Phase: Once the student has obtained knowledge of facts (in the grammar phase) and developed the skills necessary to arrange those facts into

| Beginning Grammar | Grammar | Logic | Rhetoric |
|--|---|---|--|
| Grades K-2 | Grades 3-6 | Grades 6-9 | Grades 10-12 |
| Approx. ages 4-8 | Approx. ages 9-11 | Approx. ages 12-14 | Approx. ages 15-18 |
| Student Characteristics: | Student Characteristics: | Student Characteristics: | Student Characteristics: |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Obviously excited about learning Enjoys games, stories, songs, projects Short attention span Wants to touch, taste, feel, smell, see Imaginative, creative Likes chants, clever, repetitious word sounds (e.g. Dr. Seuss) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Excited about new, interesting facts Likes to explain, figure out, talk Wants to relate own experiences to topic, or just to tell a story Likes collections, organizing items Likes chants, clever, repetitious word sounds Easily memorizes Can assimilate another language well | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Still excitable, but needs challenges Judges, critiques, debates, critical Likes to organize items, others Shows off knowledge Wants to know "behind the scenes" facts Curious about Why? for most things Thinks, acts as though more knowledgeable than adults | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Concerned with present events, especially in own life Interested in justice, fairness Moving toward special interests, topics Can take on responsibility, independent work Can do synthesis Desires to express feelings, own ideas Generally idealistic |
| Teaching Methods: | Teaching Methods: | Teaching Methods: | Teaching Methods: |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Guide discovering Explore, find things Use lots of tactile items to illustrate point Sing, play games, chant, recite, color, draw, paint, build Use body movements Short, creative projects Show and Tell, drama, hear / read / tell stories Field trips Lay conceptual understanding of letters, numbers, associated meanings | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Lots of hands-on work, projects Field trips, drama Make collections, displays, models Integrate subjects through above means Teach and assign research projects Recitations, memorization Drills, games Oral/written presentations | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Time lines, charts, maps (visual materials) Debates, persuasive reports Drama, reenactments, role-playing Evaluate, critique (with guidelines) Formal logic Research projects Oral/written presentations Guest speakers, trips | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Drama, oral presentations Guide research in major areas with goal of synthesis of ideas Many papers, speeches, debates Give responsibilities, e.g. working with younger students, organize activities In depth field trips, even overnight World view discussion/written papers |

Derived from "The Lost Tools of Learning" by Dorothy Sayers, (Copyright by Tom Garfield)

Additional Schools

Friends of Ascension sponsored charter schools opened in the fall 2006 are:

- Beacon Preparatory School, a core-knowledge school opened with grade 6, expanding one grade level each year until grades 6-12 achieved, in Plymouth, Minnesota.
- Cygnus Academy, a core-knowledge grade 6-8 school, in Anoka, Minnesota.
- New Salem Academy, a core-knowledge school opened with grades K-2, expanding one grade level each year until K-5 achieved, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- Seven Hills Classical Academy, a core-knowledge K-5 school, in Bloomington, Minnesota.
- Yinghua Academy, a core knowledge Chinese Immersion school, opened K-3, expanding one grade level each year until K-5 achieved, in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Nova Classical Academy, a St. Paul charter school following the classical model, opened in the fall 2003 and became sponsored by Friends of Ascension effective July 1, 2006.

For more information about Friends of Ascension or developing a content-rich charter school, contact:

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Wayzata, MN 55391