

2003-2004 Annual Report

Lowell Community Charter Public School

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Dear LCCPS Community:

Each school year has had a significant theme at Lowell Community Charter Public School. During the 2003-04 school year we reflected on our first four years of operation and focused our attention on the school's future. The results of our reflections are summarized by our first charter re-certification application which has been submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Education (DOE). We look forward with excitement and optimism to the DOE's recognition of the hard work we are doing here culminating in the renewal of our charter.

I believe we are transitioning out a time of questioning and uncertainty regarding our capacity to deliver a comprehensive educational program for our largely minority population of Hispanic, Cambodian and African-American students. Our MCAS results indicate we are moving in the right direction. This is evident in the results of the most recent test where 89% of our 3rd grade students scored a passing grade on the 3rd grade MCAS Reading Exam, a significant improvement from the 63% who received a passing score the previous year. In other areas, the percentage of LCCPS students achieving a passing score increased by at least 18% in each of the areas tested by MCAS.

We have momentum and we are not going to look back, as we focus on the tasks ahead of us. We will continue to build on our strong reading curriculum. A *Success For All* internal assessment conducted in the winter of 2003 showed over 85% of our students reading at or above grade level. We will continue to reinforce our students' ethnic background with their native languages and cultures. We continue with our trademark policy of teaching a second language to all our students starting in kindergarten. Our 7.5 school hour daily program and two week extended school year should enable us to continue to improve on all aspects of MCAS.

Our financial health and viability as a school remain strong. Our enrollment went from 470 in school year 2002-03 to 554 in 2003-04. For the upcoming year enrollment will be 651. As per our charter, we will continue to expand by one grade each year. For the 2004-05 school year, we have added a 7th grade component to our school. We will continue to add a grade each year until we are a fully functioning school serving students from kindergarten through grade 12. The Board has secured space, in the same facility, to accommodate this growth.

The following are the amendments and major policies changes implemented during the 2003-04 school year:

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2. Board Committee and Members

| Officials | Governance Expertise | Occupation | Term of Appointment |
|---|---|---|---|
| Chairman <i>Mr. Roman Jaquez</i> * Finance Subcommittee * Facility Subcommittee | Extensive experience in business management and community service volunteer | Electrical Engineer and Business Owner | 2 nd Term to end January 19, 2005 |
| Vice Chairman <i>Mr. Thel Sar</i> * Personnel Subcommittee | Expert on local family issues, Liaison to Cambodian community | Probation Officer | 1 st Term to end November 15, 2005 |
| Treasurer Dennis Demuth * Finance Subcommittee | Financial and investment management expert | Investment and Financial Planning Officer | 1 st Term to end August 24, 2007 |
| Secretary <i>Ms. Susan Johnston*</i> Personnel Subcommittee | Public school expert | Retired public school Speech and Language Pathologists. | 1 st term to end February 25, 2006 |
| Consultant <i>Mr. Richard Chavez</i> (ex officio) * Finance Subcommittee * Facility Subcommittee | Financial management expert | Commercial Lending Officer | No expiration |
| Members | Governance Expertise | Occupation | |
| <i>Dr. Heli Hernandez</i> Personnel Subcommittee Recruitment Subcommittee | Liaison to higher education, liaison to Hispanic community | Professor of Spanish Literature | 2 nd term to end January 19, 2005 |
| <i>Mr. Pahim Kay</i> | Liaison to Cambodian community and culture | Health Advocate | 2 nd term to end January 19, 2005 |
| <i>Mr. Michael Vann</i> Personnel Subcommittee Recruitment Subcommittee | Liaison to Cambodian youth and families. | Juvenile Probation Officer | 2 nd term to end January 19, 2007 |
| <i>Ms. Paulette Renault-Caragianes</i> * Finance Subcommittee | Expert on charter schools, management, governance | Lowell Community Health Center | 1 st term to end December 9, 2006 |
| <i>Ms. Vichney Keo-Sam</i> * Personnel Subcommittee | Expert on family services, Cambodian community | Casey Family Services, Social Worker | 1 st term to end December 9, 2006 |
| <i>Dr. Allen Scheier,</i> * Finance Subcommittee * Personnel Subcommittee* | Veteran public school teacher and advocate, Ed. Policy & Governance | High School Teacher, Mathematics | 1 st term to end May 25, 2007 |

| | | |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Staff Development | - | 9,157 |
| Staff Development - Grant 274 | | 6,000 |
| Staff Development - Grant 140 | | 20,943 |
| Staff Development - Reading 1 | - | - |
| Curriculum Dev-Success For All | - | - |
| Textbooks | 13,680 | 30,000 |
| Textbooks - Title I (305) | 7,000 | 14,534 |
| Textbooks (T-5) | 6,320 | 6,320 |
| Textbooks - Reading 1st | 86,945 | - |
| Other direct educational expenses (Reading Grant) | | 142,638 |
| Success For All - Text | 20,000 | 30,000 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| TOTAL Educational Expenses | 246,873 | 363,882 |
| | | |
| Facility Costs | | |
| Rent | 237,817 | 252,817 |
| Rent - Facilities (533) | 77,183 | 77,183 |
| Rent-landlord renovations | 227,025 | 140,000 |
| Rent - CAM charges | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Telecommunications | 15,000 | 16,500 |
| Telecommunications-Fed S/U | - | - |
| Internet Access | - | - |
| Maintenance-Building | 26,250 | 28,875 |
| Janitorial Supplies | 5,000 | 7,000 |
| Utilities | 72,000 | 72,000 |
| Security | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Waste Removal | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| TOTAL Facility Costs | 774,275 | 708,375 |
| | | |
| Administrative Costs | | |
| Misc. Admin Expense | 10,000 | 11,025 |
| Bank charges | 500 | - |
| Copier Lease | 4,200 | 4,200 |
| Insurance | 30,000 | 31,500 |
| Maintenance - Office Equip | 7,200 | 7,560 |
| Marketing/Development | 7,000 | 20,000 |
| Postage | 7,500 | 7,875 |
| Printing & Copier Supplies | 6,000 | 11,315 |
| Printing&CopySupp-Reading 1st | 4,776 | - |
| Office Supplies | 15,750 | 16,538 |
| Student & Staff Recruitment | 1,500 | 5,000 |
| Student /Staff Recruit-Fed S/ | - | - |
| Travel & Mileage | 3,675 | 19,225 |
| Travel-Grant 274 | 1,220 | - |
| Travel - Reading 1st | 14,330 | - |
| Contingency | - | - |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

