

ADVANCED MATH AND SCIENCE ACADEMY
CHARTER SCHOOL



Education for the Future

Annual Report
2007-2008

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Letter from the Chair of the Board of Trustees

I am pleased to submit the third annual report for the Advanced Math and Science Academy (AMSA) Charter School. AMSA has grown in its third year to a vital community of 41 teachers, 12 administrators and 529 students. Coming into its fourth year, AMSA has enrolled 230 new students, added two 6th grade classes, one 7th grade class, and continues to have a waiting list.

This year our students have made great strides in mastering AMSA's challenging curriculum. Our second MCAS results are comparable to the best school districts in the state. AMSA students ranked on average in the top 6% on all 6 through 8th MCAS tests, in the top 5% on the 6th through 8th grade Math tests, and in the top 3% on the 8th grade Science and Technology test.

Perhaps the most vivid evidence of AMSA's high quality education and the love of learning our students exhibit is the degree of success our students have achieved in the American Math Competitions, winning Honor Roll status. 8 students participated in the Mathcounts Competition placing 2nd in the region and 4th place in Massachusetts, scoring ahead of Sage (a private school for gifted students) and Meadowbrook (a private school in Weston with advanced math and science education). AMSA students participated in numerous competitions winning many awards and honors; MathMovesU, Destination Imagination, Speech and Debate, Latin Certamen, WPI Regional Science Fair, Scrabble competition, Regional History Day, State History Day (going to the national competition), National Sealed Air Award competition, TiE Young Entrepreneurs Business Plan competition and a music performance at Carnegie Hall.

AMSA's new athletics program has been a great success with 125 students participating throughout the year. In addition to the athletics program, over 180 students (per trimester), participated in the After School Programs which included activities such as music, dance, chess, cheerleading, Chinese, drama, scrabble and martial arts.

We are blessed with a strong parent community, which supported the school with thousands of volunteer hours and with financial contributions. The Parent Action Group worked in committees to plan student social events, coordinate fundraising campaigns, organize the school library, and initiated programs to support students and their families.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank all the members of the AMSA community who have fostered the success of the school in its first three academic years.

Anna Charny, Chair, Board of Trustees

Mission Statement

The Advanced Math and Science Academy (AMSA) charter School will create a learning environment that celebrates knowledge and where children of all backgrounds and abilities will excel in all subjects, especially math, science, and technology, enabling them to succeed in the workplace of a modern world.

Introduction

The AMSA Charter School was chartered by the Massachusetts Department of Education in February 2004 and opened in September 2005 with 239 students in 6th and 7th grades. AMSA Charter School started its second school year, 2006-07, with 414 students in grades 6, 7 and 8. We opened our third school year, 2007-08 with 523 students. AMSA plans to enroll 138 students in 6th grade each year; it will reach a full capacity of 828 students in 6th through 12th grade by 2010.

AMSA Charter School's model is centered on rigorous college-oriented education for all students. The AMSA teaching philosophy involves starting challenging abstract learning, typically expected for high school students, early-in the middle school. The advanced learning is supported by multi-year exposure to fundamental math, science and humanity courses that are highly structured and sequentially organized with emphasis on the interdisciplinary connections.

AMSA will ensure that all its graduates will reach high standards and plans to support examinations for all students, such as the SAT and the AP, with the goal of achieving admission to the best colleges.

AMSA is located in the City of Marlborough, in the high tech "belt" of Interstate Route 495. The area hosts several industrial giants such as Intel, Raytheon, HP, EMC, and others. AMSA believes that advanced math and science education at AMSA will provide a mutual long-term benefit for the area and the school. From its first year, AMSA has worked with the community, parents, and leaders of industry and academia to achieve these goals.

AMSA students come from many communities beyond the Marlborough area. These communities include: Andover, Ashland, Berlin, Bolton, Clinton, Framingham, Grafton, Harvard, Holden, Holliston, Hopkinton, Hudson, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Maynard, Mendon, Natick, Newton, North Andover, Northborough, Shirley, Shrewsbury, South Grafton, Southborough, Sterling, Stow, Sudbury, Townsend, Uxbridge, Westborough, Westford, Worcester and Wrentham.

Summary of Educational Philosophy

Vision

The Founders of AMSA believe that children with a wide range of abilities can achieve a world-class education if given an opportunity to apply themselves diligently. AMSA's goal is to bring high quality education, typically available only at exclusive private or exam schools, to an all-inclusive public school setting where children of diverse backgrounds can participate.

The "Advanced" in AMSA's name indicates the expectation that every student will become an advanced student. AMSA's innovative educational approach ensures that students previously considered "not capable" or "underachievers" will reach a level of knowledge that is currently considered reachable by only a few talented students. "Middle achievers" will find themselves enthusiastic, engaged, and passionate about learning. Those who are chronically under-challenged and bored will thrive.

Teaching Principles

AMSA's vision is implemented using the teaching approach based on a firm belief that all children are capable of learning abstract concepts at an early age and building on them as they develop. The following principles shape curriculum and instruction at AMSA:

- Differentiated sequential multi-year curriculum
- Emphasis on theory and fundamental concepts
- The same program for all students with attention to every child
- Multiple achievement levels in math related subjects
- Commitment to teach all topics in logical sequence to all students in grades 6-11
- AMSA students will be able to pass AP exams in all major subjects
- Specialization options in 12th grade: Math/Physics/Computer Science, Biology/Chemistry and Humanities

The core of AMSA's educational model is a highly structured curriculum consisting of continuous, logically organized, and interconnected multi-year courses in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Information Technology/Computer Science/Engineering Design (IT/CS/ED), World Geography, World History, World Literature, English, Foreign Languages, Art, and Physical Education.

Accountability Plan and Results

Summary of Goals

To achieve its long-term goal of excellence in education, AMSA must ensure that every year the specific goals and objectives are met. The goals and objectives are summarized in the Accountability Plan submitted to the Department of Education in July 2006. These goals are summarized in brief below and listed on the following pages in greater detail, along with specific measurement tools and results for the 2007-08 school year.

Goal 1: All students at AMSA Charter School will demonstrate high levels of academic accomplishment on both internal and external measures.

Goal 2: AMSA Charter School will create a learning environment that celebrates knowledge.

Goal 3: AMSA Charter School will provide opportunity to students of all abilities to achieve the best results.

Goal 4: AMSA Charter School will maintain strong parental support and commitment to the school.

Goal 5: AMSA Charter School will demonstrate sound fiscal practices.

Goal 6: The AMSA Board of Trustees will provide sound and effective governance.

Goal 7: AMSA will maintain a stable and highly professional faculty and staff, satisfied with the working conditions and actively involved in professional development.

Is the School an Academic Success?

Goal 1: All AMSA students will demonstrate high levels of academic accomplishment on both internal and external measures.

Specific Measures:

- 95% of AMSA Charter School students will get a passing grade on every subject yearly grade and annual exam based on AMSA Internal standards.

2007-08 Performance: Internal assessment included graded class work, homework, quizzes, tests, and final exams. 99.3% of all students received passing grades in English Language and 98% of all students received yearly passing grades in World Literature; 99.8% of all students received passing yearly grades in Mathematics; 100% of all students received passing grades in History; 99.3 percent of all students received a passing yearly grade in Geography; More than 95% of all students who took Biology, Chemistry and Physics, received a passing yearly grade. This measure has been met.

- At least 80% of the students at AMSA Charter School who have been enrolled for at least one full year will score in the Advanced or Proficient categories on all MCAS sub-tests.

2007-08 Performance: This measure has been met.

- The AMSA students enrolled for at least one full year will score on all MCAS sub-tests at least 8% higher when compared with their peers in the sending districts and a least 15% higher when compared with the Massachusetts state average.

2006-07 Performance: This measure has been met.

2007-08 Performance: Data not available until the fall of 2008.

- AMSA Charter School will rank in the top 15% of secondary schools statewide on the basis of the percent of students in Advanced and Proficient categories.

2006-07 Performance: This measure has been met.

2007-08 Performance: Data not available until the fall of 2008.

- Each year all grade-level cohorts will demonstrate, on average, an improvement of at least two national Curve Equivalent points (NCEs) on the annually administered Terra Nova Test (or another National standardized test as selected by administration) until the cohorts achieve an average of 70 NCEs, at which point the cohorts will maintain or improve their level of performance.

2007-08 Performance: The Administration concurred that the performance of the AMSA students is more advanced than the Terra Nova are constructed to evaluate. Therefore, the Administration has spent the year investigating alternate tests and will be requesting a change to the existing AMSA Charter to reflect alternate testing options.

- The school makes Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in the aggregate and for all statistically significant sub-groups. The school is not identified for accountability purposes (not designated as in Needs Improvement, Corrective Action, or Restructuring).

2007-08 Performance: AYP status remained the same.

Is the School Faithful to the Terms of its Charter?

Goal 2: AMSA Charter School will create a learning environment that celebrates knowledge.

Specific Measures:

- 90% of AMSA students will participate in at least one national math or science competition. AMSA students will also participate in two other state or regional academic competitions per year.

2007-08 Performance: AMSA students participated in five Mathematics competitions.

1. **AMC 8** (American Mathematics Competition- 8th grade level): 403 students from the 6th, 7th and 8th grades participated in the AMC 8 competition. Major achievements include the "School Certificate of Honor for a Team Score of 66 or Better," fifteen U.S. Honor Roll awards (for those who scored 17 or more points), three U.S. distinguished Honor Roll awards (for those who scored not less than 21 points, and one student on the U.S.A. Merit Roll.

2. **AMC 10** (American Mathematics Competition -10th grade level): 95 students from the 9th grade and 25 students from the 7th and 8th grades participated in the AMC 10 competition. Eight students received the Young Student Certificate of Achievement for a score of 90 or above. One student qualified to participate in the American Invitational Mathematics Examination (AIME).
3. **AIME** (American Invitational Mathematics Examination-12th grade level). One student from the 7th grade participated in the AIME, receiving a certificate of mention.
4. **MathCounts 2008**: Participating AMSA Students won 2nd Place in the Region and 4th Place in Massachusetts. AMSA students scored ahead of traditionally winning schools such as Sage (a private school for gifted students) and Meadowbrook (a private school in Weston with advanced math and science education).
5. **MathMovesU 2007-08**: Seven students won \$1,000.00 scholarships towards college with matching gifts to the Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School.

In addition, the Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School participated in the following competitions and events:

1. **Latin Certamen Competitions 2007-08**
 - 2nd Place - Lunenburg High School Certamen
 - 2nd Place - Boston Latin Certamen
 - 2nd Place - Harvard University Certamen
2. **Science Fair 2008**
 - WPI Regional Science Fair: two 2nd Place and three 3rd Place awards
 - Two projects received the Cleantech Award.

 - State Science Fair: one 1st Place, one 3rd Place and Clean Energy Award
 - Three students received Honorable Mention.
3. **Scrabble Competition 2008**
 - 3rd Place at the National Scrabble Championship
 - The AMSA team was the Massachusetts top team with a record of 5 wins.

4. **History Day 2008**

1st Place in the Regional History Day

2nd Place in the State History Day, going to the national competition

5. **National Sealed Air Award competition 2008**

AMSA student won 3rd Place for invention of the Carpal cushion for Carpal Syndrome patients (patent is pending).

6. **TiE Young Entrepreneurs (TYE) Business Plan Competition**

1st Place and a \$10,000.00 award from TiE-Boston

7. **Carnegie Hall 2008**

Piano performance and Certificate of Excellence

8. **Destination Imagination**

Regional competition, middle school level: two 1st Places, one 4th Place

Regional competition, high school level: 3rd Place

State competition, middle school level: 3rd and 6th Place

9. **Speech and Debate Competition 2007-08**

Nashoba Brooks Speech Invitational Tournament: 2nd and 4th Place in Original Oratory, 6th Place in Impromptu Speaking

Massachusetts Middle School Forensic League Competition: 1st and 5th Place in Impromptu Speaking and 4th Place in Original Oratory; and competed against more than 200 students from some of the most established and strong speech and debate middle schools including Milton Academy, Pike School and R.J. Graves.

The measure has been met.

- A Parent Satisfaction Survey will be conducted that will demonstrate AMSA's academic program meets or exceeds expectations of at least 75% of the responding parents (at least 35% of the parents will respond to the survey).

2007-08 Performance: AMSA conducted a Parent Satisfaction Survey based on 10 academic characteristics of the school. 263 surveys were returned. 83% of the parents ranked the school

performance as meets or exceeds expectations. More than 50% of the parents responded to the survey. This measure has been met.

Goal 3: AMSA Charter School will provide opportunity to students of all abilities to achieve the best results.

Specific Measures:

- AMSA Charter School curriculum will maintain structure as specified in the charter at all times: multi-year courses in the 10-13 subjects and the same academic courses for all students in 6-11 grades.

2007-08 Performance: The 2007-08 curriculum was structured as specified in the AMSA Charter.

All students had thirty-five (35) academic periods per week. Ten subjects (Math, Computer Science, Biology, Geography, History, English Language, World literature, Foreign Language, Art and Physical Education) were taught to all students in 6th grade. The 7th, 8th and 9th grade students were taught thirteen subjects; Algebra, Geometry, Computer Science, Biology, Geography, History, English Language, World Literature, Foreign Language, Art, Physics, Chemistry and Physical Education. The measure has been met.

- At least two levels of challenge will be provided in at least three subjects.

2007-08 Performance: All core subjects were taught on three levels of difficulty, where approximately one class was taught on the lowest level, three classes were taught on the second level and two classes were taught on the highest level. The measure has been met.

- Each full-time teacher will provide to his/her students at least 45 minutes per week of additional help.

2007-08 Performance: To support students in danger of failing, each full-time teacher provided at least 45 minutes per week of additional help to his/her students in the after-school hours. The measure has been met.

Is the School a Viable Organization?

Goal 4: AMSA Charter School will maintain strong parental support and commitment to the school.

Specific Measures:

- AMSA will demonstrate community support by filling all available seats in 6th grade and maintaining a waiting list of at least 30 students.

2007-08 Performance: In September of 2007, all 148 available 6th grade seats were filled. There was a waiting list of 37. The measure has been met.

- AMSA parents will maintain the parent Action Group (PAG) with active Executive committee. PAG or its committees will meet at least 10 times per year.

2007-08 Performance: The AMSA Parent Action Group (PAG) has maintained its structure and activities. The PAG has met every month (10) during the school year and once in the summer. Individual PAG committees meet independently. The measure has been met.

- AMSA will conduct an annual Parent Satisfaction Survey. At least 35% of the surveys will be returned and 75% of the returned surveys will grade the school's performance characteristics (averaged over all survey questions): "somewhat satisfied", "satisfied", or "very satisfied".

2007-08 Performance: AMSA conducted a parent satisfaction survey based on 10 academic characteristics of the school. 263 surveys were returned. 83% of the parents ranked the school performance as "very satisfied", "satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied". The measure has been met.

Goal 5: AMSA Charter School will demonstrate sound fiscal practices.

Specific Measures:

- A balanced budget will be approved annually by the Board of Trustees.

2007-08 Performance: The Board approved a balanced 2007-08 budget. The measure was met.

- The AMSA internal financial statements will be approved monthly by the Board of Trustees.

2007-08 Performance: At every monthly Board of Trustees meeting, the Board reviewed and approved the financial report submitted by the Executive Director and the Finance Committee. The measure has been met.

- Annual audited financial statements will demonstrate that AMSA Charter School responsibly manages public funds.

2007-08 Performance: AMSA's finances have been audited by the accounting firm of *Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Co.* and submitted to the D.O.E. in December 2007. The audit results demonstrated sound financial practices and stable financial status of the school. The measure has been met.

- The AMSA Board of Trustees will undertake an annual fund drive with the goal of raising \$50,000.00 each year.

2007-08 Performance: The fund drive raised \$85,000.00. This measure has been met.

Goal 6: The AMSA Board of Trustees will provide sound and effective governance.

Specific Measures:

- 90% of AMSA Charter School Board of Directors members will contribute to the organization annually, through financial and/or in-kind donations.

2007-08 Performance: This measure has been met.

- At least 90% of AMSA Charter School Board of Trustees meetings will have a quorum.

2007-08 Performance: This measure has been met.

Goal 7: AMSA will maintain a stable and highly professional faculty and staff, satisfied with the working conditions and actively involved in professional development.

Specific Measures:

- Voluntary teacher and staff turnover will not exceed 10% per year except for retirement, moving, family or health reasons.

2007-08 Performance: Three teachers (7%) resigned for reasons other than retirement, moving, family or health reasons.

- At least 70% of the staff will participate in the annual staff survey on the job satisfaction and at least 70% of the returned surveys will be on average “somewhat satisfied”, “satisfied”, or “very satisfied” with working at AMSA.

2007-08 Performance: 66% of the staff participated in the annual staff survey. Out of the 66% that participated, 73% responded, on average, that they were “somewhat satisfied”, “satisfied”, or “very satisfied” with working at AMSA. This measure has not been met.

- At least 90% of the faculty at AMSA Charter School will participate in a minimum of 25 total hours per year of internal and external professional development.

2007-08 Performance: AMSA provided 2 weeks of professional development to new and veteran teachers prior to school start in September 2007. There were 4 (full day) professional development days scheduled during the school year.

In addition, faculty professional development participation was on-going throughout the school year: 5 teachers went to California for a dynamic 5 day teacher mentoring conference; 2 Special Education teachers attended a 2 day Special Education seminar; 2 English teachers attended a 1 day ELA workshop; and a Latin teacher participated in a 2 day Classical Language workshop. The AMSA faculty is actively encouraged to participate in professional development opportunities.

This measure has been met.

Summary of External Standardized Test Results: MCAS

2007 Spring MCAS test results

Percentage of Students at Each Performance Level

Grade and Subject	Advanced/Above Proficient		Proficient		Needs Improvement		Warning/Failing		Students Included	CPI
	School	State	School	State	School	State	School	State		
Grade 06 English Language Arts	20	9	71	58	8	25	0	7	147	97.6
Grade 06 Mathematics	53	20	33	32	11	28	3	20	148	93.8
Grade 07 English Language Arts	35	9	55	60	9	23	1	8	141	96.6
Grade 07 Mathematics	37	15	38	31	16	30	8	24	142	87.3
Grade 08 English Language Arts	27	12	64	63	8	18	0	6	118	97.0
Grade 08 Mathematics	45	17	31	28	18	30	5	25	115	88.7
Grade 08 Science & Technology	13	3	55	30	28	44	4	24	115	86.3

The 2007 MCAS test results indicate that AMSA students have performed far above the state average in all grades for Mathematics and Science & Technology. The English Language Arts scores were above state averages in all but one category, 7th grade Proficient. This may be reflective of significantly higher number of students in the advanced levels and significantly lower numbers in the needs improvement and warning levels.

20 percent of 6th graders scored *Advanced or Above Proficient* in English Language Arts, and 71 percent of 6th graders scored *Proficient* in English Language Arts with a CPI of 97.6 percent. 53 percent of 6th graders scored *Advanced or Above Proficient* in Mathematics, and 33 percent scored *Proficient* in Mathematics with a CPI of 93.8 percent.

35 percent of 7th graders scored *Advanced or Above Proficient* in English Language Arts, and 33 percent of 7th graders scored *Proficient* in English Language Arts with a CPI or 93.8 percent. 37 percent of 7th graders scored *Advanced or Above Proficient* in Mathematics, and 38 percent scored *Proficient* in Mathematics, with a CPI or 87.3 percent.

27 percent of 8th graders scored *Advanced or Above Proficient* in English Language Arts, and 64 percent of 8th graders scored *Proficient* in English Language Arts, with a CPI of 97.0 percent. 45 percent of 8th graders scored *Advanced or Above Proficient* in Mathematics, and 31 percent scored *Proficient* in Mathematics with a CPI of 88.7 percent. 13 percent of 8th graders scored *Advanced or Above Proficient* in Science & Technology, and 55 percent of 8th graders scored *Proficient* in Science & Technology, with a CPI of 86.3 percent.

Summary of Internal Assessment Results

Internal Assessment included graded class work, homework, essays, quizzes, quarterly tests in all subjects, and final projects/exams in English Language, World Literature, Math, Computer Science, World History, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

During the year, internal assessment results were collected and analyzed on a weekly basis. The process included the following steps: The subject teachers identified students in danger of failing in their respective subjects, determined gaps in knowledge and communicated them to the homeroom teachers. The homeroom teachers collected the data for their homeroom classes and reported to the parents/guardians. The homeroom teachers and the Department Heads assessed the overall students' performance and discussed specific remediation plans with the subject teachers.

AMSA 2007-08 High Honor and Honor Roll

	High Honor	Honor	Total
6th Grade	7	50	57 (40%)
7th Grade	15	50	65 (46%)
8th Grade	4	40	44 (37%)
9th Grade	6	37	37 (39%)

Definitions: High Honor Roll: Grades in all (10-12) academic subjects are A or A+ (above 92.50 percent). Honor roll: Grades of B or higher (above 82.50 percent) in all academic subjects and no more than a total of three Bs.

AMSA's 2007-08 School Year Calendar and Instructional Structure

AMSA Charter School opened on September 4, 2007 and was open for instruction for 180 days, with the last day of school on June 19th. AMSA was closed for 10 federal and state holidays, three one-week vacations and one snow day, adding one school day in June.

AMSA's school structure consisted of seven 50 minute academic periods per day with a 10 minute Homeroom in the morning, a 10 minute morning snack break, a 30 minutes lunch break and a second 10 minute Homeroom period at the end of the day; providing 35 academic periods per week. The school day started at 8:05 AM and ended at 3:15 PM.

Members of the Board of Trustees

Dr. Anna Charny, Chair: Affiliated with Cisco Systems, Inc.
Elected to office in February 2007, with term ending in February 2010

John Bayle: Affiliated with EMC
Elected to office in May 2006, with term ending in May 2009
Committees: Governance, Fundraising, Executive Director Evaluation Task Force

Raymond DeMeo: Affiliated with Invention Machine Corporation
Elected to office in December 2005, with term ending in December 2008
Committee: Fundraising

Paul Garrido: Affiliated with Merrill Lynch
Elected to office January 2005, with term ending in January 2008
Committee: Fundraising

Thomas Hanson: Affiliated with Kronos Inc.
Elected to office in October 2007, with term ending in May 2008
Committee: Fundraising (Chair), Executive Director Evaluation Task Force

Andrzej Herczynski: Affiliated with Boston College
Elected to office in February 2004, with term ending in February of 2009
Committee: Fundraising

Dr. Robert Ledoux, Vice Chair and Treasurer: Affiliated with Passport Systems
Elected to office in December 2005, with term ending in December 2008
Committee: Finance (Chair)

Anton Teodorescu: Affiliated with IBM
Elected to office in May 2005, with term ending in May 2008
Committees: Governance (Chair), Fundraising, Executive Director Evaluation Task Force

Sandra Witkos: Affiliated with the Marlborough-Hudson Ambulance Service
Elected to office in January 2006, with term ending in January 2009
Committees: Fundraising, Executive Director Evaluation Task Force

Henry Haugland: Affiliated with Webreply, Inc.

Elected to office in March 2007, with term ending in March 2010

Committee: Fundraising

Jay Sweeney: AMSA Charter School

Elected to office January 2007, with term ending January 2009

Committee: Faculty Representative, Fundraising

Catherine Koepper: Affiliated with Genzyme Corporation

Elected to office March 2007, with term ending in June 2008

Committee: Parent Representative

All major policy decisions are under review by the new Executive Director.

Charter Amendments have not been submitted to the Commissioner or the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Charter Amendments are under review by the new Executive Director.

Summary of Official Complaints received by the Board of Trustees

1. Complaint from a parent who was unhappy with his child's academic placement. His repeated attempts to reach administration to discuss it were not successful. Resolution: The Board of Trustees Chair contacted the Executive Director; the issue was resolved, and placement was adjusted. The Executive director was advised to improve communication.
2. Complaint from a group of parents regarding a lack of advanced Math curriculum for gifted students. Their repeated attempts to discuss this with the administration were not successful. Resolution: The Board of Trustees Chair contacted the Executive Director; a pull-out program for advanced learners was instituted. The Executive Director was given the task of defining future advanced student programs.
3. Complaint from a group of parents regarding employment decisions made by the administration. Resolution: The Board of Trustees Chair informed the complaining party that the decision was within the domain of the administration, and all the decisions were consistent with school policy.

4. Complaint from parents about consistent conflict between their daughter and a teacher. The parents felt the administration does not hold teachers responsible for violation of school policies or specifically behavior by this teacher they felt was harmful to their child. Resolution: The issue was discussed at the Executive session. The teacher involved was asked to write a formal apology, which he did. He was put on probation and eventually terminated after several similar complaints were made to the administration.

5. Complaint about poor communication with teachers. Parents repeatedly attempted to get information from a teacher regarding academic context and progress of their child, but did not get adequate response. Resolution: The Chair contacted the Executive Director and the issue was resolved to the satisfaction of the parents.

6. Complaint from a family who moved to a different state. They said they could not get a transcript that reflected their child's credits, despite multiple attempts to contact the administration. Resolution: The Chair contacted the Executive Director, who contacted the new school and provided the necessary information.

7. Complaint from an employee alleging discrimination based on nationality. Resolution: The Executive Director discussed the issue with the employee. It was mutually agreed that the complaint was based on a misunderstanding and the matter was quickly resolved. The complaint was withdrawn.

Student Demographics

The total enrollment as of June 30, 2008:

Total	Male	Female
500	278	222

The total number of students enrolled by grade:

Grade 06	Grade 07	Grade 08	Grade 09
143	142	120	95

Populations of Low Income, Special Needs, ELL and First Language Not English

Low Income	SPED	ELL	FLNE
10	25	0	42

Race and Ethnicity Population and Percentages

Race	Number	Percent
White	431	86.0
Black or African American	1	.2
Asian	43	8.0
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	.2
White & Black or African American	2	.4
White & Asian	9	1.8
White & American Indian or Alaska Native	3	.6
White (Hispanic/Latino)	3	.6
American Indian or Alaska Native (Hispanic/Latino)	5	1.0
White & American Indian or Alaska Native (Hispanic/Latino)	2	.4

Total Number of Student Applications Received

Between July 2006 and the end of the 2006-07 school year, AMSA received a total of 282 applications for 138 available seats. Of these applicants, 94 were residents of the four charter towns of Marlborough, Maynard, Hudson and Clinton.

Between July 2007 and the end of the 2007-08 school year, AMSA received a total of 270 applications. Two 6th grade classes and one 7th grade class have been added to the population, raising the available seats to 225. All seats are filled with a waiting list of 27 and 18 declined. Of these applicants, 30 percent are from the four charter towns of Marlborough, Maynard, Hudson and Clinton. There are a large number of students from Shrewsbury at 18 percent. The other towns include Andover, Ashland (5%), Attleboro, Berlin, Billerica, Bolton, Boylston, Chelmsford, Framingham (5%), Holden, Hopkinton (5%), Leominster, Milford, North Grafton, Natick, Needham, Newton, Northborough, Northbridge, Randolph, South Grafton, Southborough, Stow, Sudbury, Waltham, Wayland, west Boylston, Westborough, Westford, Weston and Worcester (7%).

Student Attrition Data

In October of 2007, 523 students were enrolled in grades 6 through 9. As of June 2008, 500 students were enrolled in grades 6 through 9. A total of 23 (4.4%) students left during the school year. Of the 500 students who finished the school year, 45 students (9%) will not be returning to AMSA in September 2008, with a total attrition count of 68 (13.4%) for the 2007-08 school year.

The cited reasons for attrition include relocation, acceptance/scholarships into private schools, long commute, return to resident town public school, dissatisfaction with AMSA, and no stated reason.

Expulsions and Suspensions

During the course of the 2007-08 school year no students were expelled. There were a total of 6 in-school suspensions and 29 out-of-school suspensions. The reasons for in-school suspensions included plagiarism, minor acts of aggression, accumulation of detentions, disrespectful behavior toward others, lying, and cheating. The reasons for out-of-school suspensions included arson, assault and battery on another student, inappropriate touching, harassment on the bus, sexual harassment on the bus, possession of a weapon, possession of alcohol in school, unauthorized posting of materials, defacing internet website, and fighting.

School Administration

The Board of Trustees transitioned Dr. Julia Sigalovsky from the position of Executive Director to the position of Executive Director of Development in April of 2008. Shelly Hinds, the Director of Faculty was placed as the Acting Executive Director while the Board of Trustees interviewed candidates for the Executive Director position. Barbara McGann was named as the new Executive Director in June 2008. Richard Dineen, Humanities Department Chair, became the Acting Director of Faculty during the Executive Director search. Robert Mond, the director of Faculty, was dismissed in October 2007. Shelly Hinds assumed the position of Director of Faculty in October 2007.

Dr. Julia Sigalovsky: Executive Director (through April 2008)

Shelly Hinds: Acting Executive Director (April and May 2008)

Barbara McGann: Executive Director (as of June 2008)

Robert Mond: Director of Faculty (October 2006-October 2007)

Shelly Hinds: Director of Faculty (October 2007- June 2008)

Richard Dineen: Acting Director of Faculty (April and May 2008)

Dasha Bolkhovsky: Business Manager

Karenina Cookingham: After School Program Director

Ann Richards: Operations Manager

Katherine Hanson: Registrar

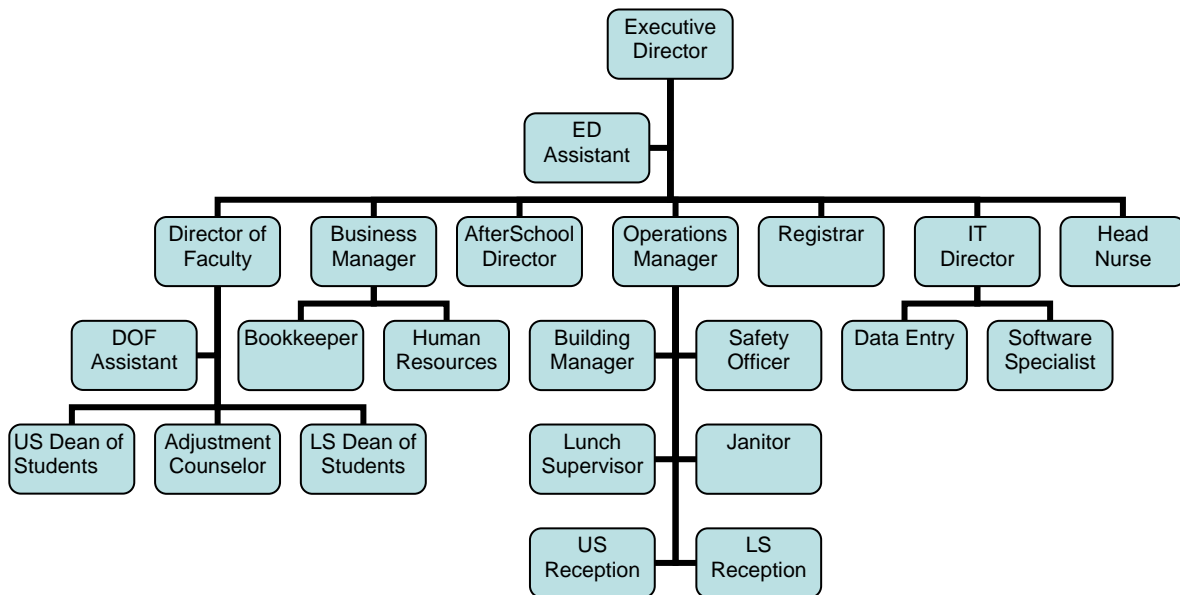
Rick Holroyd: IT Director

Maureen Searl: Head Nurse

Gene Buchman: Upper School Administrator/Dean of Students

Brian Pare: Lower School Dean of Student

AMSA Charter School Administrative Organizational Chart 2007-08



Summary of Teacher Qualifications

At the beginning of the 2007-08 school year, AMSA employed 38 full-time teachers, 3 part-time teachers and 2 full-time teacher aides. The school's teaching staff included experienced teachers, former college faculty members, and industry experts with appropriate academic majors or graduate degrees. As of May 2008, our staff was considered 100 percent Highly Qualified.

The average years of teaching experience for classroom teachers is five. The average number of years that a teacher has been employed as an AMSA faculty member is 2 years. The average class size is 23.

Summary of Teacher Attrition

As of June 30, 2008, there were a total of 39.75 FTE teachers at AMSA. Five (12.6%) teachers left during the school year. Five new teachers were hired to replace them. 8 (20.1%) teachers finished the year but will not be returning next year. Reasons for leaving include: relocation and/or commuting issues, salary requirements, scheduling conflicts, and irreconcilable differences with administration. Two teachers were dismissed for classroom management issues.

Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School Financial Statement FY 2008

Preliminary and Unaudited

Ordinary Income/Expense July 2007 – June 2008

INCOME

4000	Tuition	5,175,113.00
4050	Grants-government	83,655.00
4180	Private Grants	56,000.00
4200	Nutrition Funding	12,343.78
4300	Program Fees	408,983.15
4450	Contributions/Other Fundraising	107,542.55
4900	Other Income	9,823.90
4905	Investment Income	16,320.69

TOTAL INCOME		5,869,782.07
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GROSS PROFIT		5,869,782.07
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EXPENSE

5001	Personal Costs	3,471,023.84
5002	Student Costs	335,709.09
5003	Occupancy	1,039,502.77
5004	Other Operating Expenses	361,492.56
5005	Program Expenses	425,803.52
5700	Depreciation	105,659.17

TOTAL EXPENSE		5,739,190.95
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NET ORDINARY INCOME		130,591.12
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NET INCOME		130,591.12
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Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School Balance Sheet FY 2008

Preliminary and Unaudited

June 30, 2008

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Total Checking/Savings	876,272.24
Receivables and Current Assets	89,948.83

Total Current Assets	966,221.07
Total Fixed Assets	348,490.10
Total Other Assets	33,333.00

TOTAL ASSETS	1,348,044.17
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Total Accounts Payable	140136.66
Total Other Current Liabilities	276,132.128
Total Current Liabilities	416,268.84

Total Liabilities	416,268.84
Total Equity	931,775.33

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,348,044.17
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Advanced Math and Science Academy Charter School Budget FY 2009

Approved by the Board of Trustees

Tuition per student	10,530
Student enrollment projection	632

REVENUE

Tuition	6,654,960
Grants - Federal	86,040
Nutrition Funding - Federal and State	15,000
Grants - Private	150,000
Investment Income	10,000
Program Fees	519,233
Total Revenue	7,435,233

EXPENSES

PERSONNEL AND RELATED COSTS

Salaries and Wages	3,860,302
Taxes and Fringe Benefits	505,239
Professional Development, Advertising-Teacher Recruitment, Travel Expenses	25,000
Total Personnel and Related Costs	4,390,541

STUDENT COSTS

Contracted Services, Instructional	30,000
Instructional Supplies and Materials	119,198
Advertising - Student Recruitment; Testing and Assessment	11,980
Total Student Costs	161,178

OCCUPANCY

Rental/Lease of Building/Grounds, Utilities and Taxes	1,080,081
Maintenance of Buildings and Grounds	431,356
Total Occupancy Costs	1,511,437

OTHER EXPENSES

Business, Finance, Human Resources, Board of Trustees, Legal Services, and Insurance	174,308
Dues, Licenses and Subscriptions	11,984
Office Supplies and Materials, Copying, Postage	65,100
Information Technology Rental, Maintenance and Support	67,190
Short-term Interest and Long Term Interest, Fees, Fundraising	18,500
Student Services	506,044
Total Other Expenses	843,126

TOTAL EXPENSES

6,906,282

FIXED ASSETS

Technology, Furniture, Leasehold Improvement	170,600
Total Expenses Plus Assets Purchasing	7,076,882

NET INCOME

358,351

Dissemination

AMSA's goal is to be a visible, engaged, and inviting ambassador of an alternative approach to education. We invite everyone to visit our school to see the learning process and observe our classes. The doors are always open and our students and teachers are accustomed to observers going in and out of the classrooms, asking questions and sharing their thoughts. Our students are our best ambassadors. The students have done an excellent job of leading dozens of tours during our Open Houses. The visitors have included interested parents and students, educators, leaders of industry and academia, and local politicians.

AMSA just finished its third year and we are in the process of evaluating our educational model. The state testing results for spring 2006 and 2007, together with the numerous successes that our students have achieved, demonstrate the great potential of our instructional model. As we progress and graduate our students, we will collect more data to evaluate our educational approach. We plan to continue to summarize the results and offer them to the educational community.

Conclusion

AMSA Charter School has concluded its third year. During this year we achieved great success in further developing our educational model, our infrastructure, and school culture. Our students' academic success demonstrated by internal assessments, standardized tests and competition results put AMSA among the best schools in the state. Going into our fourth year, the high school has grown to include the 10 grade and we will welcome 200 new 6th graders to our population. AMSA is also eager to introduce 20 new teachers and several new administrators to our school community. All of us at AMSA are looking forward to continuing our upward movement in striving for excellence in education for the future of our students.