

DeKalb PATH Academy
2007 - 2008 Charter School Annual Report
Submitted to Office of Policy and External Affairs
Charter Schools
Georgia Department of Education

School Information

Founding Principal: Suttiwan Cox
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Number of students: 274 fifth-eighth grades
Number of Teachers 22

Charter School Results

In the space below, enter up to four (4) goals stated in your charter and report on your progress in each of these goals by writing a narrative not to exceed 200 words per goal. At least three of these goals must be quantifiable student test results.

- **Goal (1):** 80% of the students excluding students with IEP, ELL (ESOL), and ELL-M19 (ESOL students who exited ESOL program less than 2 years) whose previous standardized test records can be obtained will increase their test scores in reading and mathematics each year by 3-5%ile.

Yes we met our goal. The ITBS scores of 5th, 7th, and 8th grades in reading and mathematics increased more than 5% among regular students and more than 3% among ELL students.

- **Goal (2):** The school will decrease the percentage of students excluding IEP, ELL (ESOL), scoring at Level 1 in grades 5 through 8 on the Georgia Criterion Referenced Competency Test in mathematics and reading by a minimum of 2% each year until a rate of 100% has been achieved.

Our school exceeded our goals in all sub-groups. Our school met AYP for the third consecutive year. The Atlanta Journal rated our school as "School of Distinction." According to the most recent GA DoE's AYP report (dated September 30, 2008), which included the re-test, our test results showed a slight increase of the overall scores from the July report. The following scores were achieved:

Students on Levels 2 and 3 Mathematics

- 87.3% of all students
an increase of 4.7% from 2006-07
- 93.8% Asian students
an increase of 0.9% from 2006-07
- 84.1% Black students
an increase of 1.0% from 2006-07
- 87.3 % Hispanic students
an increase of 6.1% from 2006-07
- 66.7% SWD
an increase of 2.0% from 2006-07
- 85.5% ELL
an increase of 14.1% from 2006-07
- 87.8% Econ. Disadv.
an increase of 5.4% from 2006-07

Students on Levels 2 and 3 Reading/English Language Arts

- 95.8% all students
an increase of 12% from 2006-07
- 96.9% Asian students
an increase of 4.8% from 2006-07
- 99.3% Black students
an increase of 7.8% from 2006-07
- 94.0% Hispanic students
an increase of 14% from 2006-07
- 79.2% SWD
an increase of 4.2% from 2006-07
- 88.7% ELL
an increase of 26.2% from 2006-07
- 94.9% Econ. Disadv.
an increase of 10.5% from 2006-07

The average increase of our ESOL students' standardized test scores was over 5%.

- **Goal (3):** ELL (ESOL) students will increase their raw scores in Language Battery Test or ACCESS by a minimum of 5 points each year.

Yes, we exceeded our goal. Our ELL students performed exceptionally well in 2007-2008 school year in all subject areas, especially reading and language arts. The average increase of the ESOL students' raw scores on ACCESS was over 10 points. Twenty-five percent of ESOL students exited ESOL program at the end of the school year. Fifty percent of eighth grade ESOL students were accepted to DeKalb County Early College Academy (DECA) for 2008-09 school year. The academic progress of our ELL students was very significant because it was a core value in our mission.

- **Goal (4):** NA

We do not have goal 4. However, we have included other test results and 2007-2008 Daily Attendance Report in this section.

The hard work of our teachers and students paid off in 2007-2008 school year. Our students achieved tremendous academic growth. The results of the test scores of various tests mandated by the state and the school system revealed that the average test scores of our students were higher than those of their peers in metro Atlanta schools and DeKalb County School System. Below is the summary of the results of different tests:

- ITBS: The average increase of the composite test scores of 5th, 7th, and 8th graders was 6.3% from the previous year.
- 5th Grade Writing: 86% of fifth graders met or exceeded the writing standards, an increase of 35% from the previous year.

- Middle Grade Writing Assessment: 92% of eighth graders met or exceeded the writing standards, an increase of 11% from the previous year.
- Eighth Grade End of Course Test: 100% of 8th graders who were eligible to take Algebra I passed the EOCT, an increase of 27% from the previous year. Our school ranked first in passing in DeKalb County School System.

Daily Attendance

In 2007-08 school year our daily attendance rate remained excellent with an average of 97.7%

Facility

We have plans to purchase a facility in the future. The landlord of our present facility, Oglethorpe University has no plan to sell the land and its facility at this time. Our lease will expire in July 2013, and we hope to extend the lease for ten more years. Oglethorpe seems to like the idea of having a school on its property where their students can participate in community service and academic research.

We also are looking into the possibilities of purchasing land and building our own facility in other locations in DeKalb County. A group of parents has started a capital campaign to raise funds for the school.

We have inquired of DeKalb County School System regarding surplus school buildings, but the system says that they do not have any available buildings.

How much did you spend on facilities costs during the 2007-2008 school year including utilities and maintenance?

We spent \$178,000.00 on facilities cost. This amount included the cost of the janitorial service and building manager.