

**Annual Report on Curriculum, Instruction, and Student Achievement**  
**TEAM Academy Charter School District #4127**  
**August 20, 2009**

School Board Approved: September 8, 2009

TEAM Academy, of Waseca, Minnesota, opened its doors in the fall of the 2008-09 for the start of its 5<sup>th</sup> school year. TEAM Academy students experience...

- ...a focus on postsecondary attainment;
- ...an optional extended school day;
- ...easy communication with teachers – teachers are on-call, phone calls are expected;
- ...a culture committed to respect and goal setting embedded in the school day.

**School mission statement**

TEAM Academy provides a family-friendly, technology-rich learning environment. Here, in a culture of respect and responsibility, all students will excel academically, develop and build strong character, and will have instilled a sense of self-direction with a vision beyond the classroom.

**School Vision**

The following defines how TEAM Academy will live out this mission statement:

***Providing the choice:*** TEAM Academy is an optional educational program choice for all students. Any parent may enroll their child in TEAM Academy. The school will be modeled after the KIPP and Marva Collins Preparatory School philosophies. KIPP and Marva Collins have established a highly structured and caring educational environment. An atmosphere of collaboration is developed for students and staff. KIPP and Marva Collins model the belief, *“There is no “I” in Team.”* These models will not be duplicated, but instead modified to meet the unique needs of children and families of Waseca and the surrounding area.

***...for expanded academic rigor...*** The school day will begin at 8:00 and will end at 3:00, however academic offerings will be provided until 4:30 each day. A lengthened school day is a key to enhanced student learning.

Teachers are on call if students or parents have questions regarding homework beyond school hours. This means of communication will be expected and encouraged. Parents, teachers and students will be active members in the communication process.

Each teacher will give daily homework. Parents will be asked to sign-off on homework completion. Increased homework is viewed as essential for heightened learning.

The vision and goal of attending a post secondary education will be developed with the students and will be integrated throughout the daily curriculum and atmosphere of the school. *At TEAM, the belief is not that every child can learn, but that every child WILL learn.*

***...and elevated commitment...*** Every child learning is not something that will happen automatically. At TEAM Academy the creation of partnerships between the school, parents, and teachers is essential. TEAM staff will meet with parents and students individually before the start of each school year. The purpose of these meetings will be to explain the details of the program and to build collaboration with the staff, parents and student. The teacher, parent(s) and student(s) will sign a contract indicating their choice and commitment.

In the beginning of the year the majority of the instructional time will be spent building a collaborative, structured, and caring community. The majority of our teachers are trained in Responsive Classroom.

All staff at TEAM have this same philosophy. Parents, students, and teachers working collaboratively are essential to carrying out these beliefs.

**...and a focus on results.** TEAM Academy uses the NWEA MAP test and MCA-II as our standardized tests. TEAM Academy will track attendance and behavior.

### **Program Successes and Best Practices**

The 2008-09 school year was our 5<sup>th</sup> year of operation. We added two new intervention teachers that worked with our students who needed extra help in math and reading in grades K-6. This program was very successful as shown by our low-income subgroup scores on the MCA-II reading and math tests. Our scores grew 14% in reading and 16% in math with our low-income students.

We also implemented the RTI model in our school and had successful Site-Based Intervention Team Meetings. An individualized computer program, Waterford, was introduced into our K-2 classrooms. We were able to implement NWEA MAP testing in grades K-6. MAP tests were taking in the fall, winter, and spring.

In the fall of 2008 we reached our highest enrollment ever with 150 students. We had students participate in geography bee, spelling bee, math maters, student council, drama club, and newspaper club.

### **Program Challenges**

Finding space is a continued problem in our school. We were able to gain another room for our intervention teachers, but still had to work in the hallway with some groups of students. We need to fix this for the following school year.

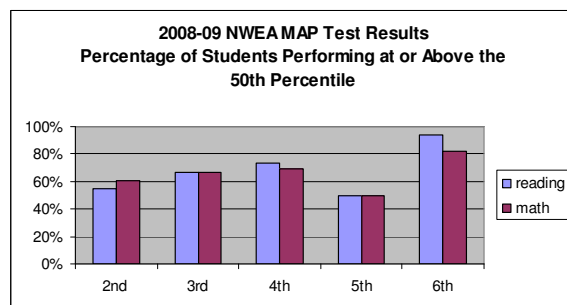
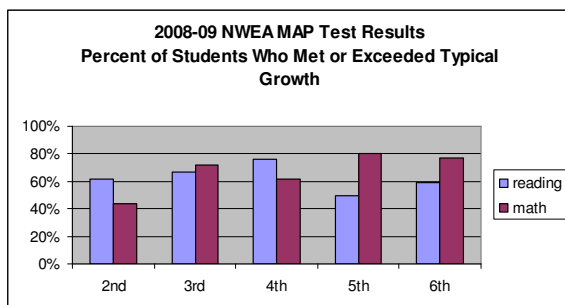
Our Hispanic population continues to grow. We want to do everything to communicate and meet the needs of this growing population. We tried to hire a bilingual educational assistant but did not get any applicants. For the 2009-10 school year we have hired a Spanish teacher that is bilingual.

### **2008-09 Academic accountability data**

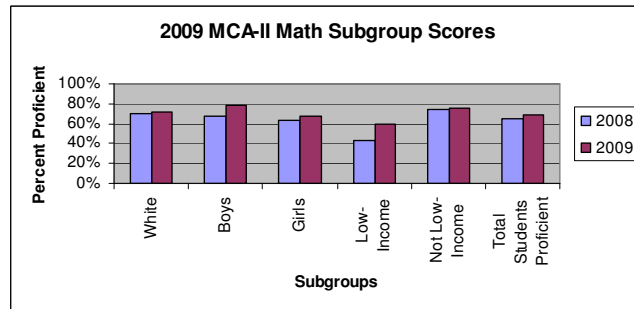
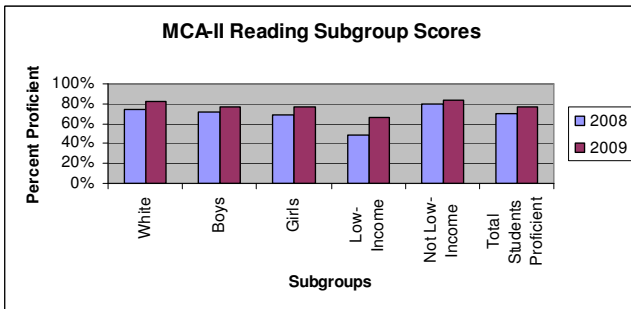
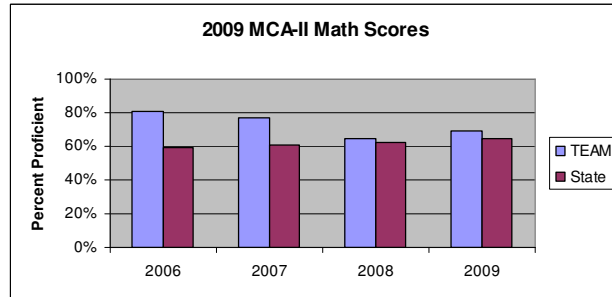
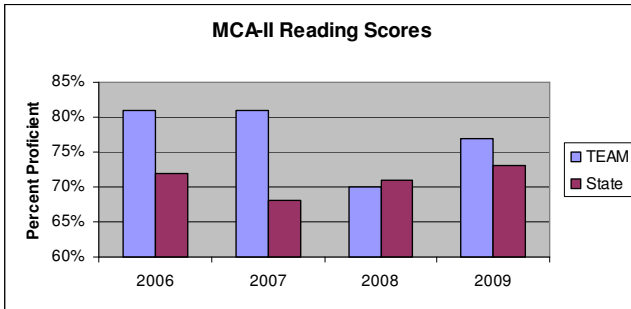
TEAM Academy has two student achievement goals defined by our charter, which was renewed in 2007. The two academic goals are and school wide results are;

- 1) At TEAM Academy, 50% of students in grades 1-6 will achieve or exceed individual RIT score growth target on the READING NWEA Map Survey with Goals assessment from fall 2008 to spring 2009.
- 2) At TEAM Academy, 50% of students in grades 1-6 will achieve or exceed individual RIT score growth target on the MATH NWEA Map Survey with Goals assessment from fall 2008 to spring 2009.

TEAM students took the NWEA MAP test in 2008-09. The test is aligned to the MN state standards and we are able to use the data more efficiently to guide our instruction. TEAM students showed growth in every grade level. The graphs below show the percent of our 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders that met or exceeded typical growth and the percent of students performing at or above the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile for the NWEA MAP tests in reading and math.



## 2009 MCA-II Data



### 2008-09 Other accountability data

TEAM Academy has non-academic outcomes to be met according to the charter. They are:

- 1) Student average attendance goal of 90% or better – **met Average 95.75%**
- 2) Student mobility tracked through attendance reports – **met-all records kept in Business Office and on AS400 Student Information System**
- 3) Counseling and special education services available for student with specific need and reported to Minnesota Department of Education through required forms. **TEAM Academy does not have a counselor on staff. All special education services are contracted through the Waseca Public Schools.**

### Current academic goals for the 2009-10 school year

1. At TEAM Academy, 50% of students in grades 1-6 will achieve or exceed individual RIT score growth target on the READING NWEA Map Survey with Goals assessment from fall 2009 to spring 2010.
2. At TEAM Academy, 50% of students in grades 1-6 will achieve or exceed individual RIT score growth target on the MATH NWEA Map Survey with Goals assessment from fall 2009 to spring 2010.
3. Our overall grade level scores on the MCA-II in reading and math will continue to improve.
4. Our average student attendance will be 90% or better.

At TEAM we use a variety of assessments such as: MAP, MCA-II, DIBELS, Waterford, and SuccessMaker. The data we obtain from these assessments help us to drive our instruction by differentiating, identifying school wide professional development needs, providing individual students and parents with information on student achievement, and providing the community information on student achievement.

We hold conferences with parents three times a year and have a spring open house where students will share a portfolio of work they have compiled throughout the year.

**Other student/school goals for the 2009-10 school year**

1. Student mobility will be tracked through attendance reports.
2. A social worker and special education services will be available for students with specific needs and reported to Minnesota Department of Education through required forms.
3. Each parent and child will meet with their child's teacher to sign a contract outlining expectations.
4. Everyday all students will recite the TEAM Creed which outlines a culture of respect and the importance of academic achievement.
5. Parent attendance rate at conferences will be 95%

**Sponsor Information**

Our sponsor is the Waseca Public Schools. We have a very good relationship with them. We contract services for our students as well as lease space from them. Our school boards have established committees that meet throughout the year to keep communication open. We are up for sponsor renewal in the 2009-10 school year.

**\*GOVERNANCE - CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD**

**Provide information for ALL board members Type all information in the form fields below.**

Name	Board Position	Group (if teacher, file folder #)	Phone Number	E-Mail Address	Board Attendance
Michael Osweiler	Chair	Parent	507-835-4845	oswm@waseca.k12.mn.us	100%
Eugene Miller	Vice Chair	Community Member	507-835-4737	milg@waseca.k12.mn.us	100%
Ron Alger	Treasurer	427167	507-837-5149	algr@waseca.k12.mn.us	94%
Chris Hering	Director	369285	507-837-5149	herc@waseca.k12.mn.us	94%
Jill Ladwig	Clerk	416474	507-837-5149	ladwj@waseca.k12.mn.us	94%
Matt Payne	Director	440481	507-837-5149	payn@waseca.k12.mn.us	100%
Janel Schmidt	Director	417845	507-837-5149	schm@waseca.k12.mn.us	100%
Joan Weber	Director	Parent	507-835-1507	webj@waseca.k12.mn.us	64%
Stacey Weichert	Director	Parent	507-835-9949	weis@waseca.k12.mn.us	80%

We changed our bylaws on October 7, 2008 to change our board to a nine member board. Board elections were held at our annual meeting on November 17, 2008. Michael Osweiler, Janel Schmidt, and Matt Payne were elected to the board. In December of 2008 Dave Dunn resigned and was replaced by Eugene Miller in May of 2009. Darla Dahnert resigned from our board in April of 2009. Stacey Weichert replaced her in May of 2009. Jill Ladwig resigned as of June 30, 2009 and was replaced by Nikki Thielke (teacher) for the remainder of her term.

Name	file folder number	Assignment	Left during 08/09	Not returning 09/10

**\*\*TEACHING STAFF INFORMATION**

**Provide information for ALL teachers. Type all information in the form fields below**

Chris Hering	369285	Intervention	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ron Alger	427167	6 <sup>th</sup> grade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jill Ladwig	416474	Intervention	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Mindy Peterson	421676	1st grade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nikki Thielke	422559	Kindergarten	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Elizabeth Standke	433874	4 <sup>th</sup> grade	<input type="checkbox"/>	X
Janel Schmidt	417845	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Matt Payne	440481	5 <sup>th</sup> grade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ruby Teague	414588	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Two positions were added for the 2008-09 school year. We used our title 1 funds and ADSIS funds from the state to fund two intervention teachers. We hired Ruby Teague and Matt Payne to teach 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Jill Ladwig is now the Director of TEAM and will not teach during the 2009-10 school year. Elizabeth Standke is moving to another state and will not teach 4<sup>th</sup> grade for the 2009-10 school year.

### \*\*\*Sponsor Information

Sponsor name	Contact information	Sponsor liaison	Contract Termination date
Waseca Public Schools	John Rokke, Superintendent	John Rokke, Supt.	June 2010

### School Admissions

TEAM Academy Charter School will enroll any eligible kindergarten through sixth grade student who submits a timely application, unless the number of applications exceeds 25 students in the specific grade level of the applicant, upon which, eligible students on the waiting list will be accepted by lottery. Students who are residents of Waseca will be given preference for enrollment before accepting students by lottery. TEAM Academy Charter School will give preference for enrollment to a sibling of an enrolled student and to a foster child of that student's parents before accepting other students by lottery. TEAM Academy Charter School will not limit admission to any student on the basis of intellectual ability, measures of achievement or aptitude, or athletic ability.