

Keeping you informed on the latest HCLC news. First.



Community Learning Center

HCLC Insight

From the desk of Jan Gleeson, Executive Director

June 2009

Have a Safe and Peaceful Summer

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Well, another year is closing and while our students probably are delighted that school is finally over, hasn't it all come and gone so quickly? All the while, if we weren't looking, we would not have experienced our students' growth academically and emotionally. We wouldn't have seen the community of parents who support our students, our

teachers, and our school with hard work, encouragement and financial help. We wouldn't have heard the sounds of learning, the problem-solving, the creative thinking, the content-rich presentations at Summatives and exhibitions, the stirring music at concerts, the heart-felt applause at drama productions, the spontaneous cheers at

games, the daily friendliness of our kids and their families, and best of all ... we wouldn't have heard the laughter that permeates this school night and day.

Thank you all for making HCLC "all that"!!! You bless this place with your very presence. Have a safe and peaceful summer vacation. Jan

Celebrations

\$2.1 Million in Scholarships

National Merit
Scholarship Finalist

National Hispanic
Scholarship Finalists

68 AIA Scholar Athlete Awards

AZ Magazine's
Top 10 High Schools

Honors Symphonic Band
Superior with Distinction

Yearbook Staff Wins
Design Award from
AZ Interscholastic
Press Association

Results of the S.I.T. "Going Green" Study

The School Improvement Team (S.I.T.) studied the possibilities for our school's efforts to "Go Green" this year. This process led us to analyze what we are currently doing in our overall efforts to maintain green school.

Currently, we are spraying for bugs on Saturday and posting the date in both offices including the chemicals used. We are also cutting grass on Saturdays so as not to affect students' with allergies.

We have neither mercury nor asbestos in the school, and we do have an Asbestos

Management Plan on file.

Our Health Office balances toxic free products with those that are required for students with health concerns.

All products used for maintenance are evaluated for safety and toxicity.

Under the leadership of one of our high school Boy Scouts, Riley Fitzgerald, our kindergarteners began a pilot program to recycle cans through their Save the Earth Club. They have also donated and planted a tree in front of the school that had been damaged by a storm.

School leadership monitors monthly paper consumption numbers and large orders must get administrative approval first.

In our continued efforts to maintain healthy eating, our intermediate and middle school vending machines have healthy snack choices and our lunch program has more fresh fruit options.

Although when the S.I.T. team began studying this topic, we wanted to "jump in" and take on all areas of recycling. We discovered that our current status in

Congratulations to ALL our HCLC Graduates

educating students was inconsistent at best and that our paper recycling efforts has had limited success.

This year our paper recycling program has become the responsibility of only a couple parents, for the most part. In other words, there was a more massive need to educate our students, kindergarten through twelfth

grade and get the commitment and involvement of everyone in what we are currently doing before taking on anything new. Only then, will we expand our recycling efforts.

Next year, expect to see more, hear more, learn more, and get involved. Of course, all of this will begin with our students. With the

involvement of our Environmental Clubs, Student Councils, and Morning Meeting and Advisory groups, we will do a better job of educating our students and create a better management system for our recycling. After that, we will expand our program including the additional research the S.I.T. team collected this year.

Thank You for Supporting Us

Although this has been a difficult year for everyone financially, HCLC’s fundraising efforts resulted in better than expected results.

We sincerely thank all our parent and community supporters. Without you, our school would have to rely on the less than adequate

funding our state is able to provide for charter schools. Please see the chart below that demonstrates the results of all your generous efforts.

- The “Horizon 12”**
*Emily Bell
 Jennifer Berg
 Calvin Bunton
 Alyssa Carlson
 Kate Cortopassi
 Richard Gerety
 Kyla McMahon
 Eric Rebello
 Megan Trier
 Kara Vandivort
 Shawn Willhite
 Hanna Zekoff*

FUNDRAISING	AMOUNT	PURPOSE
Tax Credit	\$87,719	Extra-curriculars
Soaring Eagle Society	\$41, 894	Current exploratories/electives, HS photography
Golf Tournament	\$11,703	Classroom Mounted LCD Projectors
Spring Fling	\$10, 518	School Clubs and Media Center Resources
Adopt an Eagle	\$8,084	Individual Classroom Requests
Book Fair	\$5,171	Media Center Resources

Believing in Dreams

Thirteen years’ ago, a small band of lunatics (or so people thought) led by Larry Pieratt, our current CEO, decided to quit our stable jobs in a district near you, and start a charter school. There really wasn’t a school site, or enough teachers, or tables or desks or any amenity commonly associated with a “typical” school. What we **did** have was an idea that had been educationally tested for five years. What we **did** have was a group of parents and their children who believed in the crazy idea of problem solv-

ing, hands-on activities, creative and critical thinking, shared values, and parent involvement. These students and parents had such an uncanny “tolerance for ambiguity” that I am sure it will continue to serve them well now and in the future. We commend them for being able to move from temporary site to temporary site some 3-4 times or more over the years, for their patience in waiting for needed supplies and furniture, for “going with the flow” of our unexpected setbacks, but most of all for their belief in

the vision of what makes this school HCLC

Thank you to the “Horizon 12” student graduates and their parents who “stuck with us” unwaveringly for 13 years and to all the students who graduated this last week, June 1, 2009.

Remember, you all were educated believing in someone else’s dream and you experienced it first hand. You can do it too with your own dreams. Be the ONE!