



HCLC Insight

From the desk of Jan Gleeson, Executive Director

March 2008

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

Spring Break
March 17th —
March 28th

ILPs: Grades 7-12
March 27 & 28

ILPs: Grades K-6
March 28th &
March 31st

AIMS TESTING
April 7th—April 11th

Soaring Eagles Society
"Making the Difference" Dessert
April 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Getting Ready for 2008-09

Over the last three months, School Leadership has been preparing for the 2008-09 school year. This is a lengthy process of analyzing our current budget, our expected 2008-09 revenue, and identifying the needs and expenditures for next year.

In addition, we set our enrollment goals for the upcoming year based upon the re-enrollment forms you return to us and the new student lottery forms submitted at our school orientations. Enrollment is our primary source of income through the state revenue we receive. This, along with our other sources of revenue, such as fundraising, help us to determine the amount of funds we have for staff salaries, textbooks and supplies, equipment, facility improvements, and of course our rather expensive dreams for your children's futures. This is also the time of year when we determine addi-

tional staffing needs. We continue to adjust this budget as we work with the teachers during fourth quarter to identify books and materials that will help make each of their students successful learners.

Inevitably, this leads all of us, whether consciously or unconsciously, to realize where we've been and how far we have come. We started in 1996 on two campuses and now we proudly sit in this incredible facility. Back then we worried about whether parents and students would want to attend a school that was different from all those in the surrounding areas. Now, we look at a current wait list of 350 with an additional wait list for 2008-09 of 300 students, and we have not even completed our orientations yet. Our school is rated as EXCELLING and we have reached Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). We have a growing extra-curricular

program which includes clubs and athletics kindergarten through twelfth grade. We are proud of our students' achievements in mastering the state standards and demonstrating their knowledge in Summatives and Academic Nights; band, chorus, and Brainstorming competitions; community service; and in university and college scholarships. And behind all of this activity stand intelligent, dedicated educators serving your children. This is a beautiful picture of where your child currently is and what your child will experience in the future at HCLC. And this does not include the intangibles of character and values that permeate this school from the students to the staff and parents. Thank you all for helping us to maintain this school and the philosophy that keep it a lighthouse for others.

Spring Break Improvements

If all goes well, expect to see some improvements when you return after Spring Break. Weather permitting, our shade structures

will be in place both in the elementary and middle school courtyard areas. This is just in time for the delightful sun-fest season. Also, expect to

see new carpeting in the high school and Media Center. With this completed, the entire west side of campus will have new carpeting.

Celebrations

- **92 Students Inducted into Horizon Honor Society**
- **Honor Symphony Band Rated Superior Qualifying for the State Music Festival**
- **MS Boys' Basketball: Junior Metro League Champions**
- **Varsity Girls' Basketball Advance to State Quarter Finals**

Current UPS Benefits

- High School Global Business Technology Class
- Teacher Training & Workshops
- Field Trips & Guest Speakers
- Elementary After-School Activities Through Herberger Fine Arts Center

Make a REAL Difference

We have dreams for our students at HCLC, as you do as parents, for your children at this school. It is our responsibility to prepare our students not just for today or for the next grade level they will enter or even for college and university work. We have dreams that we can give them all they will require to be prepared for the future jobs and careers that they will enter into in the 21st century. Anything less than this would be shortsightedness on our part as the adults that lead them.

In order to support this cause, several years ago we created the Soaring Eagles Society, memberships through donations that help to finance specific school goals. On Thursday, April

10th, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. we will have our Soaring Eagles Society "Make a Difference" Dessert in the Multi-purpose Room to kick-off this effort. Please mark your calendars to participate with other parents who have the foresight to work together for the future growth of the school.

What are some of the dreams that could be possible if more donations were made?

- Laptops for Every Student
- Additional Technology (i.e. digital projectors, cameras, science equipment, software)
- I-books (textbooks online)
- Graphic Design Courses
- Band Instruments

- Ceramics Classes
- Drama Classes
- Curtains & Lighting
- Sound Systems
- Additional Foreign Languages
- Lights on the Field
- Additional Classrooms

Hopefully, this information will motivate you to attend our "Make a Difference" Dessert and become a member of the Soaring Eagles Society. Last year only 5% of our parents contributed to this cause. This year we hope to make a real difference with everyone's involvement. Please look for additional information in the mailer you should have received or stop by an office for more information.

University Public Schools (UPS)

During the School Forum Roundtable discussion in February, Larry Pieratt, University Public Schools (UPS) Executive Director and HCLC's founder, presented information about UPS and HCLC's participation in this organization.

University Public Schools, an affiliate of Arizona State University, is a network of public schools whose vision is to connect with ASU to increase student achievement through educational innovations. There are two types of schools involved representing different levels of participation: Centers for Educational Innovations and New American Schools. Centers for Educational Innovations are K-12 public schools that are research

sites. The New American Schools, of which HCLC is affiliated, is a network of successful charter schools with a common set of beliefs and policies. These schools will share best practices, educational innovations, and some financial services through the network.

One of the greatest advantages for HCLC is that our involvement with UPS is a more direct conduit to ASU enabling us to be exposed to more opportunities for our kindergarten through 12th grade students. These would include successful programs, field trips, guest speakers, professional growth for our teachers, and researched innovative educational practices we could

integrate into our school in the future.

This relationship also places us in a network that will provide financial and business services and personnel pools with member schools. This has a number of advantages for HCLC because it will secure our financial oversight and draw more potential educators and leaders to HCLC as we fill future openings. We feel UPS will add to the legacy of our school not just for the present but for the future as well. It is the next responsible step we are taking as an organization for the sake of our students and the longevity of HCLC.