

RENAISSANCE 2010 REPORT

100 New Schools for Chicago

August 2006

Volume 2, Issue 8

REN10 TOP TEN

Top 10 New Schools 2005-2006 ISAT Growth in Composite Scores

**Based on percentage point increase in the percent meeting/exceeding state standards*

10.	Chicago International Charter Schools (average of all campuses)	6.8
9.	UNO Charter School – Octavio Paz Campus	7.1
8.	U of C Charter School – North Kenwood Oakland Campus	7.9
7.	Passages Charter School	9.1
6.	Betty Shabazz International Charter School	12.0
5.	Williams Middle School	12.8
4.	Young Women’s Leadership Charter School	14.8
3.	KIPP Ascend Charter School	17.5
2.	Choir Academy Charter School	20.1
1.	Dodge Renaissance Academy	36.5

Top 10 New Schools 2006 ISAT Composite Scores

**Based on percent meeting/exceeding state standards*

10.	Betty Shabazz International Charter School	66.6%
9.	Chicago International Charter Schools	67.5%
8.	UNO Charter School – Octavio Paz Campus	67.6%
7.	Williams Middle School	68.1%
6.	U of C Charter School - North Kenwood Oakland Campus	69.0%
5.	Chicago Math and Science Academy Charter School	70.0%
4.	KIPP Ascend Charter School	73.7%
3.	Alain Locke Charter School	75.6%
2.	L.E.A.R.N. Charter School	77.9%
1.	Passages Charter School	86.6%

EVENTS

INCS Charter Up | L.E.A.R.N. Charter | 1130 S. Homan | August 22, 2006 | 10:00 AM

Illinois Network of Charter Schools (INCS) proudly presents its first annual recognition event. Come celebrate models of innovation and excellence in education. With a 10-year record of success, charters offer new choices in public education, utilizing dynamic, engaging learning environments. Join them in recognizing outstanding performers throughout Illinois' 35 charter schools and highlighting their initiatives. For more information on this event, please contact **Nikki Drevich**, (312) 235-0798 x.16 or ndrevich@incschools.org.

77th Annual Bud Billiken Parade | August 12, 2006

The wish of Chicago Defender's founder Robert S. Abbott to organize the youth who sold the newspaper has grown into what is now the largest parade in the United States. Since the Bud Billiken[®] Parade and Picnic began in 1929, more than 50 million children and their families have coined the second Saturday in August as a day of community and celebration of African American togetherness, fun, and pursuit of academic excellence. The parade is also the citywide kick-off for back-to school for students of Chicago Public Schools; and embodies the message that it is important to attend school on the first day and everyday! While CPS traditional schools start September 5th, many of the new schools will open their doors starting August 21st. The parade is celebration of all schools and the importance of attending school on the first day and everyday. With over 65,000 participants at last year's parade, Chicago looks forward to another successful year. For more information please refer to their website: www.budbillikenparade.com.

NEWS

New Schools Reach New Heights on 2006 ISAT Test

The Office of New Schools is proud to announce that Chicago's new schools had a **19.1 percentage point** increase in the percent meeting/exceeding ISAT composite scores. This increase is higher than the citywide score increase of **15.2**. Congratulations to all of the new school administrators, educators, and students for a job well done and reaffirming our mission!

New School Applicants Pursue 2007

Design Frameworks for all proposed new schools were due to the New Schools Office on July 6, 2006. The Office has now begun the evaluation phase for Cohort III schools which will open fall 2007. A total of **43 Design Frameworks** were submitted with the largest number preferencing the Frazier Elementary School site which is located at 4027 W. Grenshaw. Interviews took place during

the last week of July, and in early August CPS will announce the applicants approved to submit a full proposal by August 31, 2006. A summary of the 41 Design Frameworks is listed below:

- 19 applications for charter schools
- 10 contract schools
- 14 applications for performance schools
- 11 applications for charters to open new campuses of existing charters
- 17 applications for elementary schools ranging from Montessori, expeditionary learning, traditional, and single-sex
- 26 applications for high schools consisting of career prep, college prep, alternative, military, and single sex

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chicago Virtual Charter School Receives Media Attention

On Wednesday, July 12, 2006, the Chicago Virtual Charter School hosted a media event and demonstrations for people interested in learning more about their unique school model. As Chicago and Illinois's first online public school, the school plans to serve up to 600 K-8 students from all across the city. Although students will work from a tailored online curriculum with the assistance of a parent or other responsible adult, only 20% of their work will be online. Students will also attend a learning center located in downtown Chicago. The school provides all supplies, including a computer. For more information please refer to their website: www.chicagocvs.org.

Youth Connections Charter School Graduates Over 900 Students

With twenty-three (23) campuses all across town, Youth Connection Charter School proudly graduated **912 students** this past June. Executive Director Shelia Venson stated "We have brought these former dropouts back to school, and now we see them strolling down the aisles with their CPS diplomas in hand. Graduation is just a step on a longer journey."

The mission of Youth Connection Charter School is to advocate, develop, and provide world-class education to students at-risk and high school dropouts in collaboration with the alternative high school community. YCCS meets the individual needs of students through programs committed to academic excellence, human development, cultural enrichment, and social equity. YCCS prepares students for quality life experiences, technological literacy, graduation, vocational and postsecondary education, and competitive employment.

New School Seniors Acknowledged by N'Digo Foundation

N'Digo magazine is one of Chicago's leading African American publications. In conjunction with the magazine, N'Digo Foundation was founded as a non-profit that in part funds college scholarships to Chicago youth. Congratulations to the following recipients who are graduates of new schools:

- Morgan Cleveland Young Women's Leadership Charter School

- Aisha Keys
 - The University of Notre Dame
 - Lindblom College Preparatory High School
 - Spelman College

Noble Street Charter School Acknowledged by Apple

Educational tools play just as a significant role in creating a new school. Noble Street Charter School praises Apple’s PowerSchool tool for contributing to scholastic achievements. PowerSchool is a flexible record-keeping and grading system that is used by every member of the school.

“PowerSchool has enabled us to give students and parents timely information on their academic progress,” said Principal and Founder Mike Milkie. “It helps us achieve our goal of giving students information that they can use to improve their academic performance.” Its benefits are:

- Providing realtime grading information that keeps students involved
- Providing students with constant access to feedback on their coursework to encourage constructive changes
- Delivering to parents and guardians bi-weekly reports and offer ongoing web access to scholastic information to help bolster communication
- Allowing advisors to manage the college application process via custom screens

For more information visit www.apple.com/powerschool or call (877) 873-1550.

New School Teachers Nominated for DRIVE Awards

The DRIVE Award Committee is pleased to announce that over 300 schools submitted a nomination form for the **DRIVE (Delivering Results through Innovative and Visionary Education) Award**. Teachers were nominated by their own peers, and only one teacher per area, totaling 24 teachers will be selected as winners. The DRIVE initiative is designed to improve employee recognition and establish a direct line of communication between the classroom and the CEO. Congratulations to the following nominees who are new schools teachers:

- Roselyn Bennett Williams Preparatory School of Medicine
- Rosie Fleming Williams Elementary
- Makita Kheperu Betty Shabazz International Charter School
- Elizabeth Siegel Pershing West Middle School
- Karen Zaccor UPLIFT Community High School

Office of New Schools Thanks Comprehensive Evaluation Teams (CETs)

The Office of New Schools would like to thank the evaluation teams for taking time out of their busy schedules to participate in the new school selection process. **Over 30 CET members read 41 Design Frameworks.** Teams consisted of CPS administrators, Office of New Schools representatives, Transition Advisory Council (TAC) representatives, education experts, and Renaissance 2010 Partners which include: Renaissance Schools Fund, Chicago High School Redesign Initiative, Illinois Network of Charter Schools, and Illinois Facilities Fund. Thank you to the following participants for your support and dedication to creating high quality education options in Chicago’s communities of need:

Allison Auda
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Etta Davis
Kim Davis-Ambrose
James Deanes
Dan Duster
Marquez Elem
Brigitte Erbe
Elizabeth Evans
Sally Ewing

Pat Ford
Shenita Garrard
Phyllis Goodson
Katie Graves
Lynnae Hill
Mary Hinton
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Lawrence Balark
Kate Murray
Jeanne Nowaczewski
Wanda Noyes
Joe Neri
Jennifer Park
Ron Raglin
Sandra Rigsbee
Robin Steans
Israil Steen
Rena Thomas
Jared Washington
Katie Weaver

www.ren2010.cps.k12.il.us

The Chicago Public Schools is committed to leading the nation in education reform and through Renaissance 2010 we will create opportunities for high quality educational programs for the youth and families of Chicago.

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