

GLASSBORO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
GLASSBORO, NEW JERSEY

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FROM THE
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Danielle M. Sochor

May 25, 2016

I. GLASSBORO ALTERNATIVE EVENING HIGH SCHOOL

Robin Boyd, Head Teacher

As of April 30, 2016 there are 14 students enrolled in the Alternative Evening High School. Ten students currently have an IEP and are serviced by a special education teacher. One student is part-time. There are 4 students in the BD classroom. One student is a 7th grader from GIS. One senior will graduate from the program this year.

II. STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS

A. English As A Second Language

Rona Johnson: ESL Teacher Pre-K – 2nd Grade

Number of children currently in the program:

There are 37 ELLs. However, the district-wide breakdown is listed below.

District-wide Enrollment:

<i>GRADE</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>PROGRAM: BILINGUAL</i>	<i>PROGRAM: MAINSTREAM</i>	<i>PROGRAM: REJECTED</i>	<i>LANGUAGE: SPANISH</i>	<i>LANGUAGE: TURKISH</i>	<i>LANGUAGE: OTHER</i>
PRE-K3/4	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
K	20	0	20	0	15	2	3
1	9	9	0	0	9	0	0
2	14	8	5	1	10	1	3
3	11	0	10	1	10	0	1
4	6	0	6	0	6	0	0
5	2	0	1	1	2	0	0
6	2	0	2	0	2	0	0
7	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	4	0	4	0	2	0	2
10	3	0	3	0	2	0	1
11	2	0	2	0	1	0	1
12	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
ADULT ED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	75	17	54	4	60	3	12

There were no new entrants into the ESL Program for the district this month.

For the month of April, there were no students transferred out of district.

ACCESS 2.0 tests were given to all 75 ELLs during the months of March and April. PARCC testing is in progress. Mrs. Johnson is test administer for the 3rd grade ELLs.

Administration has decided that Pre-Kindergarten services will be provided in the form of ELL specialist to teacher collaboration with weekly meeting dates set for the first Wednesday morning of each month. Kindergarten will receive daily guided reading lessons infused with content instruction and supports. Grades one thru third will receive daily push-in or pull-out instruction with guided reading, content instruction, and language arts skill support as well as the upper grades. Additionally, for the first time, a Bilingual program has been initiated to address the specific needs of the Spanish-speaking population in grades one and two.

For the month of April, all incoming ELLs received regular services except during ACCESS and PARCC testing where some regular services occurred when time permitted. Translation services were provided as needed for April's IEP meetings, positive phone calls needed to be made for homeroom teachers, in addition to the normal positive phone calls, and other inquiries.

During the month of April, Mrs. Johnson attended a presentation, entitled "Helping ELLs Excel" presented by Jessica Newkirk on April 13th in Egg Harbor Township hosted by Atlantic County Consortium NJTESOL/NABE, Inc.

Mrs. Johnson has applied to Mrs. Sochor's OG Program of study for this fall. She is hopeful that she will be accepted into this program so that she may better serve the needs of the ELL students.

B. Title I - Basic Skills Improvement Program

Charlene White: Basic Skills Coordinator
J. Harvey Rodgers School

Number of children currently in the program:

Literacy X Math
White: 22
Knight: 14
Rutter: 17

No new entrants tested into the program in April.
There were no students who exited the program in April.

The BSI teachers administered the mid-year SGO testing.

During the month of April the kindergarten BSI students worked on the following skills: phonemic awareness rhyme, syllable segmentation, phoneme segmentation and initial sounds. Students reviewed the terms consonant, vowel and digraph.

The sight words there, was, your, her, of, they, then, went, must, this, with, and new were introduced.

Mrs. White has 4/6 groups working in level B in the LLI program with one group still working in level A and one group in level C.

For the month of April Mrs. Rutter had three groups in level C, and one group in level B. In her level B group they focused on recognizing sight words, beginning sounds and blending. In her level C groups they focused on sight words, making connections using word families and changing the beginning sounds.

In Miss Knight's BSI groups in April, she had three reading groups at level B. The skills that they worked on were sight words and beginning sounds. She also had two reading group at level C. The skills that they worked on were word families and sight words.

Mari Kay Heyel-Matteo: Basic Skills Coordinator
Dorothy L. Bullock School

Lisa Rencher: Basic Skills Coordinator
Thomas E. Bowe School

Number of children currently in the program:
Literacy 66 students for BSI and 30 students for Read 180 Math 0

There were no students who exited the program at this time.

The STARR Reading assessment was used as well as the SRI for Read 180.

The focus of the beginning of the month has been to continue implementing LLI with the BSI groups. During the middle of the month, they began PARCC testing and BSI instruction was put on hold for a brief period. Once PARCC testing was complete for the school, they resumed working with the groups in LLI. At that time, they will be ready to finish up with the leveled kit and then move on to working with the novels. The students have been working hard during the year and are eagerly waiting to put their newly learned skills to use with their particular leveled novel. Mrs. LoCastro has been placed in a 4th grade classroom for the remainder of the school year, and Mrs. Berman has moved into BSI to take over Mrs. LoCastro's LLI groups.

Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Berman and Ms. Rencher continue to use time for BSI PLC meetings to continue training in the LLI (Leveled Literacy Intervention) program as well as ironing out any kinks they may be experiencing with a particular aspect of the program, as well as continuing with the book study on "*Don't Kick Them Out!*" by Dr. Jesse Jackson III. During this time, Mrs. Berman has also been orienting herself to the LLI program and Mrs. Hart and Mrs. Rencher have been answering any questions she may have. During the

remainder of the time, Mrs. Hart, and Mrs. Rencher continue to share what has been working and what has not been working with Mrs. Berman. They then discuss possible ways to help as needed. As time moves on, they will continue to improve their knowledge of the program. The Read 180 program is being taught by Mrs. Rencher and Mrs. Berman on Monday and Wednesday from 11:40-12:10 (this too has taken a brief pause in the morning during PARCC testing and will resume once testing is over), and then again after school for an hour, with the help of Mrs. Stump and Mrs. Killelea. During PARCC testing, the after school session of Read 180 has continued. This program will run through May 23rd. The students have just started their third unit in the program.

Mrs. Hart, Mrs. LoCastro, and Mrs. Rencher participated in Battle of the Books on April 6th. All three teachers served as committee members as well as “coaches” for the different teams.

Language Arts: Diane Villec
Intermediate School

Number of children currently in the program:

Literacy 27 Math

There were no new entrants tested into the program in April.

There were no students who exited the program in April.

During the reading portion of class, students spent a few weeks preparing for the upcoming PARCC Assessment. In order to prepare for this, students used the computer and PARCC practice websites to become familiar with navigating the site. Types of texts read in order to prepare were poetry samples, drama, fiction, literary non-fiction, social science texts, and technical texts. Students also read, performed, and wrote the ending of several dramas.

Language Arts: Jennie Hara
Intermediate School

Number of children currently in the program:

Literacy 121 Math

One new entrant tested into the program in April.

No students exited the program in April.

Emphasis in Writing 7 during this unit will be dispersed between argumentative, narrative and informational writing and its elements based on the Lucy Calkins Units of Study. Students will write every day following the sessions and bends of the Argumentative Writing Unit as well as performing PARCC-like tasks based on the writing topics. The following topics will be covered: narrative elements, structure and development; argumentative development of claims, reasons and evidence;

evaluation of information using informative writing and reading techniques. Students will also be cross-genre skills to write an informative about a narrative and vice-versa.

Mathematics: Amy Stewart
High School

Number of children currently in the program:

Literacy _____ Math 37

No new entrants tested into the program in April.
There were no students who exited the program in April.

Integrated GEOMETRY: Throughout the month of April, program emphasis was on the investigation of circles. Students continued to apply and reinforce their algebra skills.

Integrated ALGEBRA I: Throughout the month of April, program emphasis has been on writing and solving systems of linear equations and inequalities, simplifying exponential expressions and graphing exponential equations. Students focused on different methods of graphing, writing, and solving linear systems in two variables, and graphing systems of linear inequalities in two-variables.

Language Arts: Sheila Sapphire
High School

Number of children currently in the program:

Literacy 23 Math _____

No new entrants tested into the program in April.

No students exited the program in April.

In the sophomore English classes, students have been incorporating their vocabulary words into their writing assignments. Students self-selected books and completed daily written reports, labeling the various genres, identifying themes within the books, analyzing character development techniques, and adding their personal comments/observations.

The students were introduced to Sir Gawain and such terms as chivalry, myth, and legend. They explored what it means to be a good man/woman in medieval times as well as in today's society. Using King Arthur as their platform, students discussed the topics of chivalry, love, revenge, fidelity, and redemption and their meanings and practicality in modern times.

This month's focus in class was on preparing essays for the seniors' portfolios, proofreading, meeting deadlines, and discussions about higher education.

Ms. Sapphire is happy to report that ALL the seniors in her English class were cleared for graduation.

Most of the students have been very receptive to her assistance and have benefitted from her services as evidenced by their improved grades.

Language Arts: Christi Baldissero
High School

Number of children currently in the program:

Literacy 9 _____ Math _____

In the month of April, the Test Prep students prepared their portfolios for the state. The emphasis of the program focused on reading skills such as textual evidence, supporting a claim, author's purpose, and development of theme and character. There was also an emphasis on writing, which primarily dealt with narrative writing and persuasive writing skills, along with testing the conventions of standard written English.

In April, the students began each lesson by reading an article from Newsela. Upon completion of the reading the students would answer 4 high order thinking skill questions that are similar to the questions and tasks on the SAT. The students would then transition to independent work on their portfolios. Each task was assigned based on ability. Students would work on a narrative piece of literature and answer multi-step multiple choice questions, followed by a writing task. Once the narrative piece was complete the students would move on to the information piece of literature. Each student would answer multi-step multiple choice questions, followed by a persuasive writing task. Once the students had completed their assignments, they were able to edit and type all their answers. At this point, each student sat with Ms. Baldissero to discuss their portfolio and gather all items that needed to be a part of the portfolio. Each student signed off on the completion of the portfolio task list before submitting it to Dr. Sneathen to be handed in.

Ms. Baldissero has been working with guidance to make sure that guidance is well-informed of the students' grades and effort in the Test Preparation class.

III. **CURRICULUM**

A. **Field Trips**

Field trips for the month of April, 2016:

DATE	SCHOOL	TO	TIME	BUSES
4/9/16	GHS	Lakeside Middle School	8	1
4/6/16	GHS	Camden County College	10	2

4/22/16	GHS	Rowan Fossil Quarry	1.5	1
4/29/16	GHS	Holocaust Museum	10	1
4/20/16	GIS	Rowan	1	1
4/6/16	BOWE	Broadway Theatre	6	4
4/25/16	BOWE	GHS	3	2
4/26/16	BOWE	GHS	2	2
4/27/16	Bullock	GHS	4	4
4/29/16	Bullock	GHS	4	4
4/22/16	Bullock	GHS	4	4
4/22/16	Rodgers	Rowan Planetarium	6	6
4/4/16	Pitman	Haddonfield MS	4.5	1
4/16/16	Pitman	Cooperstown	17	1
4/16/16	Pitman	Cooperstown	20	1
4/21/16	Pitman	RCGCC	1.5	1
4/27/16	Pitman	Wash. Twp High School	1.5	1
4/22/16	ACA	Camden Aquarium	5	1

B. Curriculum Committees:

The following curriculum committees met during the month of April: Technology Committee.

Technology Committee Meeting Minutes

Representatives in Attendance:

GHS: Rob Hemmes, Michele Keating (STEM)
 GIS: Not represented
 BOWE: Mike Sharkey
 BULLOCK: Dionne Young
 Rodgers: Not Represented

Items Discussed:

1. Office 365 - Outlook
 - a. Students email has always been Outlook and has recently been upgraded to Office365.
 - b. Auto linked student logins to email. This has changed student email address to ID number instead of firstname dot lastname at glassboroschoools dot org.
 - c. We need to revise student login names for September
 - d. Student emails always end in dot ORG not dot US
 - e. Staff – will also be granted access to O365 using their current logins – have to work it out with Microsoft.

- f. Password resets for O365 are being given to some teachers soon but will need to login using dot ORG to reset the password
- 2. Office 365 - OneNote for Classrooms
 - a. Free download that allows you to create a classroom and automatically creates 3 notebooks for the classroom – General notes and information area for all, student private notes and question section, general collaboration section for students to share course related work
- 3. Office 365/Office 2013 or 2016 - Microsoft MIX
 - a. Free add-on for PowerPoint that allows you to record your slide show or your desktop.
 - b. Ability to add voice and mix in Movie Maker for fuller feature effects.
 - c. Can share an MPG movie
- 4. Google Classroom
 - a. Is active for teachers in all schools
 - b. Only students in grades 4-12 have access.
 - c. Staff have been granted access to reset student password on GAFE but it is not working for all members. Tech is researching
- 5. Office365/Google Apps for Education (GAFE)
 - a. Both are being made available for student/staff to use
 - b. Ensures students get experience with both environments, especially Microsoft for career skills.
 - c. Committee agreed both should be provided
- 6. Summer 2016
 - a. Tech will upgrade laptops to Windows 10.
 - b. Drop off at end of school as we have done in the past.
 - c. Will probably be able to pick-up by mid-July.
 - d. May request earlier upgrade if desired.
 - e. All units will have the same common software as outlined in the Windows 10 survey.
 - f. Will create department or grade images with other common software for those groups.
 - g. Check out Atomic Learning for videos on how Windows 10 works.
 - h. Tech will also try to offer some summer sessions on Windows 10 and website reviews
- 7. Fall 2016
 - a. Bowe School will be given a single cart of 30 Chromebooks. This is slated as 1 time purchase using budget money. Cart will be used primarily to offset lack of devices for PARCC but will also be used as pilot for a classroom.
 - b. GHS will be doing a 1:1 pilot in one or two grades of devices for student. The devices will probably be Chromebooks.
 - c. Before purchasing the devices we must answer the following questions:
 - i. Will PARCC and WIDA run on the Chromebook – recent indications are that Chrome was not being supported by PARCC due to security concerns (ability to lock down devices)
 - ii. Chromebook WILL NOT print – Is that okay since everything is digitally in the cloud?
 - iii. Can Project Lead The Way run on it?

- iv. Can Math/Science run on it?
 - v. Is a laptop better option?
 - vi. Can student take device off premises?
 - 1. What are our responsibilities for CIPA?
 - 2. How to deal with lost, stolen or forgotten units
 - 3. How to deal with volume of students entering and leaving district
- 8. Summer 2017
 - a. Planned 5-year Server Refresh - replacing our application servers and network storage, providing upgrade to newer, more secured technology.
 - b. End users will not notice differences
- 9. Summer 2018
 - a. Computer Refresh
 - i. Current Staff laptop – what should replace them? Another laptop or a desktop in the classroom? Maybe access to a tablet device like a Surface or Revolve?
 - ii. Student Machines – will look much different. Will be do a complete 1:1 with every student getting a device (Laptop or Chromebook)? Stick with a many to one approach, where we put carts in classrooms?
 - iii. Classroom Labs – should they be changed from desktops to laptops? Do you still need a lab in the building?
 - b. We have 18 months to answer these questions before we have to make final budgetary decisions.
 - c. Also need to determine how much additional money may be available from the current annual amount of \$230K.
- 10. Strategic Plan
 - a. Great focus on Classroom Tech (student devices and interactive devices like touch screens or projectors and Professional Development for staff
 - b. Budget for ½ time Tech Coach – someone to support teachers with tech in the classrooms and bring tech requirements back to the tech department
- 11. Social Media
 - a. New District App launched – “Dawg Bytes” for Android and Apple – available free in the Play Store or iTunes. Allows push messages to app (for closings and reminders), tracks all social media accounts and web page announcements, headlines and calendars. Also provides resources for Staff, Students, Parents and Community by highlighting specific web pages, documents or links.
 - b. Official Facebook pages have been created for ALL Buildings
 - i. **MUST BE MAINTAIN BY PRINCIPALS—CAN NOT BE DELEGATED**
 - ii. Waiting for lower buildings to provide principal Facebook access
- 12. Project Lead
 - a. Checking hardware and software for Chromebook compatibility
 - b. Checking to see if we can just run specific modules that are compatible with existing student devices
 - c. Dione Young expressed interested from Bullock School

13. Future Demo – LMS Systems (next Gen Google Classroom)
 - a. Blackboard Learn - ~ \$23,000 for 8-12
 - b. Schoology—Cross between blackboard and Facebook - ~\$10,000 for K-12
 - i. Something to look at in the future – these take GAFE and bring it to next level. Also gives students exposure to learning environments they will see in college (Blackboard Learn).
14. Other building items
 - a. Mr. Cusack has requested an electronic facilities scheduling program for GHS, specifically suggesting “rschool today”. Would allow public to reserve facilities for functions, pay on-line and upload required documents. Allows a more public view of what is happening so we can avoid issues like the Prom and Sports Tournament overlap from last year.
 - b. Policy Packet distributed for review – GEA requested a way to add clause to AUP that students CANNOT record classroom teachers or activities without prior written permission. We seem to have had a couple incidents where students have targeted a teacher to spark a reaction that is then recorded by cell phone and uploaded to the Internet. I believe this kind of behavior is already addressed in current policy but a review would be helpful if we need to ask the board to make adjustments.
15. Next Meeting – it was decided to meet monthly on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Our next meeting will be May 4th (Star Wars Day). {groan}

IV. **PERSONNEL**

A. **New Staff Members**

The following staff members were hired or transferred to another position during the month of April:

Justin Debrosse	LTS 6 th grade	Bowe School
Laure Budney	BSI	Bullock School
Ruth Keating	Cafeteria Aide	Bullock School
Noelia Gonzalez	District Accountant	Beach Building

Vacancies

P-T Occupational Therapist
 P-T Tech Coordinator
 Anticipated Part-Time Physical Therapist

B. **Substitute Teachers**

From this point on all potential Substitutes are being referred to Source4Teachers.