

PRESS RELEASE

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THE STADIUM SCHOOL STUDENTS POST LARGEST GAINS IN SCHOOL HISTORY

Huge gains in mathematics and steady increases in reading sub groups. Average gains in Math of 20% and Reading across all grades of over 5%. Unprecedented increases in students scoring proficient and advanced – 66 in Reading, 96 in Math. Unparalleled success on the High School Assessment (HSA), 48 TSS eighth grade students pass the Algebra portion of the HSA

BALTIMORE (June, 2009) – The Stadium School students achieved their highest scores since the inception of the Maryland School Assessments in 2003, with 77.4% of students scoring advanced or proficient in reading and 70.9% scoring advanced or proficient in math. Every grade increased its scores in both Math and Reading, including huge gains in 7th and 8th grade Math and 8th grade Reading. More students scored proficient or advanced than ever before, with 66 more students in Reading and 96 more students in Math compared to last year. What was just as impressive in the decrease in the student who scored at the basic level in mathematics and reading despite a 30% increase in enrollment from 240 to 300 students. In 2009, 67 students scored at the basic level in reading compared to 63 in 2008; in 2009, 87 students scored at the basic level in mathematics compared to 114 in 2008.

TSS eighth grade students achieved the highest number of proficient students on the Algebra portion of the HSA, the only high school test administered at the middle school level. TSS student performance on the test was outstanding. This year 48 eighth grade students passed the test and will receive 1 high school credit, and consequently will begin the Fall taking more complex math coursework e.g. Algebra II. This is an extraordinary achievement compared to the last two years, where a total of 10 students passed the Algebra subtest between 2007 and 2008. This is approximately a 400% increase in student success on the HSA.

Rationale for MSA accomplishments: While significant recognition must go to the faculty/staff for their dedication and diligence surrounding outstanding instruction as well as to our parents/guardian who send their children TSS on a daily bases, acute details must be highlighted with reference to increased time in math and reading classes which all correlates to improved test scores. Thus as math instructional time increased so did students scores in mathematics. This was particularly clear in the 8th grade, mathematics and reading instructional time increasing from 75 minutes in 2008 to 140 minutes in 2009; math and reading instruction accounted for approximately two-thirds of the school-day.

Rationale for HSA triumphs: The underlying principles of the increase the number of students who passed the HSA are similar. Of course, one must recognize the superb instruction coming from *Highly Qualified* teachers; also we must draw attention to coach classes, 140 minute math blocks or contemporary math classes, i.e. Algebra and Math Technology classes, extend day program for specific eighth grade classes and finally Saturday School.

"Ex opere et labore excellentia."



THE STADIUM SCHOOL

"The World is Our Classroom."

Ronald N. Shelley
Executive Director

Kenya Johnson
Director of Instruction

Yvette S. Whims
Parent Liaison

The Stadium School
1300 Gorsuch Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21218
Phone: 443.984.2682
Fax: 410.366.2672

Email: admin@stadiumschool.com
Web: www.stadiumschool.com

Celebrating 15 Years
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A few highlights of The Stadium School's historic MSA and HSA results:

- ◆ TSS students posted significant gains between the 2007 and 2008 school years, with average gains in Reading across all grades of over 5 % and in Math of 20%.
- ◆ 162 more student test-takers scored proficient or advanced than last year (66 in reading, 96 in Math).
- ◆ Grade 6, 7, and 8 posted significant gains between the 2007 and 2008 school years, with 5.1, 18.8, and 36.7 point increase in mathematics respectively.
- ◆ 97% attendance rate, which set the bar for all City Schools
- ◆ 48 eighth grade students pass the HSA Algebra Test, a 500% increase from combine school years 2007 and 2008
- ◆ Students who passed earn 1 high school credit and will take Algebra II in the Fall at their perspective high school.

Congratulations to all of the faculty/staff of The Stadium School parents, and students; with scores to revival any middle school in BCPSS and the state of Maryland. While our 6th and 7th grade Math and Reading scores were **great**, our 8th grade Math and Reading Scores were at an all time high.

These are exciting time for TSS; the school is working and our merge between project based teaching and high stakes testing has found some common ground.