Pennsylvania Department of Education

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
333 MARKET STREET
HARRISBURG, PA 17126-0333

Charter Annual Report

Monday, November 10, 2008

Charter School: Chester Co Family Academy CS
Address: 323 E Gay St
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Phone:
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CHARTER SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT SUMMARY DATA

Charter School Annual Report
Summary Data
2008 - 2009

Name of School: Chester Co Family Academy CS

Number of:	K (AM)	K (PM)	K (FTIME)	ELEM	MIDDLE	SEC.	TOTAL

SECTION I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Organization Description

Chester County Family Academy is a North Star Learning Experience, where families, educators and communities take responsibility for the joyful lives of young learners. (K-2)

Using a hands-on (experiential), minds-on (emotional), hearts-on (emotional) approach, these Chester County Family Academy partners sustained a poverty prevention program where students were placed "ready for success" in private, religious, charter school and larger public school systems all over the Chester County.

Using extended learning hours (8:15-4:00 for 11 months), highly qualified teachers (all Pa. certified) and full-time parent advocates in every small (18 students) classroom, Chester County Family Academy has become the school choice of parents, since 1997.

Using our shared values of empathy, honesty & persistence, our common goal of creating beauty and our shared process of planning, producing & pondering all that we do, Chester County Family Academy streamlined the delivery of educational services and made a positive difference in the lives of children.

Using challenges of change as motivation for improvement, challenges of scarcity as motivation for innovation and challenges of violence as motivation for harmony, Chester County Family Academy put the child at the center of every decisions and made space for the peaceful sharing of each individual's talents.

Notes: Chester County Family Academy Charter

***chartered in 1997 for 3 year years. (One of the first six charter schools in Pa.)**

***renewed in 2005 for 5 years (The first charter school**

to be renewed in Pa.)
***to be revewed in 2010 for 5 years (Pending)**

Governance
***7 Member Board - meetings on the third Wednesday of each month**
***Head of School: Founder & CEO (no change since 1997)**

Location
***Chester County Family Academy is located in the heart of West Chester, Pa.**
CCFA is in Cambridge Square Plaza, near WC Borough Hall/Police
Address: 323 East Gay Street, West Chester, 19380

Invitation
***Come to experience our school.**
***Come to see your tax dollars "at work"!**
***Maps and directions: 610-696-5910 or www.ccfacademy.org**

Core Purpose

Mission

MISSION OF THE CHESTER COUNTY FAMILY ACADEMY FOR 2007-2008

The future of our world is linked to the natural development of our most precious resource, children. We celebrated the spirit (hearts-on), mind (heads-on) and body (hands-on) of children. We gently placed children at the core of all our efforts.
We recognized parent/guardians, as a child's first teacher and home as a

child's first learning environment. We partnered with parents, educators and community citizens to continue an experiential, science educational using a process.

Using the North Star Experiential Program, we provided a safe environment where children are affirmed as to be all they can be. We used cycles, learning "tools", nurturing environment where children are affirmed to be all they can be.

Using the North Star Experiential Program, we provided a safe murturing snf , active, nurturing authentic individuals, joyful explorers Educationh o/fa and family heart the world

MISSION GOALS MET FOR 2007- 2008

A. Children developed naturally at CCFA - 100%
age appropriate materials, furniture, length of lessons,

B. We celebrated the spirits of children - 100%

C. We celebrated the minds of children - 100%

D. We celebrated the bodies of children - 100%

E. We gently placed children at the core of all our efforts - 100%

F. We recognized the parents as a child's first teacher. the home as a child's first learning environment
and partnered with parents, educators and community individuals in group and educators- 100%

G. We joined educators as partners in the educational process - 100%

H. We joined with community partners to contine the educational process - 100%

I. We provided a safe, active, beautiful learning environment for every cchild - 100%

H. We provided for continuous experiences in the world for learning success. - 100%

I. We supported joyful explorers & thinkers
We supported self-directed producers & innovators
We supported a calm & reflective humans to allow for sharing talents with others
We modeled joyful learning through a science focus that was delivered through artistic expression, authentic connections and partnership.
We all learned and searched for truth and beauty - 100%

WEST CHESTER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT CHARTER GOALS

These goals relate directly to our West Chester Area School Distric Charter to be child centered & family focused, connect with the community through expanding partnerships and to increase experiential program attributes, each year.

GOAL 1: All Chester County Family Academy actions were focused on the child/family - 100% success
GOAL 2: A 10% increase in active community partners - 100% success
GOAL 3: A 10 % increase in hands-on (experiential), heads-on (academic), hearts-on (emotional) program offerings - 100% success

Vision

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CCFA VISION

Expanding the choice of parents by providing a community based "private school style" educational, transitional program for primary age students (K-2) whose families are struggling with the effects of financial challenges.

Chart of Vision/Mission Goals

Vision/Mission Goal Chart			
Goal 1. 95% all actions are child focused.	**1 Strategies: Student is: topic/core of all meetings; petty cash fund child focused; school funding child focus; physical environ. child focus; clothing & health needs for child; phone l**	**1. Measured by staff log bks; plan books, phone log review of child/ parent focus; see child schedule; parent handbk. Review; focus; school policies; parent survery; parent notes & monthly phone call sheets; home visit sheets**	**1 95% child focus in all staff meetings & in all school activities, plans and procedures.** **MET GOAL**
Goal 2. 95% child working on theme skills/tasks focus for the child.	**2. Strategies: Use of "NS Resource Plan Bks" for each** **7 wk. learning module; theme supply boxes; theme homework; theme centers; theme**	**2. Measured by class schedules; class observation and review of: Resource Plan Bks, topic assessments, topic homework, topic class displays,**	**2. 95% class time with student "on theme task"** **MET GOAL**

	computer sites; theme guests; theme "tools"; use of classroom reimbursement money for child friendly purchases …	**budget vs actual of $ spent, teacher supply request list, yearly purchase list**	
Goal 3. 25% family focused learning support & parenting support	**3. Strategies:** **Redid parent handbook; focused on signed homework with parent involved piece;** **Monthly phone calls; home & school visits; head of school "homework with parents"; copies of "testing sheets" shared; response to family challenges…**	**3. Measured by: parent surveys; staff to parent** **letters, monthly; CEO to parent newsletters; signed nightly homework records; outreach agency partner lists; parent sign-in sheets; visitors policy; home visit sheets; family sign-in sheets**	**3. 50% increase in parent learning and "challenge" support — most successful year with great family connecting** **EXCEEDED GOAL**
Goal 4. 3 new actively involved community partnerships	**4. New partners:** **"Girl Scout" project; grant success; strip mall outreach & connection; board outreach with new members;** **new projects such as the "Senior Center Connect Program"…**	**4. Measured by partner "contracts"; yearly partner lists; staff/partner class logs (wkly); partner "off site" schedules for school afternoons**	**4. 10% new partners** **MET GOAL**
Goal 5 "Private school style" education list expansion to 30 characteristics.	**5. Strategies: Arts focus/lessons expanded; music all through day; performances in the community to include mini-concerts; Suzuki violin lessons expanded for first and second graders.** **6 Strategies: Recruit**	**5 Measured by: expansion of arts program; daily special programs schedule; expanded list; expanded numbers of students having violin lessons; staff arts training & use of arts in classroom see theme bks.**	**5 20% increase of characteristics of "private schools"** **EXCEEDED GOAL — expanded artistic, technology and performance**

Goal 6. Expand educational choice for parents by 25%	**new K class; public relation effort; community talks; all staff & student flyers & brochure outreach; posters in town; uniform recognition; CCFA parenting resource site; human service parent outreach "on site shopping" ; news coverage, town performances …**	**6. Measured by: % new students, yearly; speaking engagements in community; school recognitions; parent visitor increases**	**areas** **6 25% expansion of parents (new K class & some new first/second graders)**

Shared Values

CCFA'S SCHOOL PLEDGE/VALUES

"At the Chester County Family Academy,
we care about others, (empathy)
tell the truth (honesty)
and try, try, try (persistence)
to make things beautiful (harmony."

CORE VALUES FOUND IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE "NORTH STAR EXPERIENCE":

1. Our CCFA pledge centers on empathy, honesty and persistence toward peace/harmony.
Core knowing: for successful learning, xxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxvalues support a child's natural, unfolding process that brings understanding about the world around unwhere children, through environmental interaction, learn to understand the world around them.
***Joyful living comes from understanding the world through experience & sharing talents with others.**

2. Our CCFA pledge places the welfare of the young child at the core of all that we do.
Core knowing: for highest educational and financial returns, spend preventive dollars that address the healthy development of a young child's mind, body and spirit.
***Fixing problems is expensive, preventing problems save money, time & resources.**

3. Our CCFA pledge is central to every action of the "North Star Experience".
Core knowing: for "unlimited resources", experience the world, seek improvement

through
calm reflection and persistent effort, and joyfully share your talents with others.
***Resources are unlimited in a world of balance and harmony.**

SHARED VALUES: EMPATHY, HONESTY, PERSISTENCE & BEAUTY/HARMONY

Empathy "…care about other…" CCFA from school pledge
Caring about others includes: doing kind things for a friend, respecting the "spaces" of others, listening while others talk, keeping hands and feet to yourself, using positive word & solutions, using words to express anger, putting yourself "in the shoes" of the another person, using touch to connect with a person, watching non-verbal signals for understanding, remembering how you felt in a situation, helping others do the work, letting others express their feelings…

Honesty "... tell the truth..." from CCFA school pledge
Telling the truth includes : telling the story/event as it really happened, responding to classroom/school rules and routines with honest responsibility, adjusting to new situations with honesty, having open communication with honesty, cooperating to "work things out" with truthful words, honest words to ask for help or tell what you need, communicating with openness when you speak...

Persistence "...Try, try, try our best..." from CCFA school pledge
Trying your best includes: continuing to "work" until the job is done, participate with the group until the lesson is over, remain at the table until the activity is complete, complete the activity you begin, finish the game you are playing, talk until the idea is communicated, stop building when your construction is complete, keep writing until the story is told . . .

Beauty/Harmony "...to make things beautiful." from CCFA school pledge
Making things beautiful includes: organized and lovely for everyone includes: a place for everything and everything in its' place, displaying the talents/work of everyone, surrounding yourself with color and light, speaking quietly, working peacefully, using the property of others with care, moving calmly, surrounding yourself with music and poetic words, maintaining clean work spaces, keeping things off the floor, returning items to containers, making eye contact when speaking/shaking hands, using manners, learning with smiles...

SHARED CORE BELIEFS OF THE CHESTER COUNTY FAMILY ACADEMY:

1. Every child learns, grows and develops in a natural, unfolding process.
(Each individual develops at his/her own, individual rate, naturally.)

2. Every child is a reservoir of potentialities, learning through environmental interaction.
(Each individual comes to an understanding of the world through experiences.)

3. Every child has many ways of knowing, learning and producing.
(Each individual has multiple intelligences and multiple ways of sharing talents.)

4. Every child & society benefits from an early, holistic educational program supporting life-long learning and joyful living.
(Each individual gets the best return on investment from spending dollars/resources proactively for young children.)

5. Educational resources are unlimited in a world of peaceful harmony and shared partnerships.

(Everyone benefits from the sharing of talents with others that are the result of peaceful interactions.)

Academic Standards

Measurable Academic Standards/Goals with Results			
Goal 7 20% increase (to 5 days a week) in science success of "hands-on" tools Goal 8 10% increase in scientific discovery/experimenting skill (1 experiment per week) Goal 9. 10% increase in computation skills Goal 10 10 % increase in math concepts understanding	7 wk. learning module; theme supply boxes; theme homework; theme centers; theme computer sites; theme guests; theme "tools"; use of classroom reimbursement money for child friendly purchases … Goal 8 Strategies: Shared science resource bks; experiment notes; discovery approach during staff meetings; materials for experiments in theme boxes… classroom surprises such as glass "rooting box"… 9. Call for daily computing time; computer computing exercise practice; written sheets @ lunch for edible "surprise"; math partner computing dice… 10 Strategies: small	7 Measured by: # of science "tools" in class theme boxes; portfolio records; staff resource/plan book notes; class observations; assessment sheets 8Measured by:staff resource/plan notes; multiple-intelligence assessment forms; student portfolios; class observations; curriculum outline followed 9. Measured by: Lunch-time "you can do it" sheets; staff assessments; speed add/subtract papers; all school screening sheets 10 Measured by "all school" screening assessments; question centers; teacher MI performance	7 20% hands-on success & discovery lessons SUCCESS! 1 day a week increase in science "discovery" lessons noted in classrooms 8 10% increase Increased success! 9. 15% increase noted for K EXCEEDED goal! 10 % for Second Graders and First Grades 10 20% increase in K

***increase conceptual math in small group activities to 5 activities a week in every classroom**	**group, teacher mini-discovery lessons; open-ended" lessons with many correct answers; discovery math centers; theme box counters; find out" problems…**	**assessments**	**5% increase in grade 1**
Goal 11 Increase conceptual understanding of numerals by 20%	**11 Strategies: reference materials like charts in classrooms; thematic number lines every 4 wks; hundreds' charts everywhere; number literacy items; student games/materials made, used and given at mini-staff workshops …**	**11 Measured by: multiple-intelligence performance assessments; portfolio items** **staff resource/plan books; classroom items checklists**	**10% increase in grade 2** **11 20% increase** ***MET goal!**
Goal 12 Increase use of math "tools" by 15%	**12 Strategies: hands-on math discovery tables; math center work; materials corner; theme math display area; whole group "circle time" activities; changing theme counters (every 4 weeks); varieties of math tool options for grade level …**	**12 Measured by staff Resource/plan books; classroom observation notes; $ spent on "hands-on" math supplies for 2006-07**	**12** **20% increase** **EXCEEDED goal — created math centers in each classroom & purchased new materials for all classes**
Goal 13 Increase word reading skills by 10% for every child.	**13 Strategies: continuously sharing "word lists" & testing results with al staff & parents; daily word card student partner review; lists hanging from ceiling for use; games with words; computer time with words …**	**13 Formal "all school" testing by "floating aide"; classroom assessments**	**13** **10% increase** **Responsive support from classroom aides**
Goal 14 100% 15 minutes of oral reading at least 3 or 4 days a week	**14 Strategies:**	**14 Measured by: Teacher resource/plan books; classroom observations; class schedules; staff reading materials requests** **15Measured by Formal writing assessment 4x year; OT mini-workshops;**	**Success!** **14 75% met in all classes**

Goal 15 **10 % increase in formal writing lessons, structured writing process**	**partner reading as a part of each day; reading to other classes; small group reading with aide; student authored book presentations; time with tutor; teacher modeling …** **15 Strategies; slant boards; pencil grips of all kinds; No More Tears book for staff; staff OT mini workshops;**	**weekly notes; writing assessment checklists; assessment of daily journals** **16 Measured by using: scoring sequence by North Star; in class assessments**	**Some success, only!** **15** **10% increase** **Success!**
Goal 16 Writing **10% increase in writing for pleasure**	**varieties of writing tools; theme writing options; variety of writing grips; numbers of "writing tools" to written with … etc.** **16 Strategies: student authored books; notes for "real" people; student notes to each other; story telling book and dictation exercises...etc.**	**17 Measured by success in listening activities; classroom listening checklists; observations**	**16. 15% increase in all classrooms** **Exceeded goal!**
Goal 17 **10 % increase in formal listening lessons**	**17 Strategies: class listening games; ear phones for all computers; rhyming word games; "whisper down the lane" game at transition times…**	**18 Measured by performances & MI assessments; (every 7 wks.)**	**17 10 % increase** **Success!**
Goal 18 **Develop memory skills by memorizing at least 1 age appropriate items each 7 weeks for learning modules**	**18 Strategies: every 7 wks: theme poems learned; theme sayings; theme jokes; school pledge, daily; all**	**19 Measured by student observations; student performances; MI assessments** **20Measured by observation; classroom and community**	**18 100 %** **Success!** **Yes, at least 7 items for each learning module topic**
Goal 19 **Be able to speak to be heard and understood for 1 minute before a**			

classroom group.	**school "catch phrases"; memory games; choral speaking; chants …**	**performances**	**19 75 % success for K**
Goal 20 100% **To be able to use non-verbal communication.**	**19 Strategies: class microphone time; reciting stools; group performances; group plays; community outreach situations; older students to younger students activities…**	**21Measured by classroom visits; staff NS Resource Plan Books**	**80% for 1,2 grade** **20 80% K class can do signing**
***sign at least a dozen words, use signals for bathroom and other needs and communicate non-verbally in school performances.**	**20 Strategies: learning to sign; teacher signals to students; student to student signaling in classrooms; silent plays; mime activities**		**75% CCFA students use non-verbal signing for school needs**
Goal 21 100% **Music concepts, skills and "tools" used throughout each theme learning module and music being played throughout the day in all classrooms.**		**22 Measured by portfolio examples; classroom visits and individual student MI assessment performance scores**	**90% students can use non-verbal communication in performances** **21 80% success school-wide success**
Goal 22			**Room to improve!**
100% To be artistically performing and communicating about each thematic topic. (all during 7 weeks of "study")	**21 Strategies; musical instrument purchases; rhythm activities for exercise; community performances; class to class and "on the street" performances; audience participation opportunities…**	**23 Measured by teacher theme books; number of performances; audience responses; class notes to parents**	**22 80% response for the year**
Goal 23 100% **To communicate what you know through theater/acting performances during the module topic.**	**22 Strategies: theme art displays changed every 4 weeks; community art displays; visits to WC art galleries; crafts centers; gift making**	**24Measured by activity check-lists; WCU records; karate & dance instructor input and MI assessments**	**Room to improve!** **23 60% response**
Goal 24 100% **Daily formal and informal**		**25 Measured by Wellness Plan output & reference; schedule**	**Outstanding items made by students!**

exercising for all students.	**centers/activities …**	**of activities; WCU, swimming lesson and karate feedback**	**Room to improve!**
	23 Strategies: 1 project each week of topic learning; performances for CCFA partners & other classrooms, new theme acting out …		**24 100% daily exercise for all!** **Success!**
Goal 25 100% **Full participation in NS health/nutrition program.**	**24 Strategies: new topical balls, streamers etc. physical education items; "move" every 20 minutes in classrooms; adaptive PE at the university weekly, dancing lessons, 10 minute formal exercise break; karate lessons …**	**26 Measured by MI Assessments;behavior scores on Prog. Reports, observation & check sheets**	**25 80 % participation participation by all staff and students to be improved**
Goal 26 100% **Every learner will honor fellow students and be a socially caring citizen.**	**25 Strategies: Lenape Dental Health items; dental training; using food library at lunch; cooking lessons; health lessons included in theme activities menu input and hot lunche/breakfast learning; healthy parties etc. …**	**27 Measured by Progress reports; classroom behavior charts; staff ratings — CEO support needed** **28 Measured by classroom checklists; class observations; staff peer assessments**	**Great health/nutrition activities formally and informally being developed at CCFA — new materials purchased in 2006-07.** **Room for improvement!** **26 85% success rate**
Goal 27 100% **Every learner will honor the school values of caring, honesty, persistence toward a beautiful (violence free) classroom.**			**Some room for improvement!**
Goal 28 100% **To create a beautiful**	**26 Strategies: all school pledge; shared values; simple class rules; class "catch phrases" for behavior; simple**	**29 80% Measurements included wherever applicable in the text of report**	**27 75 % success rate** **Room for improvement — dealing with honesty issues all**

space for learning. **GOAL 29** **Added standards/goals in text to clarify student growth *see academic statistics in data report**	**“food” rewards; “top/look/listen” game…** **27 Strategies: empathetic responses child to child; behavior reports; bus reports; progress reports; rewards for caring; classroom helping; chores completion; assistance to staff by children …** **28Strategies: all classroom “tools” labeled; a place for everything; helper lists; assigned responsibilities; honoring others; display areas in abundance; changing rooms every 4 weeks for new topic …** **29 100% Strategies listed in text where appropriate**		**year!** **28 80% success** **29 100% or less success and statistics presented in text of this report where applicable**

Strengths and Challenges

SECTION II. STRATEGIC IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

Strategic Planning Process

GOAL 30: CCFA Strategic planning process to involve the entire school in the planning , producing and pondering all that happens at CCFA.
100%

At Chester County Family Academy, we are improving our school program, continuously, through strategic planning. During 2006-07 school year, we met as a team, set targets and assessed how well they were met. We used the whole school plus additional members to do a strategic plan and produce results. We will be using the 2006-07 results toward improvements in 2007-08!

Our school year begins on August 13, 2006 and we are ready to begin implementing our 2007-08 plan!

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS AT CCFA

We used a North Star “Planning, Producing, Pondering Process" for our strategic plan! 100% success

*Used our “North Star Process of Operation” all during the 2006-07 school year.

*Our "NSP of O" involves: 1. Planning all that we do in relation to what is best for a young child
2. Producing, actively "doing", taking actions for the education of young children
3. Pondering, assessing & "thinking about" all that we do for young children

*Our "NSP of O" is continuously refined, assessed and focused on the current needs of young children & their families

Strategic Planning at CCFA involves:

*all adults at CCFA modeled the Planning, Producing & Pondering Process for students, each other ... 100%

*a team/group effort planned, produced and pondered all that happened in 2006-07 100%

*2006-07 implemented the task of writing all CCFA "operational processes", tied to operating principles, for all aspects of the school program 25%
By the end of 2007-08 - completing the goal above 100%

Strategic Planning, Producing and Pondering in 2006-07:
1. teacher/administration team (Tuesdays at 7:30 am) meetings, weekly
2. “all staff”/administration team (Thursdays at 7:30 am) meetings, weekly
3. team meetings vary in format to include sessions included topics involving: current educational newspaper & magazine articles, pedagogy, developmental information, educational research, educational strategy & "best practices, problem-solving activities, brainstorming sessions, team building exercises . . . etc. in relationship to the CCFA school vision, mission, goals and dreams for young learners.

GOAL 31 Operate as a “North Star Team” 90% success
*team focus, the young learner
*team financial support, individualized support with “petty cash”; staff educational library; money for graduate classes; planning time for student needs & assessment options
*focus is all inclusive and provides information and strategies and support in “all directions”- everyone has equal value and all talents are used toward the “greater good”
*the young child is in the center, the focal point of every decision of the "North Star Team" — child focus
*consensus is the goal of the North Star Team when deciding strategic issues & goals
*NS Team use two morning sessions to: initiate ideas, develop plans, discuss challenges, respond to concerns, brainstorm options, share & plan strategies, to hear “experts”, discuss articles, provide feedback, monitor progress and ponder what is happening . . . etc.

STRATEGIC GOAL PLANNING, PRODUCING, PONDERING SUCCESS

1. PLANNING STRATEGY

How our 2006-07 strategic planning happened:
1. daily (suggestion box, before school sharing/changes …) 50% success
2. weekly (staff meetings, information sheets …) 80% success in 05-06
3. monthly (parent calls, board meetings, shared student checklists …) 100% success in 05-06

In 2006-07 the North Star PLANNING of the strategic plan implementation included: centering style of planning implementation with the classroom teacher; sharing teaching approaches with peers; team brainstorming of results; administration oversight through teacher North Star Resource Books/These books, parent phone log and thematic planning books.

In 2006-05, North Star theme PLANNING framework for strategic plan cohesiveness and “all school support” allowed for sharing of materials, multiple-intelligence assessments and gave a “team approach” to all that we did.

In 2006-07, North Star PLANNING for assessment driven goal success was executed with efficiency and success by everyone, every day: (What are we doing, today? How will we do it? Did we do it? How can e do it better? etc.)

In 2006-07, North Star Teacher Plans were executed with a rubric that was designed to be individualized to teacher needs — the style in which the teacher works best:
Pre-Planning — planning before a learning module begins
In-Process Planning — planning all during the module

Reflective/Pondering Planning — written planning when lessons completed

2. PRODUCING STRATEGY

In 2006-07, we produced a joyful, lively exchange of experiences that gave students an understanding of the earth within a context of communication, science, citizenship, verification (math) and performance goals and skills.

In 2006-07, we were produced a program "without walls" by using the entire community of West Chester as our classroom. (swimming at YMCA, studio karate, "Science in Park"; weekly art gallery lessons, WCU physical education lessons, storefront learning lessons, neighborhood performances, shop visits for science/earth learning, special community singing events, community "clean the earth" days, …etc.)

In 2006-07, we expanded our partnerships to supported the production items crafted and shared with families of our learners. Our sharing table was most successful and materials were enhanced and improved through the generosity of our community friends.

In 2006-07, we continued to be one of the first six chartered schools in the state and the first Charter School in Pennsylvania to have our charter renewed — we have been producing since 1997!.

3. PONDERING STRATEGY

In 2006-07, pondering focus was centered on learning about the earth through continuous assessment (every 7 weeks) that is shared school-wide, with parents and with our students. Our focus, change based on authentic assessments and response to results.

In 2006-07, our pondering involved the strategic team to verify perceptions and focus on the possibilities of setting higher standards within the reach of every child.

In 2006-07, out reporting procedures were reviewed, streamlined and used to set the flow of learning all during each learning module toward a 14 week, in depth report shared with our school board, all staff, all parents and ultimately in our annual report.

In 2006-07, our pondering focused on a "team approach" , peer review and sharing of assessment and strategies for students from the group. Responses, changes, decisions and approaches were team oriented. Team membership was our staff focus.

STRATEGIC PLANNING, PRODUCING, PONDERING/REPORTING ON STANDARDS/GOALS

GOAL 32 To use learning "problems" or "concerns" as opportunities, "North Star Change Agents" for continuous program
improvement to provide authentic learning in all areas at CCFA 80% success rate in 2006-07

1. principle: "challenges of strategic planning/reporting are used as "change agents" for improvement
2. use of adult and student imagination to find answers in strategic planning/reporting through

creative change
3. the group can solve ANY difficulty in strategic planning/reporting for the benefit of everyone
4. decisions are “other”, child focused, in any CCFA strategic plan/report
5. the team is more powerful than the individual in CCFA strategic planning/reporting
6. shared values support all decisions, strategic planning/reporting at CCFA

GOAL 33
To expand “North Star Family School Choice” and “North Star Educational Family Ownership” for all our CCFA families.

Success expanding children/family choice

2002-03	51% expansion (K-2)	*4 classrooms
2003-04	53% expansion (K-2)	*4 classrooms
2004-05	51% expansion (K-2)	*4 classrooms
2005-06	25% expansion (K-2)	*3 classrooms
2006-07	25% explansion (K-2)	*3 classrooms

GOAL 34
To expand “North Star Private School Style” factors for primary school experiences.

Success expanding “private school style” factors

2002-03	67% expansion of factors	(from 10 to 15 — expanded by 5)
2003-04	25% expansion of factors	(from 15 to 20 — expanded by 5)
2004-05	25% expansion of factors	(from 20 to 25 — expanded by 5)
2005-06	10% expansion of factors	(from 25 to 29 — expanded by 4)
2006-07	10% expansion of factors	(from 29 to 32 — explanded by 3)

GOAL 35
To expand the role of the “North Star Process of Operation” with students.

Strategic (Yearly Focus) Success Rate:

2003-04	25% increase in planning	(worked with planning focus)
2004-05	50 % increase in production focus	(worked with producing focus)
2005-06	10% increase in pondering focus	(worked with pondering focus)
2006-07	10% increase in planning focus	(worked with planning focus)

We are using the three P’s as a cycle of learning & strategic planning, producing and pondering focus all during our CCFA school year!

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Strategic Planning Committee

Name	Affiliation	Membership Category	Appointed By
Andrea Keller	CCFA - Staff teacher	Elementary School Teacher	CEO - all school participation
Brenda Mejeius	Former Parent @ CCFA	Parent	CEO & team
Dr. Carla	President of the CCFA	Board Member	CEO - all school

Messikomer	Board		participation
Dr. Jean Kountz	Lenape Dental Health		CEO
Jean Beam	Business Manager	Business Representative	CEO & team
Karen Minnick	CCFA - Staff teacher	Elementary School Teacher	CEO - all school participation
Marsha Guie	Parent Advocate		CEO & team
Susan Flynn	CCFA - Senior Educator	Special Education Representative	CEO - all school participation

Goals, Strategies and Activities

Statement of Quality Assurance

SECTION III. QUALITY OF SCHOOL DESIGN

Rigorous Instructional Program

English Language Learners

Graduation Requirements

Special Education

Special Education Program Profile - Chart I

Teacher	FTE	Type of class or support	Location	# of Students	Other Information

Special Education Program Profile - Chart II

Organization	FTE	Type of class or support	Location	# of Students	Other Information

Special Education Program Profile - Chart III

Title	Location	FTE

Special Education Program Profile - Chart IV

IU, Public Agency, Organization, or Individual	Title/Service	Amount of Time Per Week

SECTION IV. ACCOUNTABILITY

Student Assessment - Primary

Test/Classification	K	1	2	3	4	5

Student Assessment - Secondary

Test/Classification	6	7	8	9	10	11	12

Student Assessment

Teacher Evaluation

SECTION V. GOVERNANCE REQUIREMENTS

Leadership Changes

Board of Trustees

Name of Trustee	Office (if any)

Professional Development (Governance)

Coordination of the Governance and Management of the School

Community and Parent Engagement

SECTION VI. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Major fund-raising activities

Fiscal Solvency Policies

Accounting System

Audit Firm, Date of Last Audit, Auditor's Opinion, and Any Findings Resulting From the Audit

Citations and follow-up actions for any State Audit Report

SECTION VII. FACILITY RESPONSIBILITIES

Acquisition of Facilities, Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment During the Last Fiscal Year

Future Facility Plans and Other Capital Needs

SECTION VIII. HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

Compliance With Health and Safety Requirements and Maintenance of Health and Immunizations Records for Students

Current School Insurance Coverage Policies and Programs

SECTION IX. ADMINISTRATIVE NEEDS

Quality of Teaching and Other Staff

Student Enrollment

Transportation

Food Service Program

Student Conduct

ASSURANCE FOR THE OPERATION OF CHARTER SCHOOL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

School Year: 2008

The Chester Co Family Academy CS within Chester County IU 24 assures that the charter school will comply with the requirements of 22 PA Code Chapter 711 and with the policies and procedures of Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). PDE will specify, in writing, policies and procedures to be followed. Requests for any deviations from these regulations, policies, and procedures must be made in writing to PDE. The charter school assures:

1. There are a full range of services, programs and alternative placements available for placement and implementation of the special education programs in the charter school.
2. The charter school has adopted a "child find" system to locate, identify and evaluate children who are thought to be a child with a disability eligible for special education residing within the charter school's jurisdiction. "Child find" data is collected, maintained, and used in decision-making. Child find process and procedures are evaluated for effectiveness. The charter school implements mechanisms to disseminate child find information to the public, organizations, agencies, and individuals on at least an annual basis.
3. The charter school has adopted policies and procedures that assure that students with disabilities are included in general education programs and extracurricular and non-academic programs and activities to the maximum extent appropriate in accordance with an Individualized Education Program.
4. The charter school will comply with the PA Department of Education annual report requirements including special education information.
5. The charter school follows the state and federal guidelines for participation of students with disabilities in state and charter school-wide assessments including the determination of participation, the need for accommodations, and the methods of assessing students for whom regular assessment is not appropriate.
6. The charter school assures the Pennsylvania Department of Education that funds received through participation in the medical assistance reimbursement program, ACCESS, will be used to enhance or expand the current level of services and programs provided to students with disabilities in this local education agency.

This assurance must be signed by the Board President and the Chief Executive Officer for the charter school to operate services and programs.

_____ _____

Board President **Date**

_____ _____

Chief Executive Officer **Date**

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Verify that all DATA reports to PDE are complete **YES** _____ **NO** _____

SIGNATURE PAGE

Identify the charter school's .....
Name .....
Title .....
Phone ..... **Fax** .....
E-mail .....

_____ _____
Signature of the ..... and Date

Signature Page