



<https://sas.illuminate.com/site/external/jwsdetect/playback.jnlp?psid=2011-01-04.1551.M.701F07B97850429C0D5915C91801E2.vcr&sid=559>

**Board of Trustees Meeting**

**January 4, 2011**

- I. Preliminary
  - A. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm
  - B. Roll Call: Travis Gery, Bonita Harman, , Mary Steffey
  
- II. Old Business
  - A. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes  
Travis Gery made a motion to approve the minutes  
second Bonita Harman  
unanimously approved
  
- III. New Business: Report to the Board
  - A. Enrollment: Tim Kreider gave the enrollment report. Enrollment 6046 compared to 5105 for last year for an increase on 18% we are expecting 500 more high school students. Enrollment closes Jan19 for high school for the current year. Retention rate is 85% which is up 4% from this time last year. Retention refers to keeping the child in Agora. Attendance rates improved over last year at this time and are currently 90%
  - B. Finance: report by Ray Ball performance for Nov MTD amounts to surplus of \$16K vs. budget surplus of \$135K
  - C. Audit update FY 06/07 footnote is under review. Management representation letter is the final step to officially close out the audit report. We have reported the Bureau of Audits the FY 08/09 audit will be submitted 4/30/11  
Travis Gery made a motion that mileage be reimbursed at whatever the current federal rate.  
Bonita Harmon seconded  
unanimously carried  
Personnel report by Ray Ball: hired 6 since last meeting  
Mary Steffey made a motion to approve the personnel report  
Bonita Harmon seconded  
unanimously carried
  - D. Academic  
Sharon Williams gave the report (see board report) we have seen that the longer the children are with Agora the better they do as is evidenced by the Scantron performance series.  
High School report by Jane Swan. 614 students have course averages between 80 and 90%. The new Attendance and Achievement Policy began on Dec 15,2010

and 286 started the program and 106 showing some progress, 61 attending but showing no progress and 99 are not attending and no progress. There is a high school student celebration on Jan 12,2011 at noon.

Amy Rupp gave the Middle School Report: enrollment of 1100. 63% are passing 3 or more subjects. Attendance and Academic Progress and Achievement Policy Plan began on 1/3/2011. 256 students are under the policy. Failing but attended Back on Track Sessions- actions plans are in place for 169 students. School Messenger and k-mails were sent.

Elementary report by April Nix. Scantron participation is above 90% in grades 3 and 5. Grade 4 has the highest passing rate. Academic Achievement Plan is in place-Indicators Tracker to track student progress. Brain Pop and Discovery Ed videos have been added to instruction. Model Lesson for each grade level will be presented mid January containing essential elements of instruction. Co teaching Models on each grade level begin teaching on Jan 3.

Special Education Manager Judy Deemer gave the special education report.

Compass Learning has been implemented. K-8 there are 353 students working more that 3 grade levels behind. High School students taking Geometry and Algebra II will use Compass as a supplemental tool. Truancy Illumination Plan: 72 students have been identified. 10 students over the age of 17 have been issued a drop NOREP,

7 have been withdrawn. We are working with the truancy officer to hold sessions and schedule home visits

- E. Community and Parent Updates report by Laura Zottola: Operation Agora was done over the holidays for needy families for 36 students. Food drive was held as community service project. fundraising update was given. Booster Club meetings will be increased. Upcoming projects include parent held ADO's and parent training. The Big Think was recently updated.
- F. Charter Renewal Status/PDE Updates Sharon Williams said we are down to the last leg and an alignment is due in February and the last one is due in March. K12 is working on the billing transparency and it will be done for next month's meeting. PDE is requiring an amendment to the service agreement per the renewal application including language providing for an audit by the commonwealth.
- G. Policy Recommendations (Action) Sharon provided two potential calendars to be considered. A survey will be done to see if we will start before of after Labor day. Mary Steffey asked about the employee handbook and it still under review by legal
- H. Travis Gery proposed we hire Lawrence Frangiosa as the attorney for the school for \$25,000 per year. Mary Steffey made a motion to hire him  
Bonita Harmon seconded  
unanimously approved

I Public Comment (20 minutes)

- IV. **Adjournment Motion by Mary Steffey by Jan 4 , 2011**  
please see illuminate link at top of report for recorded meeting and please access  
the Board Report on the web site for more info

minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Steffey

*Mary Steffey*

---

# Board Report

---

January 4, 2011

---

---



**AGORA**  
CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL <sup>SM</sup>

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Sharon Williams  
5/17/2011

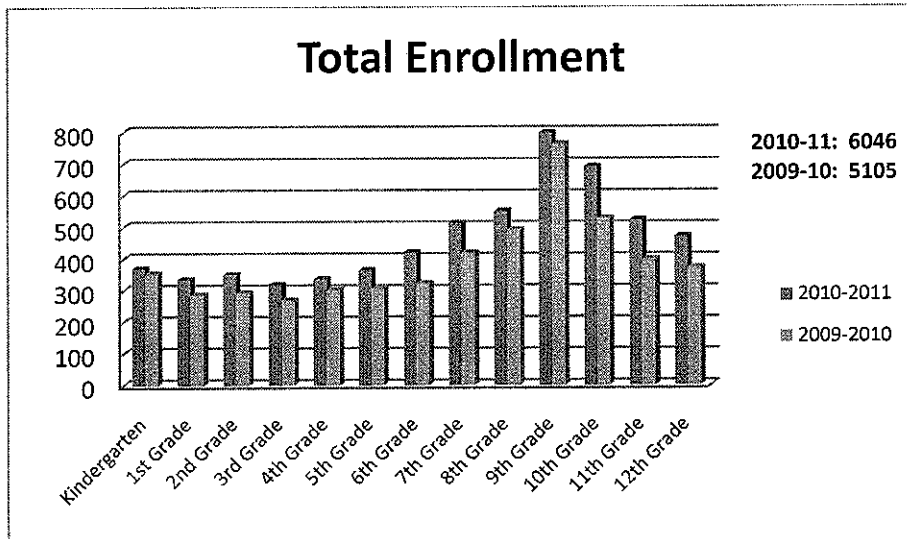


## Contents

Enrollment.....	3
Yearly Comparison.....	3
Monthly Comparison.....	4
Retention Rates.....	5
Attendance.....	6
Personnel.....	7
Finance.....	7
Academics.....	8
<i>Scantron Testing</i> 8	
High School Summary.....	9
Middle School Summary.....	9
Elementary School Summary.....	9
Other.....	10
Clubs and Activities.....	10
Upcoming Events.....	10
Community Outreach.....	10
Appendix 1: Enrollment Details.....	11
Appendix 2: Retention Details.....	12
Appendix 3: Attendance Details.....	13

## Enrollment

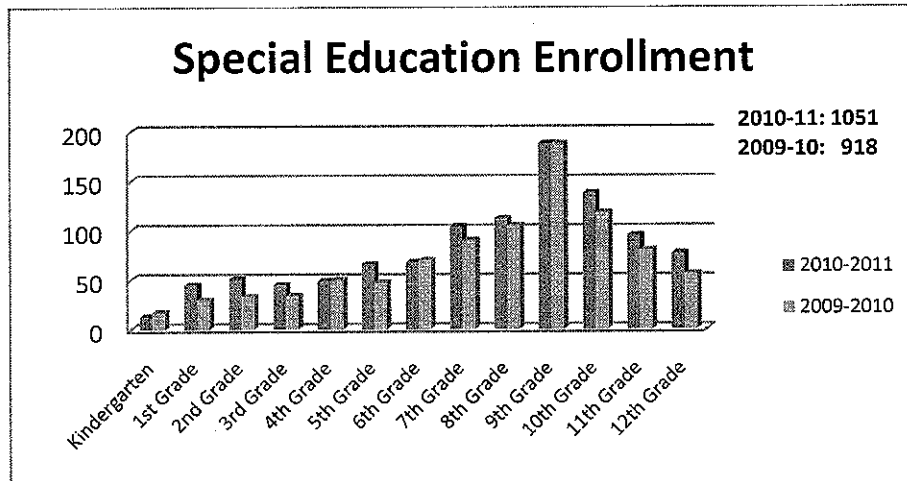
### Yearly Comparison



Enrollment continues to be steady with an overall growth rate of 18.4% over last year at this time. Special education numbers also exceeds last year's totals by 14.5%. General education students exceed last year by 19.3%.

There should be a spike of additional high school students in January with the enrollment of second semester students to begin.

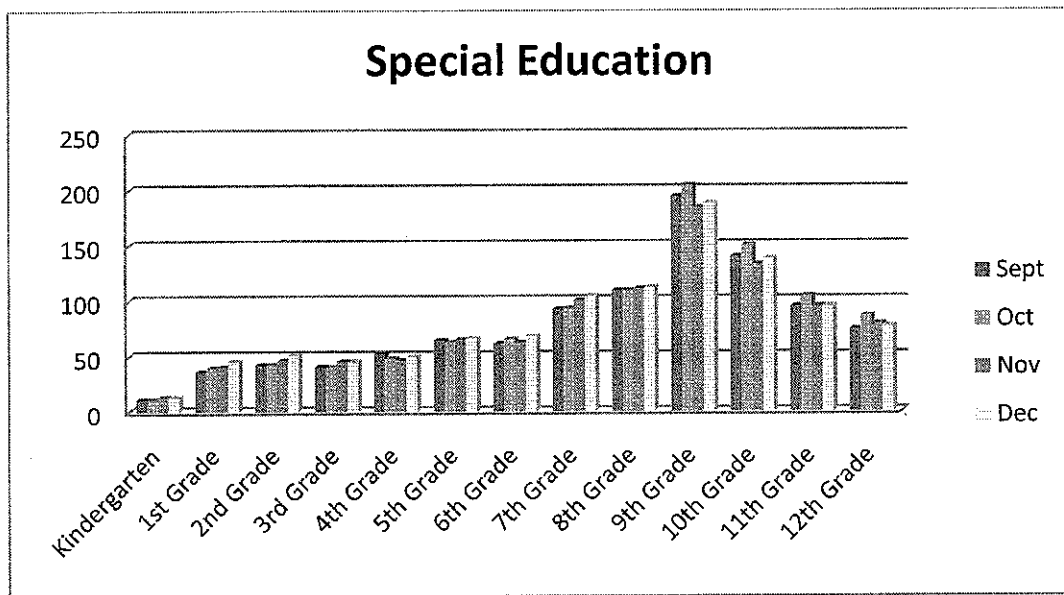
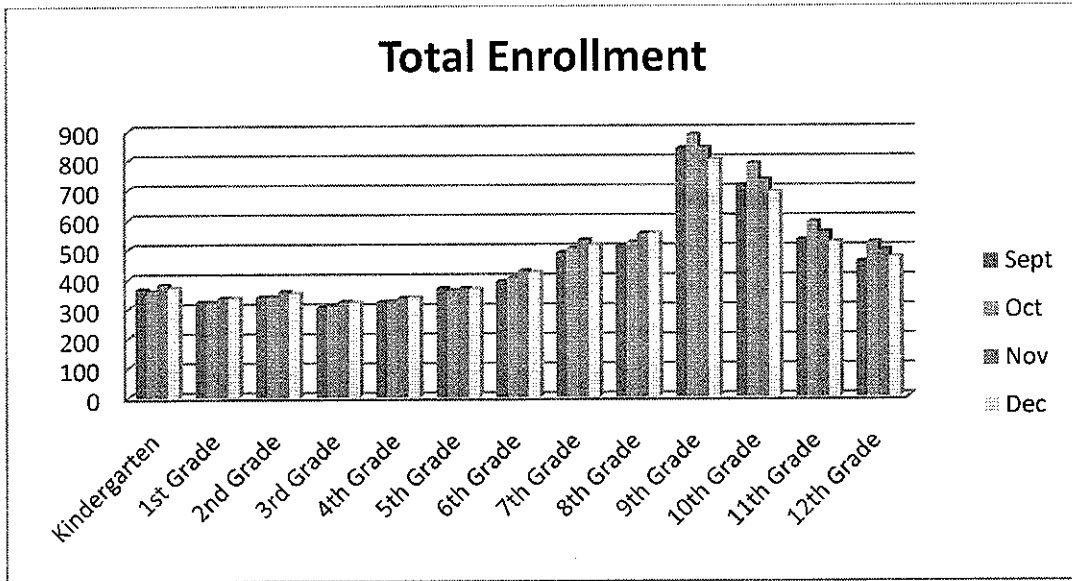
Overall enrollment numbers are 1.6% over the budgeted forecast due to higher retention rates than expected. Withdrawal rate overall is about 10.07% which is about 4 percentage points higher than budgeted.



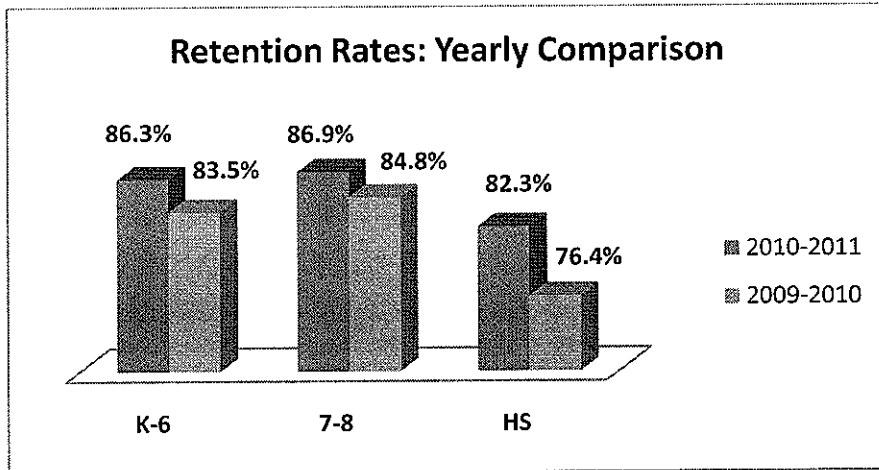
Respectfully Submitted by:  
 Sharon Williams  
 5/17/2011  
**Monthly Comparison**



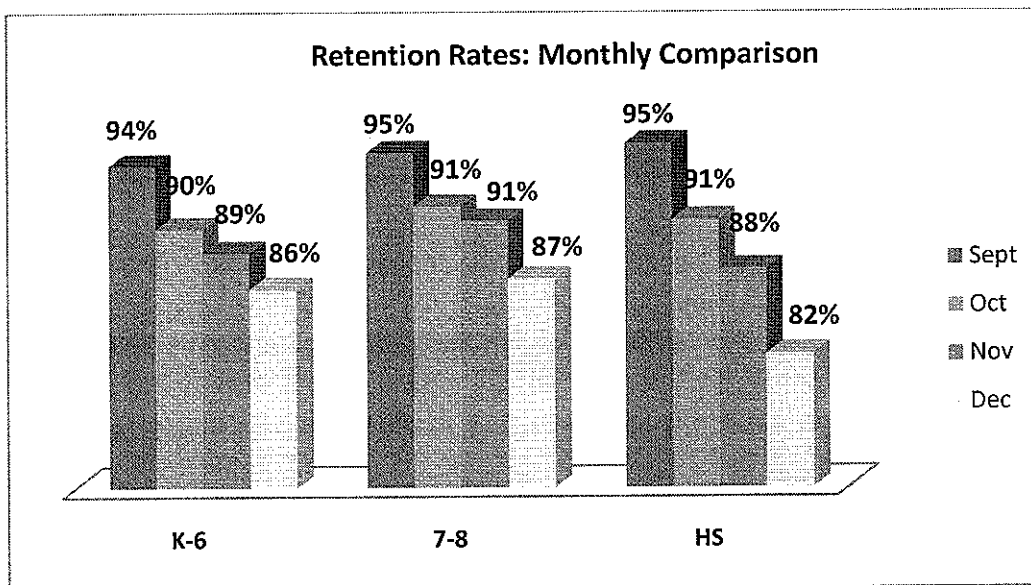
**AGORA**  
 CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL<sup>SM</sup>



## Retention Rates



	percent change
K-6	2.8%
7-8	2.2%
HS	5.9%
Total	4.0%



## Attendance

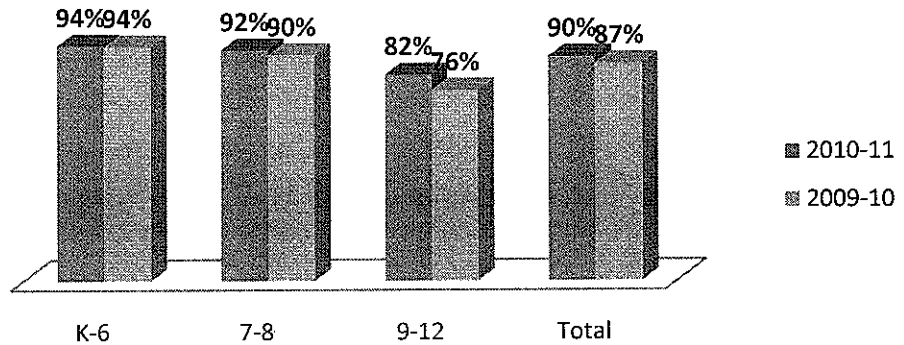
Attendance rates continue to remain steady and improve over last year's rates. High school is steadily rising, although has lots of room for growth in the effort to meet the 95% overall rate by year's end.

Agora students residing in Crawford, Carbon, Elk, McKean, and Wayne counties have the lowest attendance rates in the Commonwealth.

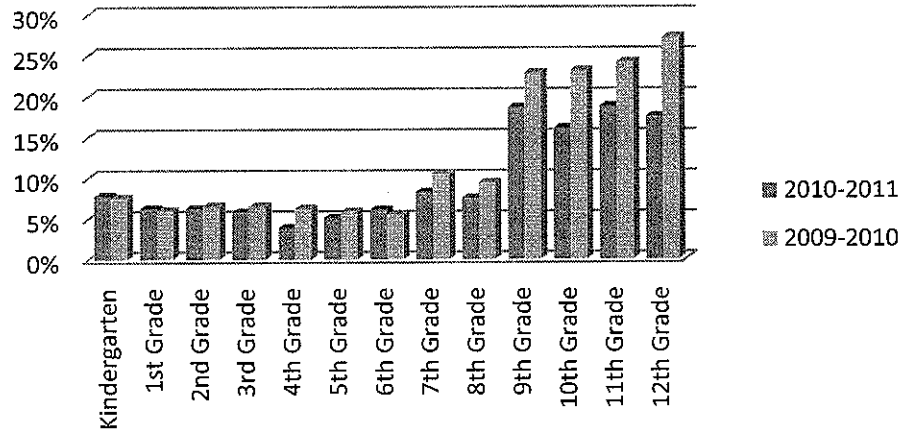
By County, Philadelphia is at 82%, Allegheny is at 86%, Lehigh is at 93% and Dauphin is also at 85%.

(See Appendix to see comprehensive list by county.)

### Attendance Rates



### Absentee Rates by Grade



Respectfully Submitted by:  
 Sharon Williams  
 5/17/2011



**Personnel**

The following changes to staff occurred since 12/1/2010:

**Hired:**

- School Psychologist
- Middle School Reading Specialist
- Project Manager
- Learning Center Assistant (2)
- Learning Center Receptionist

**Resignations -2**

**Transfers**

- High School Transition Teacher
- Middle School Transition Teacher
- LTS--Special Education

Total Agora Employees	
December 2010	390

Employee Type	
Teachers	284
Advisors/Guidance	25
Support Staff	85

Teacher Breakdown	
Elementary	82
Middle School	45
High School	106
Special Education	51

**Finance**

Item	Amount
Revenue	\$27.3M
Expenditures	\$26.3M
Net Fund Balance/Deficit	\$994K

- Performance for November 2010 MTD amounts to surplus of \$16K VS. budget surplus of \$135K.
- November YTD performance amounts to YTD surplus of \$994K VS. budgeted deficit of (\$818K).
  - FY 2009 – 10 performance remains at YTD surplus of \$2.8M and will continue to monitor until audit is complete.
- Audit Update: FY 06/07 the footnote is under review and Management Representation letter is the final step to officially close out the audit report. We have reported to Bureau of Audits the FY 08/09 audit will be submitted by 4/30/11.
- Ed Jobs : PA has announced the new administration will make decision if Charter Schools will receive funding.

## Academics

### Scantron Testing

#### Performance

##### New Students to Agora for the 2010-2011 School Year

Math			
Grade	%At Risk	%On Target	%Advanced
Grade 3	18%	23%	11%
Grade 4	13%	24%	9%
Grade 5	29%	12%	7%
Grade 6	18%	30%	3%
Grade 7	18%	35%	3%
Grade 8	20%	31%	2%
Grade 9	17%	35%	1%
Grade 10	53%	0%	1%
Grade 11	58%	1%	1%
Grade 12	42%	3%	4%
<b>Schoolwide</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>4%</b>

Reading			
Grade	%At Risk	%On Target	%Advanced
Grade 3	6%	26%	11%
Grade 4	8%	29%	10%
Grade 5	11%	28%	10%
Grade 6	12%	36%	4%
Grade 7	12%	39%	6%
Grade 8	11%	39%	4%
Grade 9	13%	35%	4%
Grade 10	8%	43%	3%
Grade 11	8%	46%	5%
Grade 12	5%	37%	7%
<b>Schoolwide</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>6%</b>

##### Returning Students to Agora for the 2010-2011 School Year

Math			
Grade	%At Risk	%On Target	%Advanced
Grade 3	12%	28%	22%
Grade 4	11%	29%	13%
Grade 5	31%	11%	9%
Grade 6	13%	29%	5%
Grade 7	17%	22%	5%
Grade 8	16%	26%	4%
Grade 9	18%	28%	1%
Grade 10	43%	1%	2%
Grade 11	36%	2%	3%
Grade 12	43%	2%	6%
<b>Schoolwide</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>6%</b>

Reading			
Grade	%At Risk	%On Target	%Advanced
Grade 3	7%	29%	21%
Grade 4	9%	30%	14%
Grade 5	10%	28%	13%
Grade 6	10%	31%	7%
Grade 7	10%	26%	7%
Grade 8	10%	29%	7%
Grade 9	13%	28%	6%
Grade 10	9%	30%	7%
Grade 11	5%	29%	7%
Grade 12	9%	30%	12%
<b>Schoolwide</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>9%</b>

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Sharon Williams  
5/17/2011



## High School Summary

614 students have course averages between 80-100+ %

### Attendance and Academic Progress and Achievement Policy Plan

- Day 1: December 15, 2010
- 286 started program
- 106 showing some progress
- 61 attending but showing no progress
- 99 not attending and no progress
- 20 withdrawn

### High School Student Celebration

- Why: Encourage and celebrate student achievement
- Celebrate students showing improvement since progress reports
- When: January 12, 2011 at 12:00 noon
- Where: Illuminate
- What: Goal posters, student song performance, student testimonies and

## Middle School Summary

### Academic Achievement Updates

- 63% of our students are passing 3 or more subjects
- Attendance and Academic Progress and Achievement Policy Plan -- Began 1-3-11
- Failing but attended Back on Track Session – Action Plans implemented - 169 Students
- Failing and no contact – fall under 10 day policy – 256 students
- School messenger and k-mails were sent. As students move to passing status, they will be relieved of 10 day mandatory session attendance.

## Elementary School Summary

- Scantron Participation above 90% in grades 3 and 5 - grade 4 has the highest passing rate
- Academic Achievement Plan in Place - Indicators Tracker to track student progress
- Brain Pop and Discovery Ed videos have been added to instruction
- Model Lessons for each grade level will presented mid January containing essential elements of instruction
- Co Teaching Models on each grade level begin teaching January 3

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Sharon Williams  
5/17/2011



## Other

---

### Clubs and Activities

Winterland of Gingerbread Events finished up in the month of December. There was great fun, imaginative and creative displays of Gingerbread houses, skating, singing, and smiles at each event.

### Upcoming Events

- Look for local Agora Days Out throughout the state sponsored by homeroom teachers.

### Community Outreach

#### **AGORA GIVES BACK – FOOD DRIVE UPDATE**

- The Agora community participated in a food drive from November 5<sup>th</sup> through December 10<sup>th</sup>; we collected food across the state and donated to and volunteered at several food banks!
- North Central Region - collected over 20 pounds of food, with many families donating on their own in addition to that number.
- Northeast Region - Over 280 much-needed items were collected, with many items going directly to Agora families; the Greater Berks Food Bank also contributed from the generosity of this region.
- Southeast Region - An awesome 190 pounds of food was collected; students and staff delivered it on December 16<sup>th</sup> and volunteered at Philabundance for the afternoon -
- South Central Region - Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, which is in Harrisburg, welcomed about 15 volunteers on December 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Southwest Region – on December 20<sup>th</sup>, staff and students volunteered at the Greater Food Bank of Pittsburgh and presented an impressive donation of 183 pounds.

#### **FUNDRAISING Earnings**

- \$347 from Avon
- \$35 for ink recycling
- \$159 for Boxtops (not posted to the website still & just sent out another box worth \$208!)
- accumulated 625 points for My Coke Rewards
- Total money raised from the Book Fairs across the state at the back-to-school events was over \$2,200.00!

Respectfully Submitted by:  
 Sharon Williams  
 5/17/2011



## Appendix 1: Enrollment Details

	2010-2011			2009-2010			Percent Change		
	General Ed	Special Ed	Total	General Ed	Special Ed	Total	General Ed	Special Ed	Total
Kindergarten	357	13	370	337	17	354	5.9%	-23.5%	4.5%
1st Grade	290	45	335	257	30	287	12.8%	50.0%	16.7%
2nd Grade	300	51	351	259	33	292	15.8%	54.5%	20.2%
3rd Grade	274	45	319	236	34	270	16.1%	32.4%	18.1%
4th Grade	288	49	337	252	50	302	14.3%	-2.0%	11.6%
5th Grade	299	66	365	258	47	305	15.9%	40.4%	19.7%
6th Grade	353	68	421	253	70	323	39.5%	-2.9%	30.3%
7th Grade	409	104	513	330	90	420	23.9%	15.6%	22.1%
8th Grade	439	112	551	387	105	492	13.4%	6.7%	12.0%
9th Grade	611	188	799	575	188	763	6.3%	0.0%	4.7%
10th Grade	554	138	692	409	118	527	35.5%	16.9%	31.3%
11th Grade	427	95	522	318	80	398	34.3%	18.8%	31.2%
12th Grade	394	77	471	316	56	372	24.7%	37.5%	26.6%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4995</b>	<b>1051</b>	<b>6046</b>	<b>4187</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>5105</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>18.4%</b>

	Total Enrollment				Special Education				Percent Change from Previous Month	
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total Enrollment	Special Ed
Kindergarten	365	358	380	370	11	11	13	13	-2.6%	0.0%
1st Grade	321	321	336	335	36	39	40	45	-0.3%	12.5%
2nd Grade	338	339	356	351	42	42	46	51	-1.4%	10.9%
3rd Grade	303	309	322	319	40	40	45	45	-0.9%	0.0%
4th Grade	321	324	335	337	52	48	46	49	0.6%	6.5%
5th Grade	367	360	367	365	64	62	65	66	-0.5%	1.5%
6th Grade	390	403	427	421	61	65	62	68	-1.4%	9.7%
7th Grade	487	502	530	513	92	93	100	104	-3.2%	4.0%
8th Grade	511	522	552	551	109	109	111	112	-0.2%	0.9%
9th Grade	838	884	840	799	194	204	184	188	-4.9%	2.2%
10th Grade	713	786	732	692	140	150	133	138	-5.5%	3.8%
11th Grade	529	589	556	522	95	104	95	95	-6.1%	0.0%
12th Grade	456	521	494	471	74	86	79	77	-4.7%	-2.5%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>5939</b>	<b>6218</b>	<b>6227</b>	<b>6046</b>	<b>1010</b>	<b>1053</b>	<b>1019</b>	<b>1051</b>	<b>-3%</b>	<b>3.1%</b>

Respectfully Submitted by:  
 Sharon Williams  
 5/17/2011



## Appendix 2: Retention Details

	2010-2011			2009-2010			percent change
	total enrolled	12-30 enrolled	2010-11	total enrolled	12-30 enrolled	2009-10	
Kindergarten	435	370	85%	422	354	84%	1%
1st Grade	383	335	87%	349	290	83%	4%
2nd Grade	410	351	86%	353	292	83%	3%
3rd Grade	365	319	87%	325	267	82%	5%
4th Grade	395	337	85%	365	302	83%	3%
5th Grade	440	365	83%	354	304	86%	-3%
6th Grade	466	421	90%	383	322	84%	6%
7th Grade	592	513	87%	497	420	85%	2%
8th Grade	632	551	87%	579	492	85%	2%
9th Grade	983	799	81%	971	763	79%	3%
10th Grade	845	692	82%	686	526	77%	5%
11th Grade	637	522	82%	568	398	70%	12%
12th Grade	555	471	85%	470	371	79%	6%
K-6	2894	2498	86.3%	2551	2131	83.5%	2.8%
7-8	1224	1064	86.9%	1076	912	84.8%	2.2%
HS	3020	2484	82.3%	2695	2058	76.4%	5.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7138</b>	<b>6046</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>6322</b>	<b>5101</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>4.0%</b>

	Total Enrollment				Active Enrollment				Retention Rates			
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Kindergarten	385	401	429	435	365	358	380	370	95%	89%	89%	85%
1st Grade	342	353	376	383	321	321	336	335	94%	91%	89%	87%
2nd Grade	362	382	404	410	338	339	356	351	93%	89%	88%	86%
3rd Grade	322	341	361	365	303	309	322	319	94%	91%	89%	87%
4th Grade	350	368	386	395	321	324	335	337	92%	88%	87%	85%
5th Grade	394	408	433	440	367	360	367	365	93%	88%	85%	83%
6th Grade	404	428	460	466	390	403	427	421	97%	94%	93%	90%
7th Grade	511	547	582	592	487	502	530	513	95%	92%	91%	87%
8th Grade	542	573	613	632	511	522	552	551	94%	91%	90%	87%
9th Grade	889	993	974	983	838	884	840	799	94%	89%	86%	81%
10th Grade	745	865	837	845	713	786	732	692	96%	91%	87%	82%
11th Grade	549	647	635	637	529	589	556	522	96%	91%	88%	82%
12th Grade	477	564	550	555	456	521	494	471	96%	92%	90%	85%
K-6	2559	2681	2849	2894	2405	2414	2523	2498	94%	90%	89%	86%
7-8	1053	1120	1195	1224	998	1024	1082	1064	95%	91%	91%	87%
HS	2660	3069	2996	3020	2536	2780	2622	2484	95%	91%	88%	82%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>6272</b>	<b>6870</b>	<b>7040</b>	<b>7138</b>	<b>5939</b>	<b>6218</b>	<b>6227</b>	<b>6046</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>85%</b>

Respectfully Submitted by:  
 Sharon Williams  
 5/17/2011



**Appendix 3: Attendance Details**

	2010-11	2009-10	Percent Change
K-6	94%	94%	0%
7-8	92%	90%	2%
9-12	82%	76%	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>3%</b>

	10-11 % Attendance	09-10 % Attendance
Kindergarten	92%	92%
1st Grade	94%	94%
2nd Grade	94%	93%
3rd Grade	94%	93%
4th Grade	96%	94%
5th Grade	95%	94%
6th Grade	94%	94%
7th Grade	92%	90%
8th Grade	93%	91%
9th Grade	81%	77%
10th Grade	84%	77%
11th Grade	81%	76%
12th Grade	83%	73%
K-6	94%	94%
7-8	92%	90%
9-12	82%	76%
<b>Total</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>87%</b>

Respectfully Submitted by:  
 Sharon Williams  
 5/17/2011



**10-11 Attendance Rate by County**

2010-2011	
County	Attendance Rate
Adams County	94%
Allegheny County	86%
Armstrong County	96%
Beaver County	92%
Bedford County	92%
Berks County	93%
Blair County	94%
Bradford County	92%
Bucks County	91%
Butler County	94%
Cambria County	92%
Carbon County	94%
Centre County	94%
Chester County	88%
Clarion County	91%
Clearfield County	89%
Clinton County	92%
Columbia County	95%
Crawford County	85%
Cumberland County	92%
Dauphin County	86%
Delaware County	90%

Elk County	85%
Erie County	86%
Fayette County	86%
Forest County	97%
Franklin County	90%
Fulton County	93%
Greene County	93%
Huntingdon County	98%
Indiana County	89%
Jefferson County	91%
Juniata County	98%
Lackawanna County	83%
Lancaster County	89%
Lawrence County	92%
Lebanon County	91%
Lehigh County	91%
Luzerne County	93%
Lycoming County	91%
McKean County	76%
Mercer County	89%
Mifflin County	92%
Monroe County	89%
Montgomery County	91%
Montour County	95%

Northampton County	90%
Northumberland County	90%
Perry County	93%
Philadelphia County	86%
Pike County	90%
Potter County	89%
Schuylkill County	85%
Snyder County	97%
Somerset County	92%
Sullivan County	93%
Susquehanna County	92%
Tioga County	92%
Union County	85%
Venango County	90%
Warren County	89%
Washington County	88%
Wayne County	90%
Westmoreland County	91%
Wyoming County	90%
York County	87%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>90%</b>