

Success Academy Annual Report For 2019 - 2020 School Year

This report is set forth to meet the requirements in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.10, Subdivisions 4, 11 and 14 regarding Minnesota charter schools publishing a yearly annual report for authorizers and stakeholders. This report must be approved by the district Board of Directors and is a public document under Minnesota Chapter 13.

I. School enrollment

On June 3 2020 there were 130 students enrolled at Success Academy.

II. Student attrition

Success Academy enrolled a total of 163 students during the 19 - 20 school year. The capped enrollment was at 130 students after the City of Bloomington amended the conditional use permit in November, 2018. The school completed the year with 130 students. Reasons for students leaving the school in 19-20 include: Some families started inside our transportation area and then moved outside of the transportation area. Some families moved out of state or out of country; Some families were concerned about safety in the neighborhood.

III. Governance and management

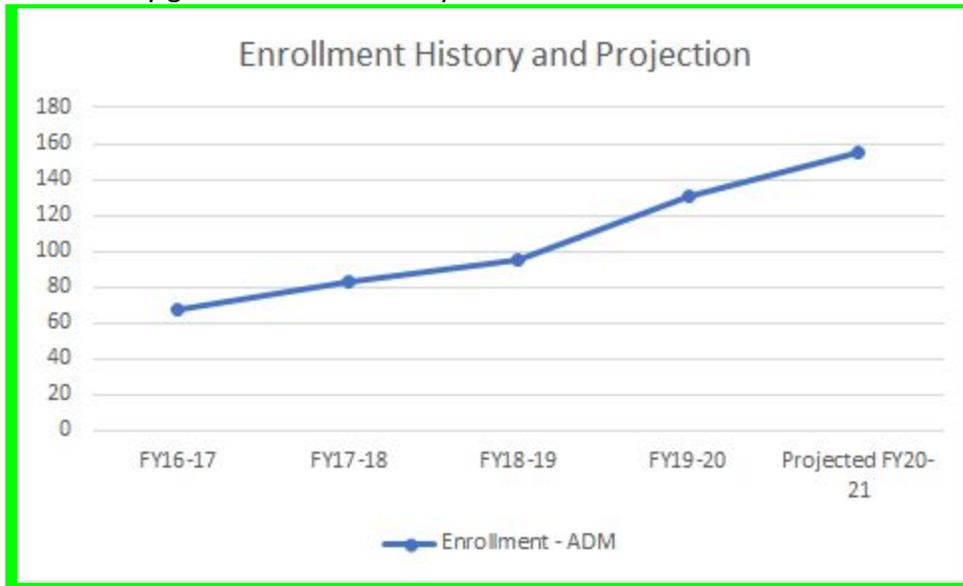
Success Academy is governed by a five-member Board of Directors. In June, 2020 the school completed its fourth year of operations with students. The school's authorizer is Innovative Quality Schools. The school is managed by Magdy Rabeaa, the school's Executive Director. Larry Ronglien is the school's Director of Instruction. Both Mr. Rabeaa and Mr. Ronglien have valid Minnesota administrative licenses. Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month.

IV. Staffing

The school had twelve full time teachers, seven grade level teachers, a special education teacher, an ELL teacher, a physical education teacher and a Arabic teacher. The school has a full time dean of students / parent liaison, a front office manager, a food service coordinator, and three special education paraprofessionals. The school's technology needs are supported by an independent contractor.

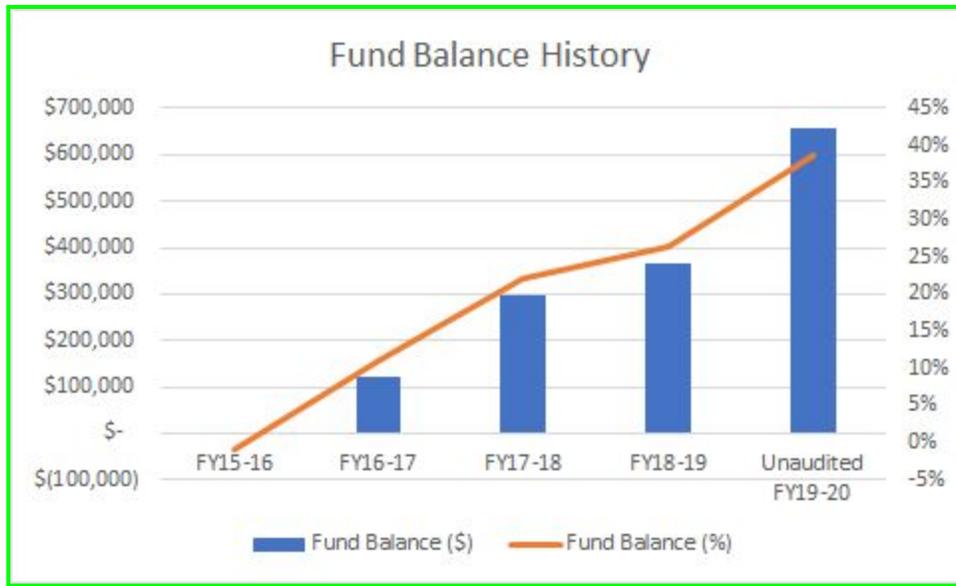
V. Finances

Success Academy has finished its fifth full year of operations with enrollment of 130 ADM. The majority of the school’s funding is based on enrollment which has consistently grown since the first year as follows:



The increasing enrollment as well as conservative spending and fantastic fundraising / grants results has allowed the school to end the FY19-20 school year with an unaudited fund balance of 39% (as reported on the MDE’s compliance report).. One of the number one measures of financial stability in charter schools is fund balance. As the state withholds 10% of state generated revenues every year, and possibly more going forward as a result of COVID-19, a minimum fund balance of at least 25% is generally recommended by financial service providers, auditors and authorizers. Success Academy is happy to announce we are above this range, but also understand with COVID-19 in the FY20-21 school year there may be additional expenditures. Additionally, within the fund balance are funds for the School’s greenhouse and playground - after very successful fundraising results.

The School has consistently built fund balance as well over the past four operational years as follows:



Looking forward, the State has approved 2% increase for the FY20-21 school year on the basic formula. While the 2% increase meets expectations for budgeting, it does not cover the cost of inflation for staff increases, benefit increases and other inflationary increases such as transportation for general education and homeless/special ed students. The School has been awarded various grants and donations in the past and will continue to seek out opportunities in the next school year and beyond.

Overall, the finances at Success Academy are in good shape for a new school. The School Board, Management and The Anton Group are all very excited for past and future financial success.

VI. Academic performance

The school did the NWEA (MAP) assessments in English Language Arts and Math two times during 19 - 20 in the fall and winter. The first assessments establish a baseline of targets for the students and staff as goals. Targets are established based on how students did in their first NWEA assessment each year.

Math summary:

- Grade K – 33% of kindergarten students met their NWEA targets.
- Grade 1 – 58% of grade 1 students met their NWEA targets.
- Grade 2 – 35% of grade 2 students met their NWEA targets.
- Grade 3 – 60% of grade 3 students met their NWEA targets.
- Grade 4 – 29% of grade 4 students met their NWEA targets.
- Grade 5 – 67% of grade 5 students met their NWEA targets.

Grade 6 – 60% of grade 6 students met their NWEA targets.

Reading summary:

Grade K – 45% of kindergarten students met their NWEA targets.

Grade 1 – 38% of grade 1 students met their NWEA targets.

Grade 2 – 64% of grade 2 students met their NWEA targets

Grade 3 – 55% of grade 3 students met their NWEA targets

Grade 4 - 64% of grade 4 students met their NWEA targets.

Grade 5 – 77% of grade 5 students met their NWEA targets.

Grade 6 – 90% of grade 6 students met their NWEA targets.

VII. Innovative practices and implementation

Success Academy is a STEM focused school. During 2019 - 2020 the school developed partnerships with Three Rivers Park, Galewoods Farm, Science from the Scientists, The Bell Museum, U of Minnesota Extension (nutrition and “ready, set, grow” summer program.) The school also had visits from a local Somali author, a pediatric dentist, and various STEM speakers set up by individual classroom teachers. The school had programs related to a school garden, tree sapping, chicken / egg incubation, as well as in class science experiments conducted by teachers. The school had a Physical Education biking program that lasted three weeks. The robotics program for students in grades 4 - 6 was expanded for the 2019 – 2020 school year.

In addition, Success Academy joined forces with th Minnesota Reading Corp in order to address the reading needs of our youngest learners. The goal is for all students to be reading on grade level by the end of grade three.

The school provided more than 175 hours of professional development for our teaching staff. The training was focused on best practice in total participation strategies to engage all learners and the growth mindset process.

VIII. Future plans

The school has applied to the Minnesota Department of Education and Innovative Quality Schools to establish a second site for the school and got approved. The purpose is to have the school become a K-8 entity to meet the demands of the community for additional grades and additional students. The school will also be applying to the Minnesota Department of Education to develop a Pre-K program for four year olds.

The school has a new playground and greenhouse ready for construction. These will add to the recreational opportunities for our students as well as to improve our overall STEM program.

As part of our work with Science from the Scientists, the school is seeking to use this program to build the capacity of our teaching staff in their abilities to deliver strong science instruction at Success Academy.

Teacher retention is important to the school. The school retained 75% of the classroom staff between 2019 - 2020 to the 2020 - 2021 school year.