



2008-2009 School Year

South Buffalo Charter School

"Learning, Character, Respect, Community. Making it Happen!"



From the Board President



Ever since the opening of South Buffalo Charter School almost 10 years ago, our focus has been on the development of students into well-rounded, successful citizens of tomorrow by instilling in them a thirst for knowledge and a desire to contribute to their community as they progress through life.

Our school serves a diverse student body from all parts of our city and some surrounding suburbs. This diversity has given our students the wonderful opportunity to understand and appreciate the varied backgrounds that are found in the South Buffalo Charter School community. This is a valuable lesson for living in a global world.

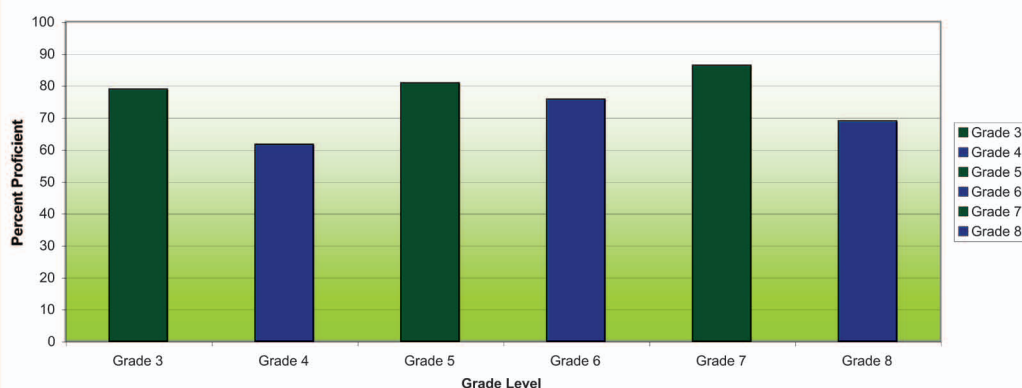
South Buffalo Charter School has earned the State Education Department's highest rating in each of the past 9 years. This achievement is attributable to our total school community - hard working and eager students, outstanding teaching faculty and staff, and supportive parents and families.

South Buffalo Charter School is a very special community and the Board of Trustees is privileged to be a part of its development. On behalf of the Board, I would like to express my appreciation to the parents who put their trust and confidence in SBCS to educate their children, to our teachers who treat every child as someone special, to our staff and administration who support the work of our teachers and finally to our students who give their best everyday.

James P. Neimeier, Board President



2009 ELA Percent Proficient Grades 3 through 8



"The significant problems we face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them."

— Albert Einstein

From the Head of School

South Buffalo Charter School is dedicated to creating a safe, orderly and positive school climate where the educators strive to provide students with what they need. The belief that ALL students can learn at HIGH levels is central to our school's success. In response, our primary focus is and will always be "learning".

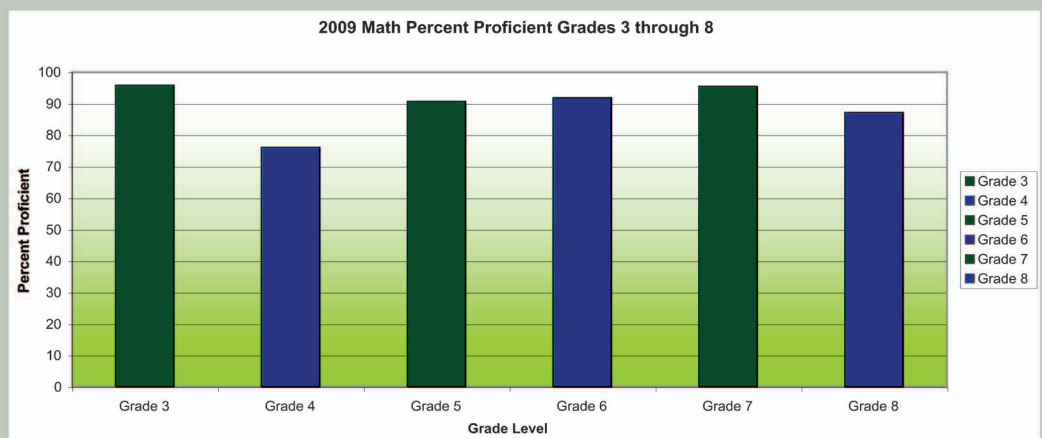
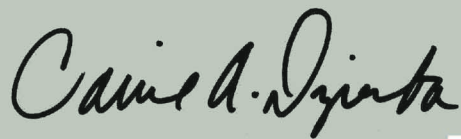
In this commitment, SBCS will work to make sure that:

- All children have the same access to learn the required essential knowledge and skills at their grade level
- Student learning will be monitored on an ongoing basis
- Students will be given extra time and support in a systematic way as soon as they need it
- Students will be given multiple opportunities to learn
- Students will be evaluated according to the same criteria
- Students will be provided with examples of quality work to adequately assess and support progress

Above all...

We are committed to making sure that all our students are exposed to a team of educators that collaboratively work together to explore and utilize research based best practices that positively impact student achievement.

Carrie A. Dzierba, Head of School



"The important thing is not so much that every child should be taught,
as that every child should be given the wish to learn."

— John Lubbock



Year in Review: 2008 - 2009

- This past year, SBCS retained the services of a curriculum consultant to review the core curriculum. The consultant completed a thorough analysis of the existing curriculum, collaborated with our professional staff, revisited the NYS Standards, utilized other educational experts, and explored quality curriculums throughout the state to develop standardized core maps. The focus of the curriculum work was to align the curriculum vertically and horizontally within the school. The use of Tech Paths/Curriculum Connector was initiated to format the core curriculum consistently across all grade levels.
- SBCS created an efficient and effective standardized system to track student progress in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. Through the administration and evaluation of the nationally-normed Terra Nova Assessment, by progress monitoring and using diagnostic assessments such as AIMSweb, DIBELS, and internal mock assessments we are able to systematically assess, analyze, identify and plan for what each child needs in order to achieve.
- The adoption of a school-wide discipline system ensured that all students remained focused on learning so instructional time was maximized.
- The instructional program was enhanced through the introduction of multimedia classrooms. These rooms utilize technology such as computers, resident PC's and interactive docking stations, touch-screen monitors, interactive white boards, LCD projectors, document cameras, DVD/VCR units, Classroom Performance System (CPS), and interactive tablets. In addition, mobile labs and printers, video cameras and digital cameras, and TV/DVD/VCR units were also available for classroom use.

NCLB Status by Year

<i>Year</i>	<i>Status</i>
2004-05	Good Standing
2005-06	Good Standing
2006-07	Good Standing
2007-08	Good Standing
2008-09	Good Standing

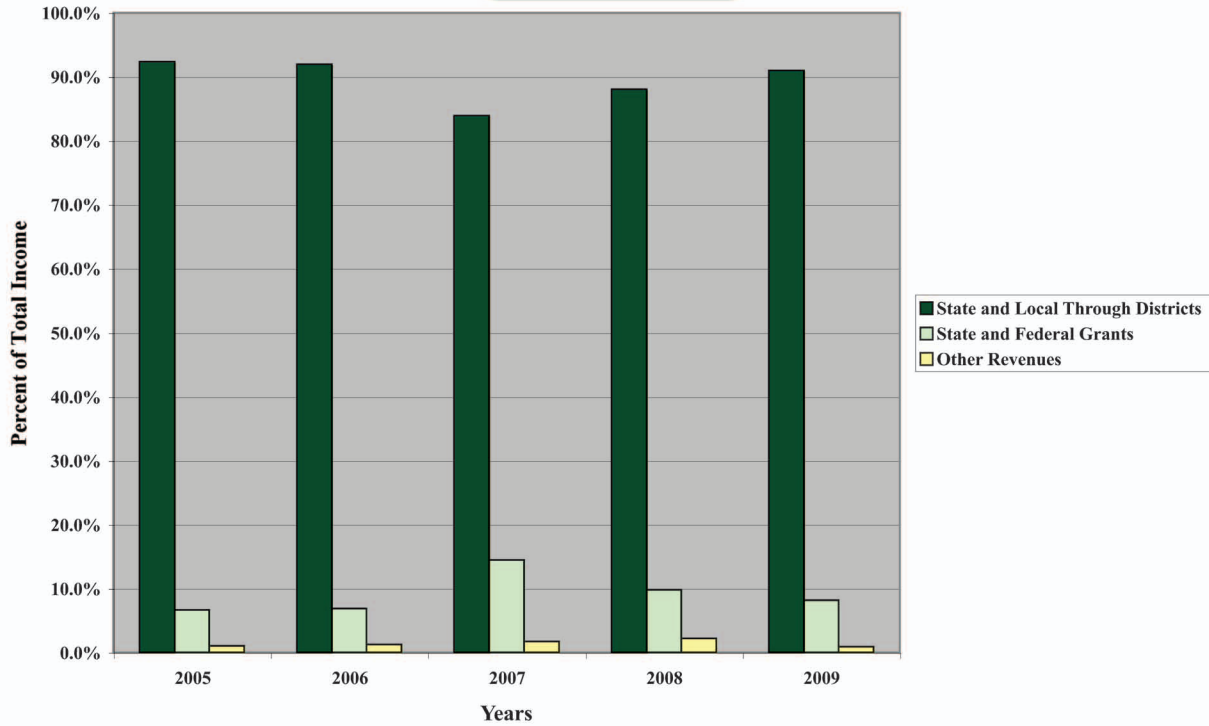
"The two basic processes of education are knowing and valuing."

— Robert J. Havighurst

Financial/Student Data

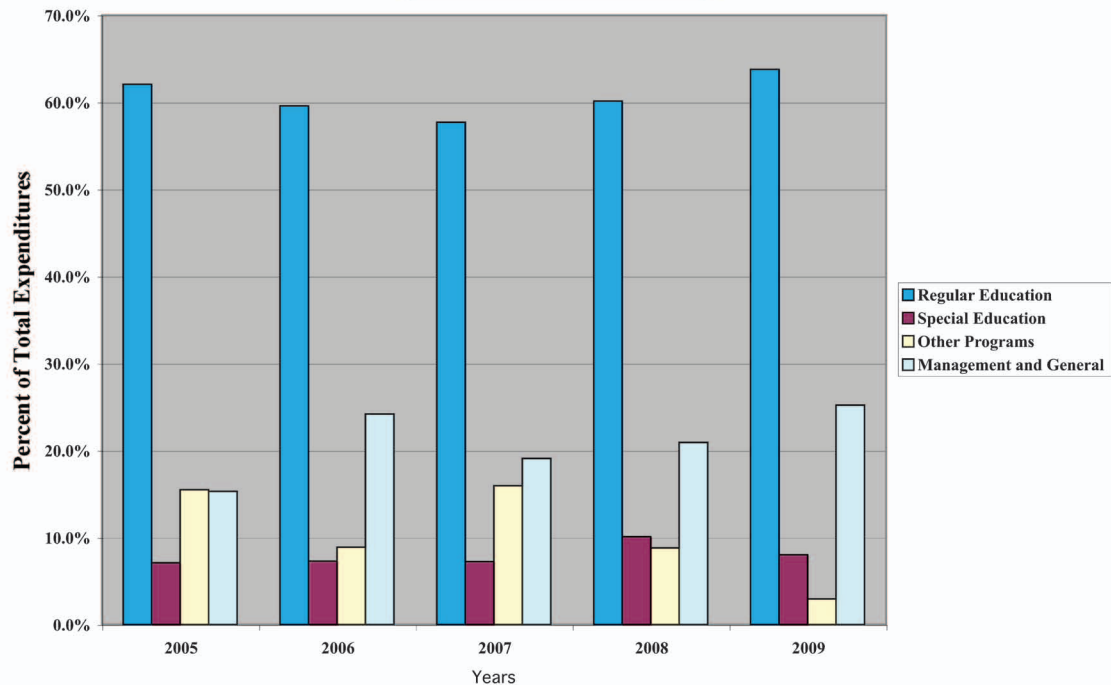
Revenues	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
State and Local Through Districts	92.3%	91.9%	83.9%	88.0%	91.0%
State and Federal Grants	6.6%	6.8%	14.4%	9.8%	8.1%
Other Revenues	1.0%	1.2%	1.7%	2.2%	0.9%

Income Sources



Expenses	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Regular Education	62.1%	59.6%	57.7%	60.1%	63.8%
Special Education	7.1%	7.3%	7.3%	10.1%	8.0%
Other Programs	15.5%	8.9%	16.0%	8.8%	3.0%
Management and General	15.3%	24.2%	19.1%	20.9%	25.2%

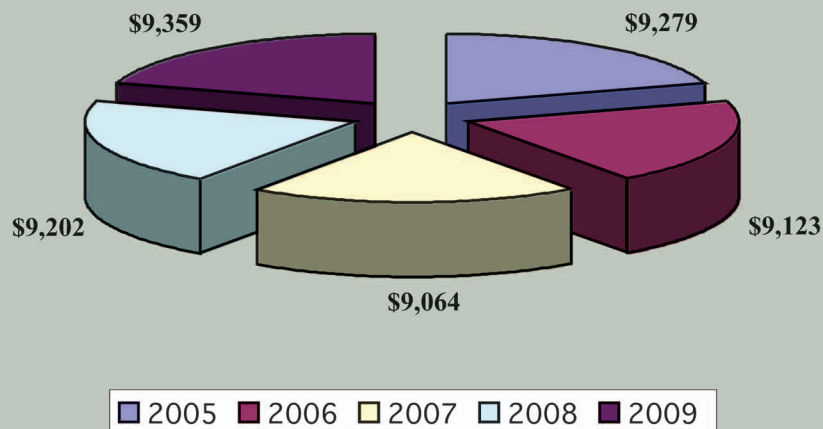
Functional Expenses



Historical Financial/Student Data



Historical Cost Per Student



Historical Student Data	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009
Grades Served	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8	K-8
Total Enrollment (Sept.-June)	548	587	640	635	646
# of Students Returning from Previous Year	435	558	569	588	531
#Students with Disabilities	48	50	49	95	95
#Students who are ELL	0	0	0	0	0
#Studentss Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	390	440	486	450	465

Our Mission

We are a Professional Learning Community (PLC); our focus on learning is driven by research, data, and collaborative reflection to increase student achievement

SBCS At A Glance



Don't let the charming old fashioned style of our school building fool you! The South Buffalo Charter School remains on the cutting edge of providing alternative educational choices that ensures a safe and progressive school culture.



As the second largest charter school in Western New York, SBCS serves children Kindergarten through grade eight.

The student body is composed of varying ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, reflecting the multicultural diversity of the community.



South Buffalo Charter School is committed to a strong focus on integrating character education into the instructional program.

Students are exposed to the basic principles of ten core virtues and classroom based skills training through the Second Step Program and Project Wisdom.



In an effort to create a balanced school experience The South Buffalo Charter School encourages student participation in a wide variety of extracurricular activities and athletics.



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About SBCS

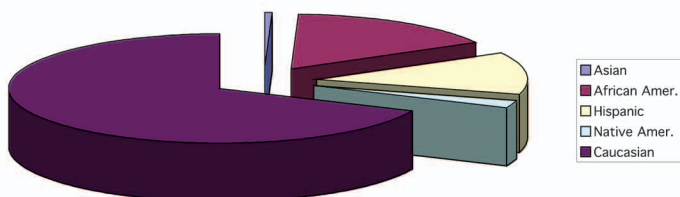
The South Buffalo Charter School (SBCS) received approval in 1999 from the New York State Board of Regents. In the fall of 2000 the school was housed in Buffalo Public School 29, which was also occupied by the South Buffalo Community Center, the South Buffalo Grief Center and the South Buffalo Senior Center. The South Buffalo Charter School is located in the city of Buffalo, New York and primarily receives students who live in the surrounding community. SBCS serves students grades K-8 and the student body is composed of varying ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, reflecting the multicultural diversity from the community. Well over 70% of our students receive free or reduced lunch, illustrating the socio-economic needs of our families. The students reflect a broad spectrum of learning styles and learning needs. SBCS strives to build a composite class that represents the multifaceted dimensions of our society.

As set forth in the school's mission statement, we will focus on learning and increase student achievement through the following key elements:

- Professional Learning Community components
- Collaborative Learning and Reflection
- Research-based Best Practices
- Data-Driven Decision Making
- Pyramid of Intervention
- New York State Standards-Based Curriculum
- Technology Integration
- Character Education
- Extended Day and School Year
- Professional Development
- Parent/Guardian Involvement and Engagement



Demographic Profile: Ethnicity



Demographics: IEP, 504, At Risk, General Population

