

Lake Wales Charter Schools, Inc. Financial Report

	June 30, 2008	June 30, 2009
Program revenue	\$ 1,461,498	\$ 1,234,831
General revenues:		
Federal sources	6,185	181,491
State and local sources	22,768,243	23,453,815
Contributions and other revenues	1,997,478	2,065,424
Total general revenues	24,771,906	25,700,730
Total revenues	26,233,404	26,935,561
Expenses:		
Instruction	16,978,195	16,444,157
Pupil personnel services	936,035	706,604
Instructional media	488,176	341,695
Instruction & curriculum development	669,891	488,470
Instructional staff training	140,292	124,833
Board	87,617	88,119
General/school administration	2,996,100	3,247,160
Facilities acquisition and construction	25,746	267,002
Fiscal services	1,045,333	1,140,520
Central services	13,408	-
Pupil transportation	398,105	674,265
Operation of plant	1,793,431	2,008,836
Maintenance of plant	12,680	25,497
Community services	707,543	765,846
Debt service	39,461	303,732
Total expenses	26,332,013	26,626,736
Change in net assets	\$ (98,609)	\$ 308,825
Change in Net Assets		
Net assets at beginning of year	\$ 2,030,526	\$ 1,772,924
Change in Net Assets	(98,609)	308,825
Net assets at end of year	\$ 1,931,917	\$ 2,081,749

This statement of accountability has been condensed from financial statements audited by the independent firm of BKHM Certified Public Accountants and Consultants. *The beginning net assets have been adjusted to include assets of Edward Bok Academy Middle School.

This Annual Report was funded through private donations.

LAKE WALES CHARTER SCHOOLS MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission: To bring the best of public education to our community by providing innovation and choice within a continuous pre-school through post-secondary curriculum so that each child recognizes the benefits of life-long learning, constructive citizenship and personal happiness.



LAKE WALES CHARTER SCHOOLS FOUNDATION DONOR HONOR ROLL

We express our deepest appreciation to the donors listed below. Their generosity to the Lake Wales Charter Schools Foundation has helped enhance the quality of education for all students in the Lake Wales Charter Schools. This list reflects those gifts received between January 1 and December 31, 2009. We regret any omissions or errors.

VALEDICTORIAN (\$50,000 OR MORE)

Anonymous

SUMMA CUM LAUDE (\$10,000-\$24,999)

Patricia Herndon
Mountain Lake Community Service Inc.
Myers Groves Inc.

DEAN'S LIST (\$5,000-\$9,999)

John & Martha Carter Foundation
Lake Wales Computer Center
Samuel Updike

HONORS (\$1,000-\$4,999)

AXA Foundation
Florida's Natural Growers Foundation
Margaret & Frank Hunt
Jesse L. Jackson
Raymond James Charitable Endowment
David & June Ullman

SCHOLARS (TO \$999)

AAUW Lake Wales
Julio Acevedo-Morales
Paula Alford
Barbara Anderson
Andrea Baker
Joy Barrows
Thomas Baynes Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Birch
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Lynn Brockelman
Stacey Butcher
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Verna Echols
Dena & Doug Elmore
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Stephanie Gould
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Lake Wales Mardi Gras
Lake Wales Veterinary Hospital
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Edward Probert
Publix Community Relations
Arthur Rogers Jr.
Daniel & Ellen Shapiro
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shaw
Alfred "Chip" Thullbery Jr.
Richard & Margery Trask
United Way of Central Florida
Mary Young



Our students are generous too. In January 2010, Bok Academy students donated money to a student-sponsored Haitian Relief fund so they could dress "creatively."



151 Central Ave. East
Lake Wales FL 33853
863.679.6560
www.lwcharterschools.com

The Lake Wales Charter Schools Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) direct-support organization whose purpose is to provide financial support for the Lake Wales Charter Schools. During 2009, community volunteers who helped guide the Foundation included: Chair Robin Gibson, Vice Chair David Ullman, Treasurer Brian Fisher, Secretary Sue Medders, and board members Pat Brewer, D. Patrick Cain, Carol Collins, Doug Elmore, Horace F. Herndon, MaryLee Hollis, Clinton Horne, D. Andrew Hunt, Rebekah Johnson, Jerry R. Miller, Joyce Otte, Violeta B. Salud, Lawrence C. Updike and Keith H. Wadsworth.



The Future Starts Here

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



The Future Starts Here

During 2009, the Lake Wales Charter Schools system celebrated many successes and positive achievements.

Our newest school, Edward W. Bok Academy, was so successful during its first year that Bok's student population swelled by 44% when the doors opened in August 2009 for the second school year. Seven portable classrooms were installed to handle the increased enrollment and an increase in course offerings. In December, we finalized the purchase of an adjacent building from Warner University that is being converted to a center for the creative arts.

At Lake Wales High School, a much-anticipated \$6 million construction project is currently under way to provide a significantly larger cafeteria facility, more classrooms and new facilities for the Agriculture Department. The school is also expanding its daycare facility and training program.

All six charter schools have made significant investments in technology additions and improvements. Dozens of Promethean boards (computerized white boards), classroom computers, wireless networks and other upgrades have been installed. As part of an overall instructional strategy, schools have invested in interactive software programs to help students improve in targeted areas like reading and math.

The past year was not without challenges. Florida was – and continues to be – hard hit by the economic recession. The impact on our state's budget and public school educational funding has been harsh. Fortunately, our LWCS system administrators planned wisely and budgeted conservatively at the beginning of the economic downturn, and they continue to work together to manage the LWCS system's resources carefully during these tough economic times.

Throughout the past year, LWCS teachers and support staff have worked hard to provide the best possible instruction and intervention for those students who struggle most. Typically, these lowest-performing students fall into the "bottom quartile" on standardized tests. Although there may be a whole host of reasons why a student is struggling, our job is to help that student improve and make "learning gains."

State tests and school rankings don't just measure how well students score on standardized tests – they also measure whether schools are able to help students improve and make learning gains, especially those students in the bottom quartile. In our LWCS schools, teachers are working just as hard with these struggling students as they are with Advanced Placement students or scholar-athletes. In 2009, our LWCS system hired an Accountability Coordinator, who works directly with schools on the assessment data. Adding this key position has helped our schools identify which student groups need more intervention so that we can target resources where they will achieve the best results.

In our LWCS schools, we are committed to providing a well-rounded academic environment supported by robust arts and athletic programs. Partnerships with the Lake Wales Arts Center and the AAUW "Arts in the Schools" program are just two examples of the widespread community support our schools enjoy. Our middle and high school sports programs are very successful, and they serve as a wonderful incentive for students to work hard in the classroom so they may participate in sports after school.

Creating a quality educational system with strong academics, arts and athletics requires commitment from quality educators and support staff. Our LWCS system teachers, administrators and support staff are

outstanding at their jobs, and they also take a personal interest in the students and families that they serve. Our staff members recognize that our students will face an uncertain world and a global economy, so they are striving to prepare our students for the diverse challenges and opportunities that this changing world will offer.

Unfortunately, sometimes our schools must address issues that really have nothing to do with education. This economy has devastated many of the families we serve, and consequently, their children. For instance, our schools report increased student mobility, as families relocate repeatedly for economic reasons. Common sense – and professional experience – tells us that non-academic factors like mobility have a very negative impact on student academic outcomes. There are no easy solutions to this challenge, but each day our schools strive to provide as much stability as possible for the children who walk through our doors. We also are fortunate to have community partners like the CARE Center to assist with family counseling and social services.

Since the beginning of the Lake Wales Charter Schools system in August 2004, we have taken pride in making decisions locally to create the best possible schools for the children and families of our community. We understand that the long-term vitality of our community – its economic development, its workforce, its overall quality of life – depends on the success of the next generation. For Lake Wales, the future starts right here, in our schools.

David C. Ullman, Chair, Board of Trustees
Cassandra Denmark, Vice Chair

Laumcille Anderson Patrick Cain
Robin Gibson Terrye Howell
Joyce Otte Paige Turner

Jesse L. Jackson, Superintendent

LAKE WALES HIGH

Clark Berry, Principal
Eugene Kendrick, Assistant Principal
Chris Reams, Assistant Principal
Daniele Shick, Assistant Principal

- Advanced Placement classes in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Language, Calculus 1 & 2, US History, Literature, Environmental Science, Micro-Economics, Government, and Psychology
- Substantial growth in both enrollment and performance in AP program
- Polk State College dual enrollment partnership
- 4x4 schedule with 32 or more credits possible
- Highest rated FFA program in Polk County
- ROTC continually receives highest possible rating from US Army
- Lake Wales Academic Foundation provides recognition for top students
- 80+ students enrolled in Calculus classes
- Teams & individuals excel in multiple sports
- Outstanding report from accreditation team (Southern Association of Colleges and Schools)
- Credit Recovery Program for at-risk students
- Early Childhood Education Academy prepares students for high-demand jobs including teaching
- Recognized by Polk County Schools for outstanding achievement for academic growth among students needing the most improvement
- Consistently at the top of Polk County high schools in academic growth for all levels of mathematics including students needing the most improvement & AP Calculus students
- Significant improvement in graduation rates, particularly with at-risk student populations
- 2009 graduation rate = 76.82% (Polk rate = 74%)
- Graduates are highly competitive for college through Academics and Athletics
- Nearly \$1.8 million in scholarships awarded to Class of 2009
- Young Leaders, Mentor to Graduation, other programs serve students with various needs & provide opportunities for students
- 2009 School Grade = D

Student Demographics
Enrollment – 540
Male – 51.7%
Female – 48.3%
Minority – 36.3%
Economically Disadvantaged (free/reduced lunch) – 57.2%
LEP (Limited English Proficient) – 3.5%

Home of the Knights
13901 Hwy. 27 South
Lake Wales, Florida 33859
(863) 638-1010

MISSION STATEMENT
Edward W. Bok Academy will educate Renaissance thinkers for the digital age.

Student Demographics
Enrollment – 1,252
Male – 50.4%
Female – 49.6%
Minority – 46%
Economically Disadvantaged (free/reduced lunch) – 58%
LEP (Limited English Proficient) – 3%

Home of the Highlanders
One Highlander Way
Lake Wales, Florida 33853
(863) 678-4222

MISSION STATEMENT
To inspire and challenge all learners to reach their full potential in a safe, supportive environment where we teach the skills needed to succeed as responsible citizens in a changing society.

EDWARD W. BOK ACADEMY

Donna Dunson, Principal
Anuj Saran, Educational Operations

- Small middle school limited to 540 students in grades 6-8
- New classroom facility on shores of Crooked Lake
- Innovative curriculum using latest technology, hands-on learning
- After-school programs for reading, math & science
- Bok Bridges provides extra support for struggling students
- Single-gender classes for intensive reading
- Partnership with neighboring Warner University, Bok Tower Gardens
- Robotics, aquatics, kayaking, mountain biking, YMCA partnership, Bok Farms, steel drums, orchestra, band & choir
- 2009 School Grade = A

Student Demographics
Enrollment – 451
Male – 50.6%
Female – 49.4%
Minority – 31.0%
Economically Disadvantaged (free/reduced lunch) – 51.2%
LEP (Limited English Proficient) – 3.7%

Home of the Gnats
815 N. Scenic Highway
Babson Park, Florida 33827
(863) 678-4664

MISSION STATEMENT
Making a difference today for a better world tomorrow.



DALE R. FAIR BABSON PARK ELEMENTARY

Ken Henson, Principal
Elizabeth Tyler, Assistant Principal

- Culyer Strategies in Reading program is innovative, research-based, and materials are developed by staff
- Small school environment with culture of great family & community support
- Mentoring program for at-risk students
- Computer lab featuring Odyssey reading, math program
- All 1st-5th grade students have access to Kids College reading, math program online
- Monthly All Pro Dad's Night program has more than 100 dads & children attend
- AM tutoring for struggling students
- Pre-school for 3- & 4-year-olds has curriculum aligned with Kindergarten program
- K-5 music program, 4th-5th grade chorus
- Strong Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- Five Star School designation from State of Florida
- Kindergarten Support program
- 2009 School Grade = A

Student Demographics
Enrollment – 630
Male – 49.2%
Female – 50.8%
Minority – 51.4%
Economically Disadvantaged (free/reduced lunch) – 71%
LEP (Limited English Proficient) – 9%

Home of the Hawks
1051 State Road 60
Lake Wales, Florida 33853
(863) 678-4216

MISSION STATEMENT
Hillcrest Hawks will learn, create, perform, communicate, cooperate, explore and soar to their highest potential in an encouraging, enriching environment. Hawks will leave the nest seeking the adventure of life-long learning.



HILLCREST ELEMENTARY

Damien Moses, Principal
Debbie Hunt, Assistant Principal

- Art classes for all K-5 students
- Painting, drawing, ceramics, art history, graphic arts, dance, steel drums, strings, percussion, piano lab, chorus
- AM tutoring for struggling students
- Hawk Adventure Club intervention program
- Intervention majors for academically at-risk students
- School-wide multicultural themes in all classes
- Newly renovated science lab
- Gold Model Status for Positive Behavior Support schools
- Five Star School designation from State of Florida
- Kindergarten Support program
- 2009 School Grade = A
- 2009 Adequate Yearly Progress = yes

Student Demographics
Enrollment – 630
Male – 49.2%
Female – 50.8%
Minority – 51.4%
Economically Disadvantaged (free/reduced lunch) – 71%
LEP (Limited English Proficient) – 9%

Home of the Silver Streaks
306 Florida Avenue
Lake Wales, Florida 33853
(863) 678-4211

MISSION STATEMENT
To provide a safe and caring environment where all students can be prepared academically and socially for our future society. "Learning for all – whatever it takes."



JANIE HOWARD WILSON ELEMENTARY

Beverly Lynne, Principal
Steven Whitaker, Assistant Principal

- Promethean Boards in all classrooms, media center
- Ability grouping in reading, math in Grades 1-5
- Accelerated Reading Program
- Fast Forward (Brain Fitness computer program) used daily for 30-minute intervention with at-risk students
- Resource teachers provide lowest-achieving students with extra help in reading, math and writing
- 20% increase of lowest-achieving students making learning gains in reading on 2009 FCAT
- Natural science lab at adjacent Grassy Lake Preserve
- 2 fully equipped science labs for all students
- Green Team leads recycling program to reduce school's eco-footprint
- Strings, chorus programs
- PTO Family Nights with learning activities, dinners
- Five Star School designation from State of Florida
- Kindergarten Support program
- 2009 School Grade = A
- 2009 Adequate Yearly Progress = yes

Student Demographics
Enrollment – 517
Male – 53.8%
Female – 46.2%
Minority – 34.6%
Economically Disadvantaged (free/reduced lunch) – 89%
LEP (Limited English Proficient) – 9%

Home of the Cardinals
110 East Polk Avenue
Lake Wales, Florida 33853
(863) 678-4244

MISSION STATEMENT
Polk Avenue is committed to each child reaching his/her potential through a challenging integrated program that provides a global perspective in a warm and caring environment.



POLK AVENUE ELEMENTARY

Gail Quam, Principal
Chauncey Mitchell, Assistant Principal

- Leader In Me school beginning in 2010-2011 Creating Leaders one student at a time using Covey Principles
- Spanish language/heritage instruction for all students
- Full science lab
- Conservation awareness program with solar panels energy-tracking, garden projects, composting, rain barrels
- Only Polk school in Progress Energy's SunSmart Schools program
- Monthly Parent Nights
- K-5 technology program
- Departmentalization within Grade Levels to ensure quality instruction
- Fast Forward (Brain Fitness computer program) Computer Lab used 30 minutes daily by at-risk students
- Intensive Remediation for at-risk students 30 minutes daily with certified teacher
- After School Tutoring 3 times weekly (October through March)
- After School Clubs offered 30 minutes weekly
- E-Team, chorus, strings, art club, Friday Forums
- Promethean Boards in all classrooms, Acti-votes in 93% of classrooms
- Kindergarten Support program
- 2009 School Grade = C

Student Demographics
Enrollment – 498
Male – 51%
Female – 49%
Minority – 63.9%
Economically Disadvantaged (free/reduced lunch) – 88%
LEP (Limited English Proficient) – 18%

Home of the Cardinals
110 East Polk Avenue
Lake Wales, Florida 33853
(863) 678-4244

MISSION STATEMENT
Polk Avenue is committed to each child reaching his/her potential through a challenging integrated program that provides a global perspective in a warm and caring environment.



A two-page guide explaining how the State of Florida calculated the 2009 school grades is available at <http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/pdf/0809/SGGuide2009.pdf>

