



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power towards good ends ...for knowledge is the prime need of the hour."

Mary McLeod Bethune

Mission Statement

The Union County T.E.A.M.S. Charter School for Technology, Engineering, Architecture, Mathematics and Science and High School/College Leadership Academy is a small learning community, Grades K—12, where all students achieve high academic standards by using the built environment as a learning laboratory. Students gain the tools and confidence necessary for successful post-secondary education, entrepreneurship, and the world of work. Students interact with professionals in various professions including the construction community, and manifest by their experiential learning "We Are Community Builders."

2014—The Year Of Change

Interim Assessment Plan

In order to meet the absolute standard in all grades, UC TEAMS is changing its district-wide assessment from Terra Nova to **Standards Solution**. This change in assessments will allow students the opportunity to be assessed online and more frequently. This form of assessment is aligned with the PARCC assessment projected for 2015. This transition began in late October, when students in grades 3—11 took the pilot assessment as the first step in this new plan. In addition, **Standards Solution** provides 6 to 8 week Benchmark assessments which allow closer monitoring of student progress towards the standard using an Individualized Learning Plans (ILP).

This change in assessment will better prepare our students for NJASK3-8. In our testing periods through 2012, our scores were averaging 17% better than our district school of residence which meant we met the comparative standard. With the Common Core State Standards, 8th grade ELA scores even met the absolute standard with 80% proficiency in 2012-13. However, in Math we fell below our district. **TODAY, WE STAND COMMITTED TO REACHING THE ABSOLUTE STANDARD IN ALL AREAS OF ASSESSMENT.**

Revised CALENDAR Dates

This year has brought seven snow storms and five snow days. We now must recoup three days of school. To that end we are compelled to adjust our calendar as follows:

- ⇒ **February 28, 2014— Full Day (Friday)**
- ⇒ **March 7 and 21, 2014—Half Days (Fridays)**
- ⇒ **March 14 and 28, 2014—Full Days (Fridays)**
- School Open:**
- ⇒ **April 14, 15, 2014—Full Days (Monday and Tuesday)**
- ⇒ **April 16, 2014—Half Day (Wednesday)**

SHEILA L. THORPE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/FOUNDER

WE'RE GROWING ...



Increased results require increased resources. With a new sixth grade class and another high school class, our population is increasing each year. Moving from 180 students in a K—8 Program to 318 students in a K—12 Program has created numerous staff challenges. Welcome new staff listed below who serve our flourishing Scholar's and Leader's Clusters. To accommodate new academic challenges in the Achiever's cluster, a fourth teacher has been added.

WELCOME!

- ⇒ M. Chiles—Basic Skills/MS ELA
- ⇒ F. Cordova—Spanish
- ⇒ S. Counts—IA/Math
- ⇒ W. Cramer—TOSD/HS
- ⇒ C. Fenelus—Social Studies/BS
- ⇒ M. Figueroa—Admin. Asst.-HS
- ⇒ K. James—Career Counselor/HS
- ⇒ E. Platt—Phys. Ed./Health
- ⇒ E. Richardson—IA/UCC
- ⇒ E. Robinson—Technology/STEM
- ⇒ L. Salley—Sub/IA/Phys. Ed.
- ⇒ C. Simpkins—BS/GT
- ⇒ J. Sprague—Industrial Art Architecture & Design/Acellus



HIGH SCHOOL

We are almost ready to move. **YES!** With just a few more glitches to work through, our joint project with the St. Mary's Church and their Parish School moves forward. We are securing our certificates in this month and all projections are that the move is imminent. Our move will take place within the next 30 days with approval from the County Superintendent's Office.

Thank you again for your patience as we become **"One School, One Mission"** in two locations. **Stay Tuned!**

GOING GREEN !!!!!

We are **GOING GREEN** and want you to join us as we join the nation in saving our environment. With the adoption of a "ONE-TO-ONE INITIATIVE" (one computer per child) it is only fitting that we move into this new year with as little paper as possible. We can save thousands of trees, decrease carbons in the atmosphere by using our cell phones, home telephones, internet, with voice mail, e-mail, and text messages to inform you of what is happening at UCTCS-HS/ LA.

CHECK THE FOLLOWING:

- ◆ WWW.ucteams.org
- ◆ Contact e-mail
- ◆ School Announcements
- ◆ Remind101—Text Message
- ◆ E-mail from Principals

In the future check the website it just might be there.

