

Academic Partnerships	Career Partnerships	Personal/Social Partnerships
		Mobile Dentist Program
		North Texas Food Bank

Measurements

The SST utilizes a variety of measurements to evaluate and modify vital school wide programs and individual data which promote student success.

The instruments to measure students' success are:

Academic: Texas Assessments of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS), TPRI/Tejas Lee reading inventory, Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS)/Logramos, Benchmark, Woodcock-Munoz, Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (Dial 3), Special Education and Dyslexia Screening. These tests aid in determining language needs and progress.

Personal/Social Assessments: Universal Screening Instrument, Achenbach Teacher Report Form, Health Screening and Counseling Needs Assessment

Career Assessments: Career Interest Inventory

Major Achievements

- Earning the recognized school status from Texas Education Agency in the 2009-2010 school year is a reflection of the commendable efforts of the SST members made in collaboration with CILT and other staff members. These improvements align with last year CIP.
- The school counselor coordinated Junior Achievement (JA) lessons for all students in 2008-2009 school year. Volunteers from Aetna Insurance Company were able to expand their participation from kindergarten (K) through second grades in the 2007-2008 school year for K through fourth grades. Furthermore, Exxon Mobile Corporation volunteers implemented lessons for all fifth grade classes in May 2009. All the students are receiving JA lessons within two years of program implementation and students continue to benefit from these programs.
- Counselor spearheaded and coordinated in conjunction with SST members an in-service for staff members to raise awareness of PTSD among refugees and other traumatized students. The DISD Student Support Team Coordinator, several Counseling and Psychological Services specialists, a Director as well as DISD teachers of newcomer (refugee) students of other countries and our DISD School Board trustee Leigh Ann Ellis were also in attendance. This in-service was presented by an internationally known trauma expert in January 2008.
- Fifth grade was chosen to participate in the "Great Peacemakers Like You and Me" lesson from the MasterPEACE program of the organization named "Today Marks the Beginning." An exhibit of the students' artwork was shown at the Dallas downtown main library for three months in spring 2009.

Focus For Improvement

Student Support Team members are instrumental in staff collaboration to meet the CIP goals. Our CIP identified these goals based on last year's TAKS data. Additionally the school staff reviews the DISD resource "My Data Portal" (<http://portal.dallasisd.org/index.jsp>). This website provides critical information regarding student academic and attendance performance. One way to achieve CIP goals this year is to use district-level math and language arts coaches. These coaches present and explain to teachers how to implement "best practices" strategies. Also science vocabulary words are announced daily along with the weekly character word of the week. We believe these steps will help to increase TAKS scores in math, science and reading areas.

Keeping you Informed

The SST is dedicated to work cohesively and create excellent communication between school staff, parents and community. Therefore, we utilize several ways to create a family and community friendly school to help achieve students' highest potential and to produce lifelong learners. These different methods are:

Printed Material	Personal Contacts	Electronic Contact
Student Hand Book	Daily Announcements	Fax
Brochures/Flyers	Faculty Meetings	Email
Information about events in Tuesday folders in English and Spanish. Burmese, French, Nepali, Karen and other languages when possible	Meet the Teacher Night and Parent Conference Night with Spanish, French, Burmese, Karen and other language translators	Phone Calls through the School Messenger (an automated phone system in English and Spanish)
Bulletin Boards	5 th Grade Bridging Ceremony	
Principal's news letters	Staff Development	
Events posted on Marquee in English and Spanish	Parent conferences with administrators, counselors or teachers	
Cool Kids parenting letters	Parent Workshops with translators	



C.R.E.S.T

Counselors Reinforcing Excellence for Students in Texas
A continuous improvement document sponsored by the
Texas School Counselor Association

2009 – 2010

L. L. Hotchkiss Elementary School
A Texas Education Agency "Recognized" School

6929 Town North Drive Dallas Texas 75231

Office: 972-749-7000 Fax: 972-749-7001

Dallas Independent School District

Grades: PreK – 5 Enrollment 940

Principal: Cecelia Criner

Counselor: Janet Perera



Principal's Comments

The mission of L. L. Hotchkiss Elementary School (LLHES) is to "use progressive and dynamic instructional strategies to develop productive and responsible citizens that will graduate workforce and college ready. We are creating successful, empowered critical thinkers who are lifelong learners." Hotchkiss Elementary is a highly diverse campus with 67% Hispanic, 13% African American and 20% other populations which consist of students from foreign countries where over twenty seven languages are spoken. The majority of the non-Spanish speaking students are immigrants from Africa, Asia and European countries where they have experienced casualties of war and witnessed political violence. School wide programs implemented throughout the year for all students include the counselor-led guidance lessons, Career Development and College Awareness, Character Counts Education, Red Ribbon Week observations and Kindness Week activities. The Hotchkiss Student Support Team (SST) offers an annual comprehensive guidance and counseling plan which includes interventions for struggling students, individual and group counseling and parent conferences; these roles and responsibilities are aligned with the National Standards for School Counseling Programs (NSSCP) model. The following areas are the primary focus for improvement for this year: school-wide implementation of the research and evidence-based Cool Kids character education, a social/emotional program also participating in the Dallas Independent School District (DISD) Character Counts! contest. These programs, as indicated in the Campus Improvement Plan, (CIP) provide valuable resources for educating our students and parents on how to live in a safe and secure environment. The Hotchkiss staff in collaboration with the SST team strives to motivate and engage parents in their children's growth in social skills, emotional development and learning process. Our future goals include being rated Texas Education Agency (TEA) Exemplary, No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Blue Ribbon School and being recognized as the premier campus "where all children can learn."

Student Support Team

The school counselors from the previous years were the SST chairs. Last school year, LLHES staffed one school counselor. This year SST employs one additional part time counselor. The students are bused from a neighborhood of 36,000 people living within a three-mile radius representing one of the highest crime communities in Dallas. Many of these students face enormous challenges; some students come from families of single, incarcerated, unemployed and refugee parents. Some students have been exposed to substance abuse, gang activities, and have a high mobility rate. These challenges seriously impact students' ability to learn. Thus SST utilizes Responses to Intervention model (RTI) to address these issues.

The SST team has exemplary credentials and experience to address every student's needs. Counselors in collaboration with the SST design, evaluate, coordinate and implement best practices to enhance students' achievement. They simultaneously address academic, social, emotional, behavioral or career awareness needs of all students that provide a safe and nurturing environment for them. Recognizing the changing student demographics and developing programs to address challenges are vital for a successful counselor. The counselor realized the importance of training the staff to raise awareness of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) to interact effectively with refugees and traumatized students. In addition, DISD Student Support Team coordinator trained the staff to enhance implementing the RTI model in February 2009.

Name	Position	Credentials/Education	Experience
Tenisha Brown	SST Chair Academic Coordinator	M.Ed. School Administration Principal Certification	14 Years
Cecelia Criner	Principal	M.A. Human Resources Principal Certification	14 Years
Irma Zambrano	Assistant Principal	M.S. Biology, M.Ed. School Administration Principal Certification	25 Years
Janet Perera	Counselor	M.Ed. Education, M.Ed. School Counseling Certified School Counselor Texas Counseling Association	17 Years
Norma Wright	Counselor, Monday & Friday (part time)	M.A. Counseling Certified School Counselor, Principal Certification Texas Counseling Association	26 Years
Celeste Roberts	School Nurse	MSN Nursing Registered Nurse	18 Years

Name	Position	Credentials/Education	Experience
Pam Wurster	Teacher Special Education	M.Ed. Education Learning Disabilities Association	28 Years
Myrtle Jenkins	Teacher Master Reading Teacher	B.S. Early Childhood International Reading Association	34 Years
Lily Iteld	Pre Doctoral Psychology Intern	M.Ed. School Psychology Nationally Certified School Psychologist	3 Years

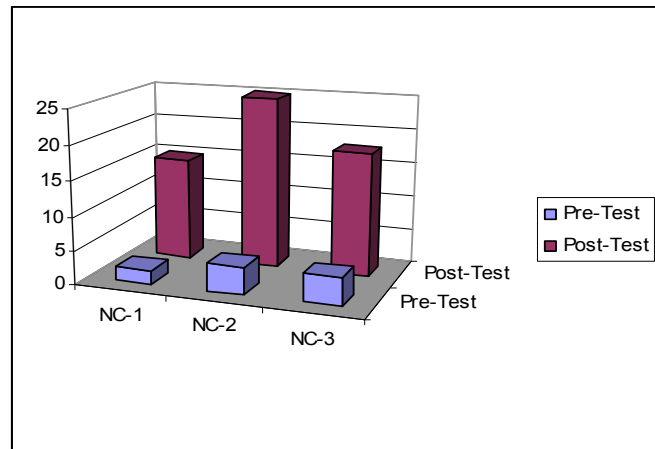
Additional team members include a diagnostician, a speech pathologist and a behavior program teacher. They have a total of 45 years experience.

School Climate and Safety

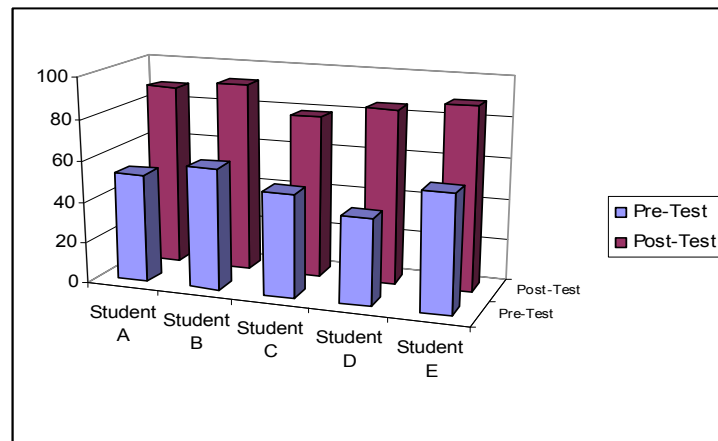
Our highly dedicated SST members ensure that regular trainings and implementation of programs occur as a means to promote school climate and safety in serving our diverse student population. L. L. Hotchkiss Elementary School realizes the strong correlation between student achievement and a warm welcoming school environment. Therefore, in collaboration with the SST and the staff counselor recruited, coordinated and co-facilitated a variety of programs to promote academic success and safety of all students.

These Programs are:

- An annual International Festival coordinated by LLHES Multicultural committee to promote tolerance
- Staff Development presentations to inform staff about substance abuse awareness from 2006 to 2008 by DISD and Mosaic Family Services safe and drug free specialists
- Rainbow Days and Mosaic Family Services substance abuse prevention lessons during Red Ribbon Week per teacher request
- Rainbow Days lessons to first grades through fourth grades to implement the Protecting Me and Protecting You curriculum per teacher request between 2007–2009 school years
- Rainbow Days Kids Connection counseling groups with a focus of prevention and intervention, according to needs assessment
- Law Enforcement Teaching Students (LETS) program lessons for all fourth and fifth grade students until fall 2009
- Research and evidence-based Cool Kids character education and social/emotional program since 2008
- Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) car for all the students to view during Red Ribbon Week in 2005–2008 years



Counselor facilitated social skills groups with selected newcomer refugee students to connect them with the larger student population and the school in spring 2008. These refugee students come to school with little or no social skills.



Counselor continued and co-facilitated social skills groups with Mosaic Family Services with NC-2 class in fall 2008. These groups were very successful and students are improving social skills and feel more connected to the larger student population and school.

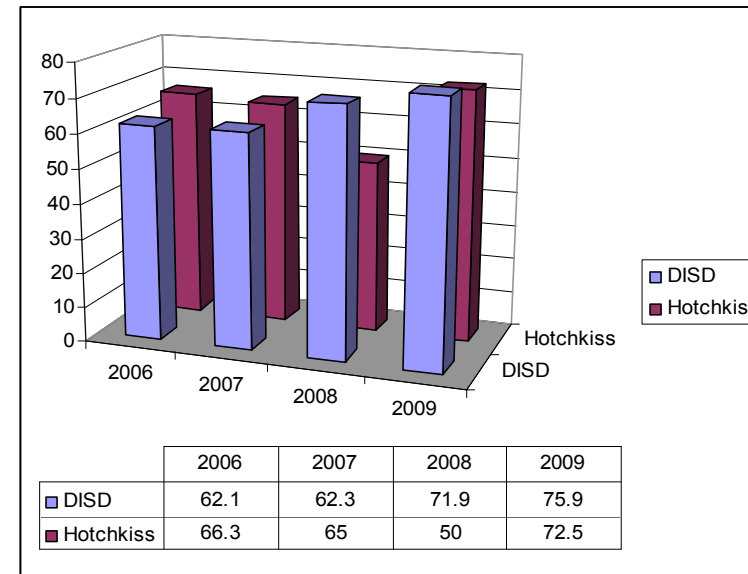
Volunteer Involvement

Volunteers are an excellent resource for LLHES. Without volunteer involvement a variety of programs to champion student achievement may not have been implemented. Career partnership volunteers have participated in our annual school wide career/college days since fall 2005 to help LLHES prepare college and workforce ready students while they learn about the world of work and the many college options available to them in the future. The Great Peacemakers Like You and Me lesson introduced fifth grade students to 12 great peacemakers such as Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Mother Teresa. The students created portraits of the peacemakers, and in doing so, grew their awareness of these heroic individuals. In addition, Northway Christian Church volunteers in collaboration with Vickery Meadow Improvement District help to maintain supplies and operate our unique Hotchkiss Boutique donation center.

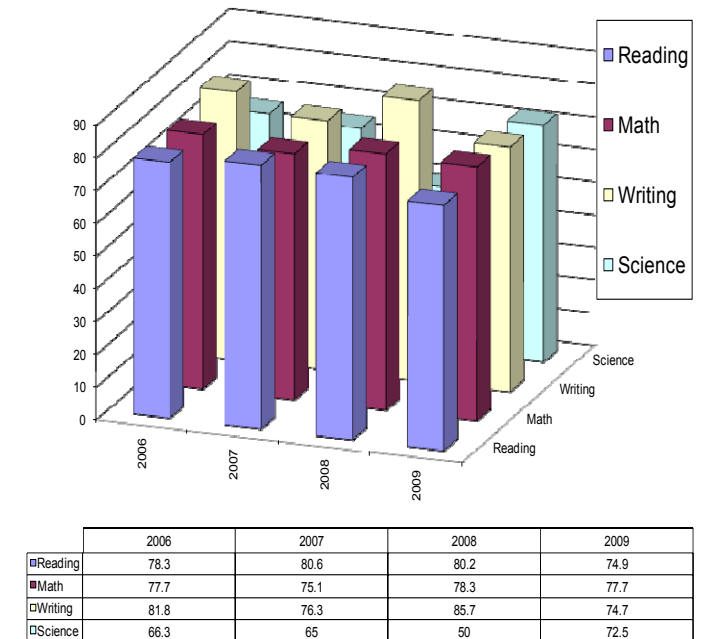
Counselor is available to meet with parents, volunteers and community sponsors. To be a part of LLHES volunteer group please contact the counselor Janet Perera at 972-749-7017 or by email jperera@dallasisd.org or the librarian Sheila Kratz at 972-749-7033 or by email skratz@dallasisd.org Volunteer Activities: LLHES Boutique, teacher luncheons, chaperones for field trips, tutors/mentors, Guidance Advisory Committee members, and career/college day speakers.

Student Results

SST is the primary vehicle to track at-risk students and provides appropriate interventions to prevent drop out and failure rates for all students. Counselors work diligently with other team members, whole staff, parents and referral agencies to utilize best interventions for all students to reach their highest potential in academic, career and social/emotional areas. This is evidenced by our recognized rating this year and is aligned with our Campus Improvement Plan (CIP) which incorporates the NSSCP model.



The table indicates the fifth grade science score averages for 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. In collaboration with SST, science teachers implemented research based strategies to accomplish the CIP goal to increase TAKS Science test scores.



The table represents the success students have achieved having SST committee and staff working for them. The graphs show the third, fourth and fifth grade TAKS averages for 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

Community Partnership/Resources

Hotchkiss Elementary realizes the value of partnering with the community and is fortunate to benefit from a diverse group of community partners and resources. The SST team advocates and encourages collaboration with community members, faith-based organizations, community associations, businesses, and non-profit organizations and other agencies. These partnerships are important resources which provide programs based on supporting Hotchkiss Hawks' vision: We are an exemplary professional learning community of excellence and empowered leadership, providing a rigorous academic program in an environment of trust and respect, enhanced by innovative educators and continuous collaboration with parents and the community. In addition, they provide most of the 40 developmental assets identified by the Search Institute.

Academic Partnerships	Career Partnerships	Personal/Social Partnerships
Northway Christian Church tutors	Baylor Dental students	Northway Christian Church
City of Dallas After-school Program	City of Dallas Fire and Paramedic Units	Mosaic Family Services
Vickery Meadow Youth Development Foundation	Junior Achievement (Aetna, Exxon-Mobile volunteers)	Fair Oaks Youth and Family Center
Today Marks The Beginning	Educators' Resource Group	Vickery Meadow Improvement District
HIPPY Program	Dallas County Community Colleges	Vickery Meadow Youth Development Foundation
Site Based Decision Making Committee (SBDM)	City of Dallas police, helicopter, K - 9 and mounted units	Law Enforcement Teaching Students (LETS) – Dallas Police Department (until 2009 Spring)
Dallas ISD Refugee Support Services	Career/College Day Community volunteers	Dallas ISD Refugee Support Services
AVANCE Dallas	Dallas Bar Association	Hyer Preschool Association
Dallas ISD Intake Center	Rainbow Days	Cool Kids Program
Community tutors	Mosaic Family Services	Essilor Vision Van
	Northway Christian Church	Greater Dallas Council of Drug and Alcohol
	Southern Methodist University	Baylor Dental Sealant Program