



## Hampstead Hill Academy

### Overview

- School Name:** Hampstead Hill Academy (HHA) Charter School, PS #047
- Location:** 500 S. Linwood Ave, Baltimore, MD, 21224 (410) 396-9146 or 443-984-2859, [www.hha47.org](http://www.hha47.org) (School sits on Patterson Park at Fleet, Linwood and Eastern)
- Grades Served:** Pre-Kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Type:** HHA is a public, neighborhood charter school. The Baltimore City School's Board of Education recently fully renewed HHA's charter through 2013. Attendance area encompasses neighborhoods south of Eastern Avenue to Boston Street from Broadway to Haven Street, including parts of Fells Point and Canton.
- HHA's elementary grades serve all students living in its attendance area from Broadway (west) to Haven (east) and Eastern (north) to Boston (south). All students in grades K-8 living in HHA's attendance area are offered admission to the school.
  - Approximately 1/3 of HHA students live outside of the attendance area. Families living outside of the attendance area are offered admission as a result of an annual public lottery. Typically, more spaces are available in grades K-2 than in grades 3-8.
  - Families of students living outside of the attendance area should complete a pre-registration form to participate in the public lottery.
  - All prospective families are encouraged to arrange a tour of the school with an administrator. Tours are given at 8:20 a.m. To arrange a tour, send an email to Ms. Swann, Community Outreach Coordinator, at [geriswann@hotmail.com](mailto:geriswann@hotmail.com).
  - Pre-Kindergarten is a separate program with its own set of admission criteria and will not be addressed by the lottery guidelines. There are 40 Pre-Kindergarten spaces available for students who turn 4 on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year and have one or more priority characteristics - eligibility for free or reduced lunch, English as a second language, specific physical challenges, etc. Students are ranked according to the eligibility requirements. In late spring, BCPSS Pre-K applications (with a full description of priority characteristics) are given to families who preregister for admission to Pre-K at HHA. More families apply for admission to PreK than any other grade.
  - Families living outside of Baltimore City are permitted to participate in the lottery process. If admitted, a standard annual tuition rate of approximately \$3,000 will be assessed by Baltimore City.
  - Once admitted to HHA, students with good attendance and punctuality do not need to reapply each year.
  - HHA believes in keeping families together. Incoming out-of-zone kindergarteners who have a sibling that is a current HHA student will be offered admission. This applies to rising kindergarteners only. Students must turn 5 on or before September 1<sup>st</sup> of the school year to enter kindergarten.

**Application Process and Deadlines:** The preregistration form is available online at <http://www.hha47.org/parents/docs/Preregistrationform.pdf>. The public lottery is scheduled to be held in February, 2010. If a student is not selected for admission, their name will be placed on a waiting list in the order drawn. Siblings of students admitted who are not admitted themselves will move to the top of the waiting list in their respective grades.

**Uniform School: Yes or No. Brief description of required uniforms or uniform provider, and description of financial assistance policy for purchasing uniforms if available.**

Yes. The HHA student uniform consists of a collared navy blue shirt with tan or khaki pants, shorts or skirts. No piercing other than earrings is permitted. No large chains, jewelry or large hoop earrings, etc. Young men should have long shirts tucked in. Uniform shirts are available for purchase at a low cost at the school office.

**Brief School History: For established schools, this will likely be short. This should just note whether it's converted to a charter school, newly established school, etc.**

HHA, a Baltimore City Public School (#47), has been in existence since 1893. HHA has been operated since 2002 by the Baltimore Curriculum Project ([www.baltimorecp.org](http://www.baltimorecp.org)), a local nonprofit organization. HHA converted to a charter school six years ago. Its charter was recently fully renewed through the 2012-2013 school year. The charter allows HHA to choose its own curriculum, hire and train staff, meet the needs of staff and students and control day-to-day budget decisions. The current brick building was constructed in 1989 and has central air. Due to the building being relatively new, there is no asbestos or lead paint in the building.

#### **School Leadership**

**Principal:** Matthew Hornbeck

**Principal Contact Information:** 443-984-2860(direct) [jmhornbeck@bcps.k12.md.us](mailto:jmhornbeck@bcps.k12.md.us)

**Principal Bio: This should be 6-7 sentences that includes a description of the principal's professional experience, how long they have been with the school, and their education.**

Matthew Hornbeck has served as the principal of HHA since June 2003. He attended Baltimore City schools and is a graduate of Baltimore City College (high school), one of the high performing, all-city high schools in Baltimore City. He holds a bachelor's degree from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, ME, a Masters in Education from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA and a law degree from the University Of Maryland School Of Law. Prior to becoming a principal, he worked as a consultant to large urban districts on issues of school finance and professional development, served as a program officer to improve high poverty schools at the Council of Chief State School Officers, taught elementary school in Baltimore City, worked in admissions at Bowdoin, and worked on childcare issues at the Children's Defense Fund. He lives in Roland Park with his wife, a school psychologist, and his two elementary-aged children, who are public school students in the city.

**Vice Principal(s): This should include a brief description of the vice principal(s) and their responsibilities at the school.**

Arleen Proto, Assistant Principal, [amproto@bcps.k12.md.us](mailto:amproto@bcps.k12.md.us)

Arleen Proto is one of two assistant principals at Hampstead Hill Academy this school year. She has twenty-four years of educational experience in Baltimore City. Mrs. Proto earned a BA in elementary and middle school education from Cal State University of San Bernardino. She taught her first four years in Fontana, Ca before moving to Baltimore in 1989. The next exciting nineteen years were spent teaching at Moravia Park Primary/ PreK-8 Campus #105. Mrs. Proto earned a Masters Degree in

Administration and Supervision and Administration 1 and 2 certificates from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland. At Hampstead Hill, Mrs. Proto looks forward to working with an energetic, caring and knowledgeable staff in promoting student achievement

Mari Satterlee, Assistant Principal, [mosatterlee@bcps.k12.md.us](mailto:mosatterlee@bcps.k12.md.us)

Mari Satterlee has been an Assistant Principal at Hampstead Hill Academy since the summer of 2007. She earned her BS degree and Masters in Teaching from Occidental College in Los Angeles. She also earned an Administrative Certificate from Loyola College. After 19 years of teaching a variety of subjects from the first to the eighth grades, she worked as an Instructional Support Teacher and Interim Assistant Principal at Roland Park Elementary/Middle School in Baltimore City. At Hampstead Hill Academy, Mrs. Satterlee helps to oversee the implementation of the curriculum including the newly adopted Math Works math program and the special education program, works closely with the growing Hispanic population, and assists in the management of student behavior.

### Academics

***Curriculum: This should include a description of the instructional method (i.e., direct instruction, hands-on learning, etc.) as well as the curriculum materials (i.e., Saxon math, Saxon reading, Houghton-Mifflin reading, etc.). It should also include a notation if certain subjects begin at higher grade levels and are not offered to all children (for example, language or science instruction begins at 5th grade).***

Hampstead Hill Academy uses research-based curriculum in all grades. There are many students in the elementary grades reading significantly above grade level. The school uses SRA's Direct Instruction curriculum for reading, spelling, language, and writing in the elementary grades. The Reading Mastery series teaches emerging and new readers the skills they need to quickly master decoding and move from "learning to read" to "reading to learn." Reading Mastery is one of the most effective reading programs in the country. That said, HHA knows that even the best programs must come alive and be tailored to meet the individual needs of students. HHA teachers tailor know how to meet the individual needs of students.

Students in PreK and K are self-contained with the same teacher and teacher assistant all day. In grades 1-5, students are grouped homogenously based on their performance in reading, math, language and writing, and spelling. Students are not always grouped based on age or grade. Homogenous scheduling permits teachers to accelerate students and fosters student engagement in learning. Quantitative and qualitative data on student groups is reviewed weekly by curriculum experts, teacher coaches and administrators to assess student progress. Changes in groups - both for students who need more time to master content and for students who master content quickly- help teachers keep classroom lessons moving at an appropriate pace.

Teachers use curricular materials to help students master content. They also use their own skills to tailor the curriculum to their students. Adults learn through repetition and children do too. HHA teachers, especially in grades PreK-2 routinely ask for both group and individual responses to reading comprehension questions, vocabulary definitions and pronunciation. The school is very open and transparent. Prospective parents are encouraged to observe instruction in any grade they wish.

There are dedicated minutes in the schedule for reading, math, writing, language, science, spelling, project-based learning and history. In addition, science and social studies content is heavily embedded in the Reading Mastery series starting in 2nd grade (i.e., students learn about scientific terms and concepts). By 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades, students are reading abridged classics like Tom Sawyer, The Odyssey, and The Prince and the Pauper. Starting in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, students read novels, classic literature and plays such as *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* and *Romeo and Juliet*.

A few years ago, HHA's faculty voted to adopt and implement a math program called Math Works. Math Works is designed for students in grades 2-8. Math Works uses hands-on work with manipulatives and teaches a wide range of skills to understand math concepts and problem solving. Math Works is completely aligned with the Maryland State Voluntary Curriculum Standards (VSC). In middle school, students take classes in world history and ancient civilizations.

Supplemental Instruction: This should include a description of what supplemental classes students are offered during the school day (i.e., Spanish, music, art, etc.) beyond the traditional coursework of reading, math, social studies, etc. It should also indicate how many times per week students receive supplemental instruction.

PreK and Kindergarten have resource classes 4 times per week. Resources are art, music, library, Food for Life, Spanish and physical education. They also have play time at centers where children can work individually or in small groups each day for 30 minutes. Centers designed to offer students higher quality manipulatives, more hands-on science and socialization activities.

First through fifth grade students also have resources 4 times per week. Resources are art, music, library, Food for Life, Spanish and physical education. Students in grades 1-8 who are on or above grade level are eligible to take semi-private band or orchestra lessons.

HHA has a full time band teacher and full time orchestra teacher. Each teacher teaches classes half of the time and semi-private lessons the rest of the time. We recently purchased more than \$15K worth of violins, violas and cello's.

Recess: 15-20 minutes every day for grades Pre-K-5.

Rest-time for younger students is usually about 15 minutes.

Pre-K also has snack time each day.

**ESOL: *Does the school offer an ESOL program and what services are these students offered?***

Yes. There are two full-time ESOL teachers at HHA. They service the 90+ ESOL students that attend HHA. Depending on the level of need, English Language Learners receive between 30 and 300 minutes of instruction weekly. This year, the ESOL staff is embarking on a project to synthesize the best practices of Direct Instruction and the Baltimore City ESOL Department's mandated curriculum.

**Special Education: *What supports and/or resources does the school offer for special education students? Is there a particular type of special education service in which they specialize?***

HHA utilizes a full inclusion model. We have a special education teacher who goes into the classrooms to monitor student progress and assist the regular educator in the implementation of the Individual Education Plan goals, objectives and accommodations. We also have related service providers who provide speech and language, psychological and occupational therapy services. Our IEP team is available on a daily basis to maintain compliance and to assist general educators, special educators, related services providers and parents of special education students with needs and concerns.

## Test Scores

HHA test scores are available at <http://www.mdreportcard.org/>. A more detailed analysis tool may be found at: <http://www.mdreportcard.org/AYPIntro.aspx?AypPV=14|0|30|0047|3|000000> and at <http://www.mdreportcard.org/Assessments.aspx?K=300047&WDATA=school>.

Hampstead Hill Academy is one of the highest achieving and fastest improving schools in the state. Once again, our girls and boys posted admirable scores on the Maryland School Assessment (MSA). 86% of our kids passed the MSA, and we met what the state calls “Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)”. In other words, our students met every academic and attendance goal set by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE).

Students in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade did better than the state average in math. Students in 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade did better than the state average in reading. Our kids outperformed the City average in every grade in reading and math. One highlight was our seventh grade. 95.7% passed the reading portion of the MSA, and an amazing 42% of those students scored in the highest “advanced” category. These are the boys and girls in 8<sup>th</sup> grade this year. We look forward to helping them find the high school of their choice.

More telling is the growth made building-wide over the course of the year on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). MAP offers pre and post test data in reading and math to help us measure growth over the course of a year. One great thing about MAP is that we can see whether Hampstead Hill added value to student learning. For example, a student may pass the MSA, but not have “grown” at all over the course of the year because they were already high performing. With MAP, we can see if the student knows more and can apply their knowledge at the end of the year. All of this outstanding achievement is a testament to the hard, smart work of our talented staff and committed students.

## Enrichment Activities

**Gifted/Talented Programs:** *This should include a description of how the school defines and handles gifted and talented students.*

HHA believes in the potential of every child to perform at world-class levels. HHA differentiates instruction in all grades and groups students homogeneously to promote rapid acceleration in program. Students have opportunities to engage in more extracurricular activities including sports clubs, chess and music theater.

**Tutoring:** *This should include a description of what types of tutoring is available for students.*

Teacher coaches, curriculum experts and administrators meet weekly to discuss and analyze quantitative and qualitative classroom and student data. If a student is struggling, interventions are assigned including assigning a tutor, priority seating the classroom, progress charts that get sent home, paired reading practice, pre-teaching and so on. The afterschool program has an academic component called Kids Lit.

**After School Clubs:** *This should include a description or listing of after school clubs available to students.*

All clubs start right after school and last for one or two hours.

Extracurriculars:

Band - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade up; semi-private lessons during the day; 2 concerts a year; 45 minute lessons.

Orchestra - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade up; semi-private lessons during the day; \$15,000 worth of violins, cellos, violas, 2 concerts/year; 45 minute lessons.

Chorus - Kindergarten and up

Culinary arts club - 3rd grade up

MASSAC (Sports Activities Club) - grades 3 and up

Middle School Girl's Soccer - grades 6 and up

Chess teams - champions 3 of 4 last years; 10% of school involved, 1st grade up; junior and senior teams

Garden Club - seasonal: 1st grade up

Annual spring musical -Past performances include: *Annie, Aladdin, Music Man, High School Musical. For the 2009-2010 school year The Wizard of Oz.*

Ceramics club - middle school

Audubon nature club - grades 2-4

Creative Alliance Arts after school program - grades 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>

Soccer - grades k to 8th

**Before/After Care: This should include a description of whether the school offers before or after care, the hours, cost (if any), and space limitations.**

Eighty plus elementary and middle school children participate at an onsite program called Fitness, Fun and Games, a local non-profit. Hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Cost is from \$60 to \$170 per month depending on number of days per week and time of pick-up. Program activities include: homework time, snack, programs through Enoch Pratt Free Library, playground fun, sports, small-group academic/artistic activities. You can sign up for just one day a week or to suit your schedule. Program is available when school is not in session.

Breakfast is free to all Baltimore City school children. HHA has a full kitchen and serves a hot breakfast beginning at 7:35. The dining room is supervised by staff. Parents are welcome to sit with their children while they have breakfast. Alternatively, drop off is permitted at the Streeper Street entrance beginning at 7:35. School begins for students at 8 a.m. and concludes at 2:40 p.m.

### Teaching Staff and Classroom Management

**Class Size: This often differs for younger grades and older grades. Should have numbers for K & 1<sup>st</sup> and then older grades 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>.**

Number of students in each Pre-K class: 20 (one teacher and one aide)

Total number of students in Pre-K: 40

Number of students in each K class: 18-24 (one teacher and one aide)

Total number of students in K: 71

Number of students in each 5th grade class: from 11 to 22

Total number of students in 5th grade: 58

Number to students in each 6<sup>th</sup> grade class: from 16 to 20

Total number of students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 49

**Teaching Staff: This should include a general description of available teaching staff as well as the average length of time their teachers have been teaching.**

Average years of teaching experience among staff: 1/3 of teaching staff have more than 20 years of teaching experience. About 50% of staff have a master's degree. One teacher has a doctorate. A number of teachers have experience in county schools (generally, city schools have a difficult time attracting county teachers). In 2007-2008, four staff members choose to send their own children to HHA. HHA receives more than 75 unsolicited resumes each year from teachers seeking a good place to work.

**Paraprofessionals:** *This should indicate whether they place paraprofessionals in classrooms to assist teachers and at what grade levels. This is most often done in younger grades but may be done in older grades as well. This should also include a description of what type of education is required of the paraprofessionals.*

Support teaching staff in Pre-K, K, 1st grade and any other classes that have support teaching staff: There are aides in PreK and K classes. Some are college-educated and some are not. These are highly trained people that HHA invests in as professionals. There are six other aides in the building to reduce class size in content areas as needed, provide additional clerical assistance, etc. All paraeducators have interesting backgrounds, including a graduate of Cornell U., a decade-long staff member at Kennedy Kreiger, a Board member of the Bryn Mawr School of Baltimore, and two recent college graduates. Other paras have college credits, but not a degree. All aides have been specifically chosen because they work well with HHA students and teachers.

### **Student Population**

**Number of Students:** *Most information in this section is available on <http://www.mdreportcard.org/>.*

Number of students at the school: 583 (445 PreK-5 and 138 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)

### **Ethnic Breakdown:**

Ethnic breakdown by percentage: Our student population is 45% white, 23% African American, 29% Latino, 2% Native American and 1% Asian.

Percentage of in-zone/out-of-zone students: 2/3 in-zone; lower grades have higher percentage in-zone.

### **Percentage on Free/Reduced Lunch:**

\*percentage on free/reduced-price lunch (an indicator of poverty): 75% (Mr. Hornbeck notes that Hampstead Hill serves families with diverse resources, some with income in excess of \$120K/year)

### **Percentage of ESOL students:**

Percentage of ESOL students (English as second language): 20%

### **Percentage with IEP:**

Percentage of HHA students with an Individualized Educational Program (IEP) (this can mean a student with a speech delay, a learning disability, or something else): 8%

### **Parent Involvement**

**PTO/PTA/Parent Group Name:** Hampstead Hill Academy Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

**Parent Group Contact:** Theresa Shafer, 410-396-9146

**School Philosophy on Parent Involvement:** Parents and families are essential partners with the school. Parent and family involvement, especially around school readiness issues like attendance, punctuality, homework, adequate rest, nutrition, and understanding of school policies and procedures can make student success much more likely.

**Number of Active Members:** There is no PTO membership fee. All families of students enrolled at HHA are automatically members of the PTO. There is no cooperative or minimum volunteer hours required of parents. However, dozens of parents provide daily and seasonal support by volunteering during lunch and recess, the annual spring musical, clubs and activities, etc. HHA tries to match volunteer time and interest with school needs. Parents are encouraged to start programs, clubs activities for HHA students.

**Number of Times Group Meets Per Year:** The PTO Executive Board meets at least six times each year after school hours and invites agenda items submitted a week in advance.

**Description of activities:** *This should include a brief description of the activities the parent group takes on.*

The PTO sponsors Back-to-School Night, Report Card Nights, as well as special events like the Fallfest, Hampstead Hill Nights music series and various fundraiser sales events. The PTO raises approximately \$10K each year for programs and supplies that benefit HHA students. Parents have unfettered access to the principal, assistant principals and teachers. They are welcome in building at any time to observe. Parents are encouraged to start programs.

**Other activities parents are involved in:**

The PAT Committee where a group of parents discuss strategies to improve the over-all environment of the school, Community Dinners, run by the culinary Arts Club, which occur at school approximately once a month during the school year. Nutritious culturally theme-based meals are accompanied by chorus, band, and orchestra performances. Community Dinners are a great place for parents, students, staff and neighbors to connect and build bonds. Parents volunteer in a variety of areas throughout the school building such as in the cafeteria, art room, playground and library. Parents also assist with after-school activities especially in the area of sports.

**Facility Description**

*This should include a paragraph or two that describes what the facility has available for students beyond the obvious of having a building. For example: playground, computer labs, theater (this is sometimes combined with cafeteria space), separate science lab, art studio, etc.*

HHA is housed in a nice brick building that is well maintained. In June of 2009, school-wide renovations began. On the first day of school, students returned to a new library, new art room, new music rooms and new glass windows to let the sunshine in. For our younger students, there was a new prekindergarten and kindergarten wing featuring larger rooms, cubbies for each student and private restrooms.