



From: SBCohen
Sent: Sunday, June 20, 2010 11:50 AM
To: Catalina Castillo
Cc: Harry Phillips; Bernard Pierorazio
Subject: Visit

Dear Ms. Castillo,

First let me thank you for the warm reception to the Charter School of Educational Excellence. The school is a remarkable achievement.

You have asked for specific reactions and comments, and here they are.

- ◆ The vocabulary level of students at all grade levels exceeds the norm by far. The same applies to their reading and writing skills.
- ◆ The interaction between students and teaching staff is continuous and productive.
- ◆ The high morale of the entire staff permeates the institution.
- ◆ ELL and Special Ed students have made remarkable progress.
- ◆ The involvement and commitment of Board leadership is extraordinary.
- ◆ Plans for expanding and improving the building are exciting and augur well for a strong learning environment.
- ◆ The use of science experiments engages the interest of the students.
- ◆ Critical thinking permeates the learning.
- ◆ School leadership is outstanding and sensitive to student needs.
- ◆ Flexibility in student grouping enhances the learning experience.

Your school is a model for how public schools should operate. The challenge is how to accomplish this goal. I would suggest that you discuss with Superintendent Pierorazio the possibilities of teaming your school with a nearby public school, and working with the teachers and staff of that school to try to institute some of your innovations.

Best regards,
Saul Cohen