

The State Education Department
The University of the State of New York

Office of Innovative School Models

Charter Schools Office
462 EBA
Albany, New York 12234
518-474-1762

Charter School Annual Report
2009 - 2010

Charter School Information and Cover Page

Name of Charter School: St. HOPE Leadership Academy

Primary Address: 222 West 134th Street, New York, NY. 10030

Telephone: 212-283-1204 **Fax:** 212-283-1207

BEDS #: 310500860928

District/CSD of Location District 5

Charter Entity New York City Department of Education

Date School First Opened for Instruction August 13, 2008

School Leader: Ventura Rodriguez
(print name)

E-mail Address of School Leader: vrodriguez@sthopeharlem.org

President, Board of Trustees Morton Ballen
(print name)

E-mail Address and Phone Number of Board President mballen@explorenetwork.org
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Section I

Student Assessment Data

*Student Assessment Data
New York State Assessment Results
Grades 3 – 8 ELA and Math
2009-10 Annual Report*

Grades 3 – 8 State ELA Assessments Results

<i>Year of Test</i>	Grade 3				Grade 4				Grade 5				Grade 6				Grade 7				Grade 8			
	L1	L2	L3	L4																				
2009-10 – All Students									22	62	16	0	14	60	26	0	13	65	17	6	23	64	14	0
General Education Students									25	59	16	0	10	61	30	0	9	61	21	9	21	65	15	0
Special Education Students									0	80	20	0	44	56	0	0	20	73	7	0	30	60	10	0
2008-09 – All Students									0	50	50	0	0	51	49	0	2	31	67	0				
General Education Students									0	41	59	0	0	39	61	0	0	28	72	0				
Special Education Students									0	82	18	0	0	91	9	0	10	40	50	0				
2007-08 – All Students																								
General Education Students																								
Special Education Students																								
2006-07 – All Students																								
General Education Students																								
Special Education Students																								

New York State Assessment Results

Grades 3 – 8 State Math Assessments Results

<i>Year of Test</i>	Grade 3				Grade 4				Grade 5				Grade 6				Grade 7				Grade 8			
	L1	L2	L3	L4																				
2009-10 – All Students									3	49	46	3	10	40	43	7	13	48	40	0	7	73	20	0
General Education Students									0	50	47	3	8	39	44	8	6	39	55	0	3	71	26	0
Special Education Students									20	40	40	0	22	44	33	0	27	67	7	0	20	80	0	0
2008-09 – All Students									6	23	58	13	2	19	68	11	5	14	81	0				
General Education Students									5	16	62	16	3	11	72	14	3	13	84	0				
Special Education Students									9	45	45	0	0	45	55	0	10	20	70	0				
2007-08 – All Students																								
General Education Students																								
Special Education Students																								
2006-07 – All Students																								
General Education Students																								
Special Education Students																								

New York State Assessment Results

NYS English as a Second Language Achievement Test		Year	All Students				General Education Students					Students with Disabilities				
		Total Tested	% Scoring:				Total Tested	% Scoring:				Total Tested	% Scoring at or above:			
			≤54	55-64	65-84	≥85		≤54	55-64	65-84	≥85		≤54	55-64	65-84	≥85
Listening & Speaking (Gr. K-1)	2009-10															
	2008-09															
	2007-08															
	2006-07															
Reading & Writing (Gr. K-1)	2009-10															
	2008-09															
	2007-08															
	2006-07															
Listening & Speaking (Gr. 2-4)	2009-10															
	2008-09															
	2007-08															
	2006-07															
Reading & Writing (Gr. 2-4)	2009-10															
	2008-09															
	2007-08															
	2006-07															
Listening & Speaking (Gr. 5-6)	2009-10	9	0	11	33	56	8	0	0	38	63	1	0	100	0	0
	2008-09	7	0	0	43	57	5	0	0	60	40	2	0	0	0	100
	2007-08															
	2006-07															
Reading & Writing (Gr. 5-6)	2009-10	9	0	22	67	11	8	0	13	75	13	1	0	100	0	0
	2008-09	7	0	57	14	29	5	0	60	0	40	2	0	50	50	0
	2007-08															
	2006-07															

New York State Assessment Results

<i>NYS English as a Second Language Achievement Test</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>All Students</i>				<i>General Education Students</i>				<i>Students with Disabilities</i>						
		<i>Total Tested</i>	<i>% Scoring:</i>				<i>Total Tested</i>	<i>% Scoring:</i>				<i>Total Tested</i>	<i>% Scoring at or above:</i>			
			<i>≤54</i>	<i>55-64</i>	<i>65-84</i>	<i>≥85</i>		<i>≤54</i>	<i>55-64</i>	<i>65-84</i>	<i>≥85</i>		<i>≤54</i>	<i>55-64</i>	<i>65-84</i>	<i>≥85</i>
Listening & Speaking (Gr. 7-8)	2009-10	6	0	17	17	67	5	0	20	20	60	1	0	0	0	100
	2008-09	1	0	100	0	0	1	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2007-08															
	2006-07															
Reading & Writing (Gr. 7-8)	2009-10	6	17	67	17	0	5	20	60	20	0	1	0	100	0	0
	2008-09	1	100	0	0	0	1	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2007-08															
	2006-07															
Listening & Speaking (Gr. 9-12)	2009-10															
	2008-09															
	2007-08															
	2006-07															
Reading & Writing (Gr. 9-12)	2009-10															
	2008-09															
	2007-08															
	2006-07															

Progress Toward Goal Attainment

**Progress Toward Goal Attainment
2009-10**

Goal/Objective: Desired Level of Attainment	Actual Result: Observed Level of Attainment	Measure Used to Indicate Attainment of the Goal/Objective	Was the Goal/ Objective Met? (Y/N)	Explanation if Not Met/Efforts to be Undertaken
<p>1. Each year, 75 percent of K - 8 graders will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State ELA and Math examinations.</p>	<p>5th Grade ELA: 16% Math: 49%</p> <p>6th Grade ELA: 26% Math: 50%</p> <p>7th Grade ELA: 23% Math: 40%</p> <p>8th Grade ELA: 14% Math: 20%</p>	<p>SHLA student results on New York State Assessments</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>Like the majority of schools across New York State, SHLA’s test scores dropped significantly this year. One major reason is the increased requirements for passing scores, as compared to past years. For example, in 2009, 68.8% of students in New York City passed the ELA exam, compared to only 45% in 2010. City-wide, this represents a drop of 28.3%. In 2009, 78.7% of students in NYC passed the math exam, compared to 52.9% in 2010. This represents a drop of 25.8%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21% Scored proficient or advanced in ELA (27% district average) • 41% Scored proficient or advanced in math (38% district average) <p>While the overall goal was not met, we did, however, see growth in raw scores with many of our scholars:</p>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 74% of 5th grade students saw an increase in their raw scores for math and ELA. • 61% of 6th grade students saw an increase in their raw scores for math, and 60% for ELA. • 63% of 7th grade students saw an increase in their raw scores for ELA. <p>For the current school year, we have launched several initiatives to help us reach our goal of having 100% of our scholars score a 3 or 4 on the State ELA and math exams. These include a new interim assessment system, which allows teachers to receive data about how well their students are learning. Teachers then use this information to inform their instruction.</p> <p>We have also started a partnership with Columbia University's Teacher's College to help improve our students ELA's scores. Teachers attend workshops at Columbia covering various aspects of teaching reading and writing. We also work with a staff developer throughout the year to model techniques for teachers and to help the school strengthen its ELA program.</p> <p>Additionally, we have created new acceleration programs for some of our lowest performers, including a new Reader's Theater program and use of Study Island software.</p>
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<p>2. Each year, 50 percent of 4th graders and 75 percent of 8th graders who have been at St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School for at least two years will perform at Level 3 on the New York State Science examination.</p>	<p>8th Grade: 62%</p>	<p>SHLA student results on New York State Assessments</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>This year was our first time ever as a school having 8th grade students take the 8th grade science exam. Because we started the school in 2008/2009 with 7th grade students, none of the students who took the exam had been enrolled in SHLA for two years, as listed on the goals in the charter. However, for the 2010/2011 school year, we will be able to accurately measure our progress towards achieving this goal.</p>
<p>3. Each year, 50 percent of 5th and 75 percent of 8th graders who have been at St. HOPE Leadership Academy Charter School for at least two years will perform at Level 3 on the New York State Social Studies examination.</p>	<p>5th Grade: 59% 8th Grade: 54%</p>	<p>SHLA student results on New York State Assessments</p>	<p>Y N/A</p>	<p>Because SHLA is currently a 5-8 school, none of our 5th grade students have been at the school for the 2 years listed on the goal. However, we met the goal as listed in the charter document.</p> <p>Because we started the school in 2008/2009 with 7th grade students, none of the students who took the exam had been enrolled in SHLA for two years, as listed on the goals in the charter.</p>
<p>4. Each year, 8th grade students will complete a 2000 word historical research paper. 90 percent of students will meet or exceed the academic standards measured by this assignment.</p>	<p>80%</p>	<p>Teacher-created assessments and scoring rubrics</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>8th grade students completed a 2000 word research paper in their social studies class. Approximately 80% met or exceeded the academic standards measured by the assignment.</p>
<p>5. For years 2 through 5 of the proposed charter, grade-level cohorts of students will reduce by one-half the gap between the percent at or above</p>		<p>SHLA student results on New York State Assessments</p>	<p>N</p>	<p>Given SHLA's scores on ELA and math, this goal was not met. However, with the changes to the State exam scoring guidelines, schools throughout New York State saw significant decreased in their passing</p>

Level 3 on the previous year's State ELA exam and 75 percent at or above Level 3 on the current year's State ELA exam.				rates. However, a large percentage of our students made growth on their overall raw scores (please see goal #1).
6. For the 2008-09 through 2012-13 school years, grade-level cohorts of students will reduce by one-half the gap between the percent at or above Level 3 on the previous year's State Math exam and 75 percent at or above Level 3 on the current year's State Math exam.			N	Given SHLA's scores on ELA and math, this goal was not met. However, with the changes to the State exam scoring guidelines, schools throughout New York State saw significant decreased in their passing rates. For example, in 2009, 68.8% of students in New York City passed the ELA exam, compared to only 45% in 2010. City-wide, this represents a drop of 28.3%. In 2009, 78.7% of students in NYC passed the math exam, compared to 52.9% in 2010. This represents a drop of 25.8%.
7. Each year, the percent of students performing at or above Level 3 on the State ELA and Math exams in each tested grade will place the school in the top quartile of all similar schools.			N/A	Data Unavailable – similar schools that would be used as a comparison group have not been identified by the NYCDOE.
8. Each year, the school will make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in ELA, math and, for Grades 9 – 12 only, in graduation rate.	Data for the 2009/2010 school year is still not available. However, SHLA made AYP for math and ELA for the 2008-2009 school year.			
9. Each year, the school will have a daily student attendance rate of at least 95 percent.	SHLA's yearly attendance rate was 96%.	Data pulled from ATS	Y	
10. Each year, 95 percent of all	87%	Data pulled from ATS	N	87% of our students enrolled during the course

students enrolled during the course of the year return the following September.				of the 2008/2009 school year returned the following September.
11. Each year, the school will comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and contract terms including, but not limited to, the New York Charter Schools Act, the New York Freedom of Information Law, the New York Open Meetings Law, the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.	SHLA has complied with all laws, rules, regulations, and contract terms.	Independent Audit Finding, Annual NYSED Visit, Annual NYCDOE Visit	Y	
12. Each year, 100 percent of teachers will engage in a faculty evaluation process including written performance reviews.		SHLA Staff Evaluation Process	Y	All staff members underwent an evaluation process three times during the course of the year, during which they also received written performance reviews.
13. Each year, 100 percent of faculty will participate in individualized and team-focused professional development.	100% of faculty participated in individualized and team-focused professional development		Y	Faculty received team-focused professional development on topics including classroom management, using data to drive instruction, and teaching reading comprehension. This training was delivered during pre-service and during our weekly 2.5 hour professional development block. All faculty members also received individualized professional development by attendance at various conferences. Several example, some faculty members attended a

				<p>conference sponsored by ASCD which offered numerous workshops on differentiated instruction.</p> <p>Other attended a conference focused on classroom management and school climate.</p> <p>Finally, various staff members attended the National Charter School Conference.</p>
14. Each year, student enrollment will be within 15 percent of full enrollment as defined in the school's contract. This will be maintained on an ongoing basis and monitored bi-monthly.	The school maintained and finished the school year within 11% of full enrollment.	Student Enrollment Data found in ATS.	Y	Our yearly enrollment target was 225 students. We finished the school year with 199 students, which was only 11% below our enrollment target.
15. Upon completion of the school's first year of operation and every year thereafter, the school will undergo an independent financial audit that will result in an unqualified opinion and no major findings		Independent Audit	Y	This goal is currently in Progress. SHLA is working with an auditing firm, ERE, to complete its year 1 audit.
16. Each year, the school will operate on a balanced budget and maintain a stable cash flow.	SHLA was able to maintain a budget surplus throughout its second year of operation. Available cash has also been stable.	Budget to Actual Reports prepared by our accountants and reviewed by our Board's Finance Committee. Independent Audit Report for FY 2010	Y	
17. Each year, parents will express satisfaction with the school's program, based on	This year 98% of parents responded to the satisfaction survey.	NYCDOE School Survey	Y	

the school's Parent Survey in which at least 80 percent of <i>all</i> parents provide a positive response to each of the survey items.	In total, 96% of parents reported being satisfied or very satisfied with "The education my child has received this year."			
18. Each year, students in grades K-8 complete at least three community service projects and students in grades 9-12 complete 40 hours of community service.	All students completed at least three community service projects and 40 hours of community service.	We scheduled community service projects and activities during our one hour	Y	
19. Each year, disciplinary actions, suspension and expulsion rates will be below comparable schools within NYCDOE.	Data Unavailable – figures for disciplinary actions, suspension and expulsion rates for similar NYCDOE schools is not yet available.			
20. Each year, 100 percent of students in grades 3, 6 and 9 will complete a study skills unit.	All SHLA students completed a study skills unit during their morning advisory meeting.		Y	
21. Each year, 100 percent of students will work collaboratively within a small group to complete and present a group project in at least one class. Students will be evaluated on teamwork.	Students were asked to complete and present group projects in all of their academic classes. Teamwork was an evaluation criteria listed on project and presentation rubrics used to assess the work in each classroom.		Y	



Section II

Charter School Student and Teacher Attrition Rates

**Charter School Student Attrition Rates
2009-10**

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
Number of students leaving for lack of transportation	6	0	N/A	N/A
Number of students leaving for geographic reasons (e.g., out of state/district relocation)	17	2	N/A	N/A
Number of students leaving for more restrictive special education setting	1	1	N/A	N/A
Number of students leaving due to parental choice (e.g., school transfer closer to residence, local elementary school, parent convenience)	5	7	N/A	N/A
Number leaving for other reasons (undetermined)	4	2	N/A	N/A
Total number of students leaving.	32	12	N/A	N/A
Highest Number Enrolled (July 1 – June 30)	231	153	N/A	N/A
Total Percent Attrition	13%	7.8%	N/A	N/A

**Charter School Teacher Attrition Rates
2009-10**

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
Number of Classroom Teachers	15	7	N/A	N/A
Number of Special Area Teachers	3	3	N/A	N/A
Total Number of Teachers	18	10	N/A	N/A
Total Number of Teachers Leaving	5	4	N/A	N/A
Total Percent Attrition	27%	40%	N/A	N/A

	2009-10	2008-09	2007-08	2006-07
Number of teachers leaving for geographic reasons (out of state/relocation)	2	0	N/A	N/A
Number of teachers leaving to take a position in a school district	1	1	N/A	N/A
Number of teachers leaving to take a position in another charter school	1	0	N/A	N/A
Number of teachers not retained	1	3	N/A	N/A
Number of teachers leaving for other reasons (or undetermined)	0	0	N/A	N/A

Section III

**Audits of the Financial Statements of
Charter Schools**

Section IV

**Disclosure of Financial Interest by a
Charter School Trustee
Annual Report 2009-10**