

September, 2006

## AMES Successes

1. Demographics: Entering Year 4
  - a. Current Student Population-433 9-12 graders; key features-39% ethnic minority; 30% free/reduced lunch. Waiting list-260 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Grade breakdown: 124 9<sup>th</sup> graders; 104 10<sup>th</sup> graders, 114 11<sup>th</sup> graders, and 91 12<sup>th</sup> graders; 52% male; 48% female.
  - b. Students are bussed from 21 feeder schools in Granite and Salt Lake districts.
  - c. 17 (4%) are on IEPs
  
2. First Graduating Class, June, 2006
  - a. 52 Seniors, earned 524 U of U credits, realizing a savings to their families of \$133,620. (A total of 1024 credits were awarded to all AMES students in SY 05-06).
  - b. 30 (58%) were first generation college students.
  - c. 33% represented ethnic minorities; 13% were IEP students.
  - d. 34% low SES.
  - e. 22% of the students received scholarships/financial aid totaling \$450,000 including a Gates Millennial Scholarship.
  - f. 7 accepted to the U of U Honors Program; 5 ethnic minority students.
  
3. University of Utah Partnership
  - a. 108 AMES students are enrolled in U of U classes taught on the AMES campus by U of U instructors and professors. Classes include: Academic Writing 10/2010 (3 Sections); Physics for Scientists and Engineers (1 section); Calculus 1210/20 (1 section); Statistics (1 section); College Algebra/Trigonometry (1 section); Chemistry 1210/20 (1 section); and Chem Lab (1 section) at no costs to the students or their families.
  - b. U of U Honors Program: Provides AMES senior seminar students with tours and weekly student presenters on college readiness information.
  - c. U of U Ethnic Studies Program: Provides AMES with regular faculty lead seminars.
  - d. Campus Tours for AMES Juniors.
  - e. Co-Sponsor a national conference (October, 2006) for other high schools specializing in math and science including the Bronx School of Science, among others.
  - f. LEAP Project Sponsorship for AMES Seniors with mentoring and campus tours.
  - g. U of U Chemical Engineering and AMES students, in conjunction with the Bennion Center for Service Learning received honorable mention in a national EPA sponsored project on hydrogen fuel cell research in Washington, DC, May, 2005. The U of U was the only university to partner with high school students.

- h. AMES and U of U faculty are involved in a year long project to map curriculum, grades 9-14.
4. AMES Community Partnerships
- a. AMES requires each junior to complete a year long community based internship. Partners include Idaho Technology, L3 Communication, IMFlash Technology, Governor's Office, CH2M Hill Engineering, as well as local non profits that include the Children's Center, Glendale Intermediate, U of U West Side Partnership, Spyhop Productions, to name a few.
  - b. AMES has received business donations from the following corporations:
    - i. Micron (on going)
    - ii. Intel (in excess of \$100,000)
    - iii. Merit Medical (ongoing for student awards and faculty professional development)
    - iv. IBM (equipment)
    - v. FatPipes Network
    - vi. Cadence
    - vii. HP (equipment)
    - viii. NPS (initial cash donation)
    - ix. Wasatch Venture Capital (student awards)
  - c. Science Fair: Part of the Micron grant supports the AMES Science Fair. In our first year (SY 05-06) two of Utah's 3 entries in the Intel International Science Fair were AMES students who took first and second place respectively. One is a first generation college student.
  - d. AMES has hosted over 70 guest speakers and presenters on the AMES campus during its first 3 years of operation including prominent IT leaders and U of U faculty members.
5. Other key features:
- a. AMES is the only charter school that rents space from a traditional high school, affording AMES students participation in a full high school experience including athletics, debate, drama and music programs.
  - b. AMES has an active PTSO with over 150 parent and student members.
  - c. AMES employs 25 full time instructional and part time staff.
  - d. AMES requires AP classes in 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade social studies and offers additional AP electives. These are open enrollment courses available to any AMES student.
  - e. AMES provides its students with opportunities in school leadership through its own student council, yearbook, newspaper, literary magazine, and a wide range of co-curricular clubs including math, rocketry, biking, to name a few.
  - f. AMES is one of 17 of the 86 Early College High Schools around the U.S. participating in a Kellogg Foundation grant to incorporate writing in all curriculum areas.

- g. Saturday School: AMES provides a math tutorial program at the Hunter Library which serves over 65 students each week who attend voluntarily.
- h. AMES Summer School: Each AMES freshman is invited to attend a week long summer camp on college readiness and study skills in August. Approximately 85% of entering 9<sup>th</sup> graders participate.

6. Test Performance

- a. AMES students perform above the national average on the ACT, UBSCT, and Iowa Test for Educational Development (ITED) by at least 10% points or higher.
- b. AMES students perform above their peers in Language Arts, Geometry, Physics, and Biology CRTs by at least 10% points or higher.
- c. AMES students perform equal to their peers on Elementary Algebra and Earth Science CRTs. Only Chemistry is below the state average.