College Begins in Kindergarten (CBiK)

Getting Ready for College Early, brought to you by www.ed.gov, says, “A two- or four-year college degree is becoming more and more important for unlocking doors to economic and educational opportunity in America today.

Examples of jobs requiring college preparation:

Two-Year College (Associate Degree)
- Computer Technician
- Registered Nurse
- Dental Hygienist
- Hotel/Restaurant Manager
- Automotive Mechanic

Four Year College (Bachelor’s Degree)
- Teacher
- Accountant
- FBI Agent
- Engineer
- Journalist
- Writer

More Than Four Years (Various Graduate Degrees)
- Lawyer
- Doctor
- Architect
- Scientist
- Veterinarian
- Geologist

Lessons Taught, Lessons Learned

Hamline Student Teacher at Hancock Shares Her Experience

By Quinn Kiley
Hamline University Student

“L"e used to play teacher when I was a kid,” says Paula Cortez, a second year at Hamline University. Now she is on her way to becoming one.

Growing up in Inver Grove Heights, Paula admired her teachers’ ability to take information and make it easier for students to understand. Now with the help of Hamline University and Hancock/ Hamline University Collaborative Magnet School, Paula is ready to do the same.

The partnership between Hamline and Hancock has been around since the late 1800s, but it was not until the spring of 1991, when a grant was approved, that Hamline and Hancock became the first elementary-university collaboration in the country. Among many other programs, the students work together to give future teachers, like Paula, classroom experiences.

On the way to becoming a teacher, students are required to fulfill a number of clinical hours. These hours give students an early taste of what it is really like to be a teacher. Shannon McParland, the curriculum specialist and liaison to Hamline University until November, says that clinical hours take the “practicality of a classroom and make it a reality.”

Paula spends her clinical hours in Mrs. Rickey’s first grade room. Mrs. Rickey says that the time spent in the classroom allows students to ask themselves the question, “Is this something that I really want to do?”

Paula is given a lot of time to try to figure out just that. She is at Hancock six and a half hours every week, and with each day comes a new challenge.

“With tutoring you help them with one specific skill. With teaching, you have to make sure that the students understand the material that you are giving them,” Paula said.

Adding to this challenge is the cultural diversity at Hancock. McParland says that there are at least 20 different languages at Hancock. The school has two programs, English Language Learners (ELL) and Language Academy, that work with students who are not native English speakers. This gives Hamline students like Paula experience with helping students learn a new language. Paula notes that techniques such as switching back and forth between a student’s native language and English can be of great help when teaching them concepts, such as how to count.

“Lessons Taught” continued on page 6
Shannon McParland recently stepped down as the Curriculum Coordinator and Hamline Liaison at the Hancock/Hamline University Collaborative Magnet School to take a job with the State of Minnesota’s Department of Education. Her last day at Hancock was Friday, November 10th.

McParland was with Hancock and the Hancock/Hamline Collaboration for seven years. She and Hancock principal Marjorie Abrams started at Hancock at the same time. Abrams is quick to point out many important contributions McParland made to both Hancock and Hamline.

“When we came to Hancock, the collaboration and magnet focus was very misunderstood. A lot of people didn’t know what the magnet was about. One of Shannon’s biggest accomplishments was raising awareness at both Hancock and Hamline about our relationship,” Abrams said. “We branded our school.”

Abrams said a huge emphasis was put on the magnet and collaboration in all of the marketing and public relations. The vision became to function as one interactive campus, and “that vision has become more evident as a result of Shannon’s efforts.”

Glynis Grost Stephan, Hancock SEM Coordinator and fellow Collaboration Advisory Committee member, praised McParland for going above and beyond her job description.

“She took her job to a new level. She really got the collaboration going, especially with the departmental pairings. Friendships were forged with many Hamline professors and staff, which will carry on in her absence,” Grost Stephan said.

Abrams added more to the list of McParland’s accomplishments. The grade level pairings became more intentional, and America Reads and America Counts became more of a regular part of campus and Hancock student life. The Collaboration Coordinator and the Hand-in-Hand & Hancock LEAD Tutor positions were created because of McParland. Both of these positions play integral roles in the Collaboration. The participation on the Hamline side of the street, since McParland started at Hancock, widened and expanded.

“Shannon’s enthusiasm and ability to problem solve enhanced learning on both campuses,” Abrams said.

McParland will be missed by many on both sides of the street. Her counterpart as Liaison to the Collaboration on the Hamline Campus is English Professor David Hudson. He said it was difficult to see McParland go. “I know we have to, but it’s hard to imagine the collaboration without Shannon. Her energy, her deep knowledge, and her humor are nothing short of inspirational. We’re going to miss her a lot.”

McParland is working for the Department of Education with staff development with schools that haven’t made Average Yearly Progress (AYP) on Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments. She will be missed by many at Hancock.

For a word from Shannon herself, see “From the Desk of…” on page 4!

Kindergarten Tours: One of Shannon’s Many Contributions

MORE PRAISE FOR SHANNON...

“Shannon will be hard to replace because you could come to her with any project idea from a Hamline student or professor and she’d know where to send you; she knew the curriculum and the people so well.” –Samantha Henningson, Collaboration Coordinator

“Shannon made me feel important, like I deserved the best. The support she gave to me was invaluable to my success as a student and as a tutor.” –Jeff Fowler, Hamline student and America Reads/America Counts tutor

“Shannon is a very passionate advocate for education, is very organized, and has a lot of experience in different facets of education, and that expertise and passion will be missed. She was my friend and colleague, and I will miss her both personally and professionally.” –Marjorie Abrams, Hancock principal
Thank you from Hancock to Hamline Physical Plant

Hancock would like to thank the Hamline Physical Plant for their continued help on the Hancock side of campus. This fall, Alan Miller, Hamline Physical Plant Landscape Technician, and two student workers helped get Hancock’s Peace Garden ready for winter. They cut down the plants and shrubs, raked everything, and hauled it all away. This cleanup means less work for Hancock in the Spring. Last year, Hamline Physical Plant workers helped Arts Alive coordinators construct the murals by Snelling Avenue and get them ready to be unveiled. So to the Hamline Physical Plant, Hancock sends their warmest thank you!

Hancock/Hamline University Collaborative Events Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
<th>February</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2    Hamline J-Term classes begin</td>
<td>Black History Month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8    Hancock school resumes</td>
<td>Hancock “Valentines for Veterans” ends</td>
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<tr>
<td>15   Martin Luther King Day</td>
<td>Hancock Tropical Theme Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>16-18 Hancock NNAT Testing K-5</td>
<td>13 Census Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25   Hamline J-Term classes end</td>
<td>Last day to register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26   Hancock no school</td>
<td>Last day to add/drop classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29   Hancock “Valentines for Veterans” begins</td>
<td>19 Presidents’ Day, Hancock no school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31   Hamline Spring Semester classes begin</td>
<td></td>
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Page 3
Hi! I’m Eddie Henderson. I like being a writer for the Snelling Connection because it is very fun and gives us practice if we want to be newspaper writers when we’re older. We each have different articles to write. It is kind of a challenge to find the time to interview people and to write our articles. We plan on writing many newspapers for our school. It’s kind of hard to write with a broken finger but I do my best. How I broke my finger I shall share that with you. I was on my stomach on my skateboard when a car was coming so I stopped myself and the skateboard wheel ran over my hand broke my pinky and tore off the fingernail. Despite my injury, I can still write for the Snelling Connection.

Hi! I’m Jason Allen. I’m in sixth grade. I am in Mrs. Walsh’s class. I like swimming and dodgeball. I like being a Snelling Connection writer because it gets us ready to write and because we get to learn things about our school and then we can tell you. If you have any questions about the Snelling Connection and if you see me in the hall, you can ask me.

My name is Shannon McParland. My last day at Hancock was Friday, November 10th. I am now working with the Minnesota Department of Education. As I sit at my desk I have one last opportunity to say good-bye to everyone. For the past seven years, I have been so lucky to have had the job as Curriculum Coordinator/Hamline Liaison at Hancock Hamline University Collaborative School. I have seen so many wonderful things happen between the two campuses. These memories will remain with me, and I know the wonderful collaboration will continue to enrich the lives of all involved. So, thank you to everyone I have had the honor to work with and remember you do make a huge difference and it has been noticed! I will miss all of you.
Collaborative Mini-Grant Winners Announced

By Samantha Henningson
Collaboration Coordinator

The mini-grants offered each year by the Hancock/Hamline Advisory Committee support new ideas for projects in the Hancock/Hamline community. The 2006-2007 recipients of the mini-grants are no exception and we look forward to seeing the projects in the spring. Congratulations!

CSI: Tracking Down Criminals from Prints/Forensic Sciences Society & Kevin Watson, Hamline student—6th grade
This project is a one-day event in the spring where Hamline forensic science students will teach Hancock students about various techniques, including fingerprinting and shoe-casting.

Exploring the Human Brain/Jennifer Dalsen, Hamline student—4th grade
This project will introduce students to the human brain through a lesson plan that includes creating a model of the human brain.

Build a Novel/Michael F. Pesko, Hamline student—5th grade students
This project supports the ongoing “Build a Novel” project in which Hancock students are learning how to collectively write a novel.

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Readers Workshop Conference Instructional DVD/Allison Theissen, Hancock 4th grade teacher
Ms. Theissen will create a DVD to assist Hamline students and a large number of other volunteers to facilitate student reading conferences and goal-setting.

HHUCMS Garden Journal Project/Kelly Gibson and Mary Hedenstrom, Hancock science specialists, and Peggy Knapp, Hamline Center for Global Environmental Education
Maintain the nutrient quality of the soil in the existing science garden and create student science journal based on science garden.

Vamos a Leer a Jugar! (Let’s Read & Play!)/David Albornoz, Hamline Education Professor & Spanish-speaking Hancock students
This project will provide relevant ethnic role models and significant experiences in Spanish to the Latino and Hispanic population at Hancock—including board games, books, and activities in Spanish.

Hancock Oral History Collaborative Learning Project/David Hudson, Hamline English Professor
This project will provide recording equipment and other supplies for fifth or sixth grade students to participate in an oral history project with Hamline journalism students

Speak Out! Issam Himmi, Adrianne Adams, and Dominique Thompson ask:

What do you hope to accomplish in the new year?

"Good grades and (be a) good student." Courtney, grade 5

"Get better grades. Get better in math." Kaelene, grade 3

"Get better in math. Go to cheerleading classes." Madison, grade 3

"Do better in math. To play football more." Chamee, grade 4

"Do better in math. Improve in writing." Sey, grade 5

"Improve in reading." Phoua, grade 6

"Find an internship and prepare for life outside of college." Andrea, Hamline Student

"Ride bikes with my brother." YuPheng, grade 3

"Learn about new things." Tamir, grade 3

"Learn about butterflies." Quinn, grade 4

"Learn how to throw a ball and catch the ball." Chai, grade 5

"Go to acting and gymnastics and soccer class." Bria, grade 6

"I plan to do better in reading." Muna, grade 3

"Get good grades." Yvette, Hamline Student

"I plan to cheerlead for Hancock and to learn new things." Medinat, grade 3

"I plan to move, and to learn new things." Sunnie, grade 4

"I plan to play more sports, and to achieve more goals." Oskar, grade 5

"I plan to be in Student Council in 7th grades, and to join a girls basketball team." Kalia, grade 6
Dear Hancock Husky

“How can I help people in need this holiday season?”
By Mai See Moua and Phoua Thao.

There are many different ways you could help those in need as the holiday season approaches.

You could...
- Donate clothing to a homeless shelter
- Help people shovel snow
- Donate money to UNICEF for children around the world
- Volunteer at a soup kitchen
- Help neighbors and friends with jobs they can’t do on their own
- Donate food to or volunteer at the food shelf
- Volunteer at an animal shelter.

“Lessons Learned” continued from front

“You have to figure out how to teach to their individual needs,” Paula says.

During Mrs. Rickey’s class Paula interacted with students, helping them to understand the day’s lesson. Paula finished the students’ day by reading them a Russian folk tale. Once the story was finished, she taught them the difference of the phonetic sounds of some English and Russian words, such as dog and ice cream.

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“The One That Got Away

By David Hudson
Hamline English Professor
Collaboration Liaison

A persistent security alarm almost cleared the room during the Hancock/Hamline video during the Carter Award Dinner October 30, but it wasn’t enough to dampen the enthusiasm of dozens of Collaboration supporters as they met to root for a first-place finish in the prestigious statewide competition. Alas it was not to be. Hancock/Hamline had to console itself with being one of five finalists, as the partnership between the Center for Small Towns at the University of Minnesota, Morris and the City of Morris took the top prize.

Still, it was some comfort to know that we were in the ranks of the top school and community partnerships in the state.

Another comfort was the gala dinner hosted by the Minnesota Campus Compact at St. Paul’s RiverCenter. Former Senator John Glenn gave the keynote address, while friends from both sides of Snelling Avenue helped to celebrate.

All in all, it was a somewhat bittersweet evening that was nevertheless a landmark event in the history of the Collaboration. Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to make it possible.

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Hancock/Hamline Collaboration

Our mission is to build and strengthen our collaborative community through shared learning, relationships and cultural diversity.