

**LIFE AFTER KEY  
MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION SEMINAR EVENT  
Hosted by Key on behalf of the Fillmore Six School Counsel  
February 3, 2009**

**1. Answers to be drawn from the website/school materials/completed by the schools**

*School Demographics/Profile Basics (we can reproduce this table across all schools on one page – for items 1-15) (1) Deal, (2) Oyster-Adams, (3) Latin and (4) Lincoln-Bell*

	<b>Hardy</b>
1. School name and location	Rose L. Hardy Middle School 1819 35 <sup>th</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC 20007
2. Number of grades in the school building	3 grades (6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> )
3. Enrollment levels and recent trends (e.g., added a middle school lately? Moved?)	\$48.5 million building renovation completed in 2008. During renovation, Hardy was relocated to NE Washington DC at which time enrollment dropped from 420 to 320. Enrollment levels expected to increase; new building capacity around 550 students.
4. Number of classes per grade	
5. Number of students per grade and teacher/student ratio	
6. Most recent two years of DC CAS/BAS scores in English + Math	2008 Reading: 71% 2008 Math: 64%  2007 Reading: 68% 2007 Math: 58%
7. Made AYP in NCLB?	
8. Elementary schools that "officially"	Includes Key, Stoddert, Hyde

<p>feed into each middle school (if not charters)</p>	
<p>9. Application deadline for consideration (either charter or out-of-boundary)</p>	
<p>10. Pct of student in-boundary last three years and projected and how are projections going to be realized (N/A for charters)</p>	
<p>11. % on free lunch program, % ESL</p>	
<p>12. Which high school(s) does the school feed in to?</p>	<p>Wilson High School</p>
<p>13. (a)What percentage of students go on to publichigh school?  (b) What percentage go on to private high school?  (c) Can you list all schools to which your graduates</p>	

<p>go, and the numbers of students (or percentages) that go to each?</p>	
<p>14. Admission process?</p>	
<p>15. What proportion of the school budget comes from: (a) DCPS, (b) PTA, (c) other sources?</p>	
<p>16. Does your school have a before-school or after-school program?</p>	<p>Hardy After Care runs from 3:15 to 5:45 PM each day.</p>

## 2. Answers to be supplied by each school

### *Academic Program*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there an honors program of any kind, and if so, in what subjects?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students may take an intensive, pre-algebra class in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.</li> <li>Students may be able to take Geometry for 8<sup>th</sup> grade math by special arrangement</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Which foreign languages are taught? Is there provision for advanced study in any of the languages? Are languages required, and if so, for which years?</li> </ul>	<p>7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders take one year of world language – either Spanish or French – and are encouraged to take 2 years of the same language</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is there a special orientation to the academic program, and if so, what is it (e.g., IB middle years, arts orientation)? What additional requirements are attached to this programmatic focus (e.g., learning an instrument)?</li> </ul>	<p>Hardy has an Arts Intensive Program in which students participate in fine arts and instrumental music classes during each of their three years at Hardy. This is in addition to their general curriculum.</p> <p>Hardy is applying to be an IB Middle Years school. Hope to be approved by August and begin implementing the program next year.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the arts and music curriculum? What classes are required?</li> </ul>	<p>As part of the Arts Intensive Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6<sup>th</sup> graders take visual art and instrumental music (band). Students must participate in two exhibitions during the school year.</li> <li>7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders take instrumental/general music (band or chorus) and visual art as part of their course rotations.</li> <li>8<sup>th</sup> graders may take Intermediate and Advanced Concert Band or Jazz Band. Drum line and Marching Band offered as extracurricular classes.</li> </ul>

### *Teachers and Principal*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the average number of years of tenure of teachers at your school?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What percentage of teachers turn over every year?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the teacher training/professional development program – how often are teachers trained, and in what areas?</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What percent have been through any form of certification?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the policy with regard to encouraging (or not) teacher interaction with families and students, e.g., by email to ask questions, to express concerns?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What percentage of classes have homework or other information about the class on a website?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How long has the principal been leading the school?</li> </ul>	Patrick Pope has been principal at Hardy for 10 years.

*School Environment*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the security arrangement for the school? Does your school use/have metal detectors at entrances?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Metal detectors?</li> <li>• At all time students must be under direct adult supervision; no student is ever to be in any part of the building without direct adult supervision.</li> <li>• All visitors must be rung in via security camera.</li> <li>• All DCPS secondary schools have full time Metropolitan Police offer assigned in addition to special security officers at school.</li> <li>• See Student Handbook for more information.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there a community service requirement? If so, can you please describe it?</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the best website for gathering information about the school?</li> </ul>	<a href="http://www.hardyms.org">www.hardyms.org</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For charters: what is the governance of the school? Who is on the Board?</li> </ul>	n/a
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do students wear uniforms? What is the dress code and how is it enforced?</li> </ul>	Yes – detailed in student handbook. Any student not in complete uniform will not be allowed to attend classes and parents will be notified.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transportation to and from school? Additional cost?</li> </ul>	DCPS only provides transportation for students receiving special education services.

*Extracurricular*

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What sports programs are there within and outside the curriculum? Where do kids</li> </ul>	Extra-curricular competitive sports include: volleyball, football, cross-country, basketball, track and field, baseball and softball. Hardy also offers extra-curricular developmental sports (non-
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have PE?	competitive).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What other major extracurricular programs does the school have and how much does it cost? Who runs these programs?</li></ul>	Activities include several school bands, theater program, academic competitions (e.g., spelling bee, math or world language competitions).

### 3. Questions for the Panel Discussion at the Event

- Academic program/curriculum -- is the No Child Left Behind a minimum threshold and, if so, what else does the school aspire to and how are teachers encouraged to go beyond NCLB -- and do they?
- How much attention is there to identify individual student's continued academic success/progress/special needs?
- How often do teachers report on class activities to parents and do they hold private conferences beyond those they are compelled to have in connection with periodic report cards?
- What is the system for reviewing the effectiveness of teachers; and how are they rewarded and penalized? What is the process for hiring and firing? Is there a formal or informal process for seeking student and family input or input from other teachers?
- How often do the teachers meet with the Principal and Administration and what is a typical agenda?
- What is a typical sixth grade social studies lesson on world history and particularly US government policy abroad or comparisons of different kinds of governments?
- What is an example of a writing assignment for 6th graders? 8th graders? How often do students write? What kind of feedback do they get? Do you have a special writing program in place?
- Are there any academic projects the students do in any discipline about which you are particularly proud? Can you describe 2 or 3?
- How are unruly or disrespectful students handled to ensure they do not endanger or distract other students and classes?
- What is the policy on bullying?
- What kinds of life skills etc are taught at the school pertaining to drug use, sex, social responsibility, respect, honor, kindness, etc.
- Is family involvement encouraged and, if so, how? How active is the PTA? How much money does it have at its disposal and on what types of activities/things does it spend its money? Is there a newsletter?
- Others?