**Matthias Bell**

**Mr. Coady A1**

**3/23/11**

**Journal Entry 1**

**Dates and Hours:** March 18th, 2011

10am-2pm for filming

4pm-6pm for editing

**Tasks Accomplished:** Filmed and edited 80% of the material needed on Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus. Filmed interviews, establishing shots, classrooms, before and after shots within the school

**Who:** My mentor, Daniel, who is the assistant principal at Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus. I interviewed Sharif El-Mekki as the principal of the school and filmed an assembly the school hosted to encourage their students and praise their accomplishments.

**Where:** Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus, and at home.

**Description of Day:** Filmed the travel going down to Mastery Charter Shoemaker Campus for the opening sequence. I filmed an assembly commending the students on their successes in the first semester. This assembly showed the support given to the students by their teachers and their peers, inspiring them to continue to succeed. Next I sat in on classrooms filming, and interviewed the Principal of the school, Sharif El-Mekki. I then went to the back parts of the schools that have not been renovated yet, to show the contrast with before and after shots from Shoemaker Middle School to Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus. Finally, I filmed students in the hallways and the high standards in disciplined held within the school, and how this stricter stance has left good results. I then edited this material together to create the foundation of my documentary, after completing nearly half of my filming and editing.

**Reason for Experience:** This experience was the necessary first step after contacting the schools. To begin filming and editing for one of the schools gives me a great starting place to build on my documentary, and helped me establish a foothold in one of the two schools, making it easier for me to go back to film again there. This work was a great first step in my work toward the final product of a successful documentary demonstrating the effectiveness of charter schools as an alternative method of educating students within the Philadelphia Public School System. Though my work has not had an impact on others at this time, the final product will present this information, informing the public to educate them on the educational reform that is spreading across the country within the Public School System.