



New York State Board of Regents  
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The State Education Department  
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Office of Communications

**NEWS**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 1, 2018**

**COMMISSIONER IDENTIFIES 155 HIGH ACHIEVING AND HIGH PROGRESS SCHOOLS  
AS REWARD SCHOOLS**

The State Education Department identified 155 high achieving and high progress schools as Reward Schools, Commissioner MaryEllen Elia announced today. Reward Schools are schools with high academic achievement or those with the most progress in the State and do not have significant gaps in student achievement between subgroups. Each Reward School will receive a certificate of recognition from the Commissioner. “The teachers and administrators at these Reward schools work hard each day to raise the bar and give their students opportunities to achieve their dreams,” Board of Regents Chancellor Betty A. Rosa said. “The proof is in the results these schools have obtained and I am thrilled to celebrate their success.” “It’s truly impressive that so many of this year’s Reward Schools were able to maintain the designation for three years in a row,” Commissioner Elia said. “All of these schools serve as models to others in the state to inspire them to achieve a high level of accomplishment and improvement.”

To be identified as a Reward School, a school must:

- Be among the top 20 percent of schools in the state for English language arts (ELA) and math performance for both the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years or be among the top ten percent of schools in terms of gains in ELA and math performance in the 2016-17 school year;
- Have made Adequate Yearly Progress for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 school years for all groups of students on all measures for which the school is accountable, including the requirement that 95 percent of all groups participate in the English language arts and mathematics assessments; and
- Not have unacceptably large gaps in student performance on an accountability measure between students who are members of an accountability group (e.g., low-income students) and students who are not members of that group.

In addition, elementary and middle schools must demonstrate that more than 50 percent of students are making annual growth in ELA and math; and that more than 50 percent of the school’s lowest achieving students are also making gains. High

schools must have graduation rates above 80 percent to be a high-achieving school and above 60 percent to be a high-progress school and the percentage of students in the school who graduate with a Regents diploma with advanced designation or a Career and Technical Endorsement (CTE) must exceed the State average. Additionally, high schools must demonstrate that their graduation rate for students who entered the school performing below proficient in ELA or math exceeds the State average.

Of the identified schools, 64 are located in New York City, 73 are located in the rest of the state and 18 are public charter schools. In addition, 107 of these schools were identified as Reward Schools last year, and 81 have been identified as Reward Schools for three consecutive years.

#### Charter

- Academy of The City Charter School
- Achievement First Apollo Charter
- Achievement First Bushwick Charter
- Beginning with Children Charter II
- **Bronx Charter School Better Learning**
- Hellenic Classical Charter School
- Icahn Charter School 2
- Icahn Charter School 3
- Icahn Charter School 5
- Icahn Charter School 6
- Imagine Me Leadership Charter School
- Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School
- South Bronx Classical Charter School
- Success Academy Charter School - Bronx 2
- Success Academy Charter School - Cobble Hill
- Success Academy Charter School - Harlem 2
- Success Academy Charter School - Harlem 4
- Success Academy Charter School - Williamsburg