

## Accountability Plan Progress Reports for the 2009-10 School Year

### Reader's Guide

*SUNY Authorized Charter Schools*

As set forth in the *Practices, Policies and Procedures for the Renewal of Charter Schools Authorized by the State University Board of Trustees*, the single most important factor that the Charter Schools Institute and the SUNY Board of Trustees consider in making renewal determinations is the school's record in generating successful student achievement outcomes. In order to determine whether a school has met that high standard, **each charter school that the SUNY Board of Trustees authorizes is required to enter into an accountability agreement, known as an Accountability Plan**, which ultimately becomes part of its charter.

**The Charter Schools Institute closely monitors each school's progress toward achieving the goals outlined in its Accountability Plan.**

In addition, as part of its annual reporting requirements, **each SUNY authorized charter school must submit an Accountability Plan Progress Report which, from its vantage point, addresses each of the goals and outcome measures contained in its Accountability Plan.** The information presented in these Progress Reports constitutes important evidence that a school is keeping its promises to its students, parents and community, and is critical to making its case for renewal at the end of its charter period. The most important parts of Progress Reports are student achievement results on state exams and other assessments. However, not all schools will have tested grade levels for a particular state exam. Each year, the state administers English language arts and mathematics tests to 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, science tests to the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades, and, up through 2009-10, social studies tests to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

Important Note: **The Accountability Plan Progress Report is authored by the charter school.** In reporting school progress toward meeting the outcome measures set forth in the Accountability Plan, schools are encouraged to build a case for the effectiveness of their program, and to lay the groundwork for writing a Renewal Application and ultimately for charter renewal. **The school's evaluation of its own progress does not necessarily reflect the conclusions of the Institute.** Further, the Institute does not affirm the completeness or accuracy of the report's data and may not endorse the school's characterization of the progress it has made toward achieving its Accountability Plan goals. Throughout the life of the school's charter, the Institute will visit each school, generating Institute School Visit Reports and, at the end of each charter period, a Renewal Report (select the <back> button in your browser to return to the school profile to see any/all available reports). These reports include detailed summaries of the Institute's observations of the school, as well as its evaluation of student performance and progress toward meeting the academic subject goals in its Accountability Plan.

**THE ACADEMY  
CHARTER SCHOOL**

**2009-10**

**ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN  
PROGRESS REPORT**

Submitted to the SUNY Charter Schools Institute on:

September 3, 2010

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Nicholas Stapleton prepared this 2009-10 Accountability Progress Report on behalf of the school's board of trustees:

Trustee's Name	Board Position
Wayne Haughton	Board Chair; Committees: Finance, Grievance & Academic
Pastor Barrington Goldson	Vice Chair; Committees: Finance, Grievance & Infrastructure
Robert Stewart	Trustee; Committees: Finance, Grievance & Infrastructure
Tanya Hobson-Williams	Trustee; Committees: Grievance & Compliance
Marcel Deans*	Trustee; Committee: Academic
Hazeltin Williams	Secretary; Committees: Community & Fundraising
Hope M. Chin**	Trustee
Washburn Anthony Martin**	Trustee
Sheila Dancy-Wilkins**	Trustee
Roderick Roberts**	Trustee
Janet-Ann Sanderson-Brown**	Trustee
Sharon Mc Koy**	Trustee
Dawn West-Bloise**	Trustee

\* Denotes board member during 2009-10 only.

\*\* Denotes new board members effective summer 2010.

**INTRODUCTION**

The Academy Charter School (“The Academy”) opened in the fall of 2009 with 165 students in grades K-2. Located in Hempstead, NY, a school district with approximately 70% free and reduced price lunch students, The Academy will gradually expand to serve students in grades K-5.

The Academy improves student academic achievement by focusing on the development of three important areas of children’s growth: mastering core academic subjects, promoting character development, and fostering a lifelong behavior of giving back to the community. The Academy strives to have its children learn, lead, and serve.

The mission of The Academy is:

The Academy Charter School (“The Academy”) will offer an exceptional interdisciplinary curriculum in a technology rich environment that challenges students to explore connections across subjects and use experiential learning to bridge the gaps between theory and practice. In addition to core subjects, our students will benefit from high expectations in physical education, health, and the arts. Our focus on character development and community service will cultivate a student body poised to be active, engaged and responsible members of the community. We will employ a committed staff whose teaching and high academic and behavioral expectations will promote the excellence we know our community’s children can achieve. Our students will graduate from The Academy with the content mastery and life skills needed to move into the top five percent of their middle and high school classes.

**School Enrollment by Grade Level and School Year**

School Year	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Years Prior to 2009	<i>Not Applicable</i>													
2009-10	73	46	46											165

Following is The Academy's Accountability Plan. There are no data available for any of the school's Accountability Plan measures; therefore, there is no discussion of progress below. Since the 2009-10 school year was The Academy's first year in operation and it served students in grades K-2 who do not participate in New York State assessments, the measures below are not relevant for discussion at this time.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

### **Goal 1: English Language Arts**

All students at the school will become proficient in reading and writing of the English language.

#### **Goal 1: Absolute Measure**

Each year through 2008-09, 75 percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State English language arts examination.

In 2009-10, 75 percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above a Scale Score of 650 on the New York State English language arts examination.

#### **Goal 1: Absolute Measure**

Each year, the school's aggregate Performance Index (PI) on the State English language arts exam will meet the Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) set forth in the state's NCLB accountability system.

#### **Goal 1: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year and performing at or above Level 3 on the state English language arts exam will be greater than that of all students in the same tested grades in the local school district.

#### **Goal 1: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the school will exceed its predicted level of performance on the state English language arts exam by at least a small Effect Size (performing higher than expected to a small degree) according to a regression analysis controlling for students eligible for free lunch among all public schools in New York State.

#### **Goal 1: Growth Measure**

Each year through 2008-09, each grade-level cohort will reduce by one-half the gap between the percent at or above Level 3 on the previous year's state English language arts exam and 75 percent at or above Level 3 on the current year's state English language arts exam. If a grade-level cohort exceeds 75 percent at or above Level 3 in the previous year, that cohort is expected to show at least an increase in the current year.

In 2009-10, each grade-level cohort will reduce by one-half the gap between the percent of students at or above a Scale Score of 650 on the 2008-09 state exam and 75 percent of students at or above a Scale Score of 650 on the 2009-10 state exam. If a grade-level cohort exceeds 75 percent at or above a Scale Score of 650 in 2008-09, that cohort is expected to show at least an increase in the percentage in 2009-10.

## MATHEMATICS

### **Goal 2: Mathematics**

All students at the school will demonstrate competency in the understanding and application of mathematics computation and problem solving.

### **Goal 2: Absolute Measure**

Each year through 2008-09, 75 percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State mathematics examination.

In 2009-10, 75 percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above a Scale Score of 650 on the New York State mathematics examination.

### **Goal 2: Absolute Measure**

Each year, the school's aggregate Performance Index (PI) on the State mathematics exam will meet the Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) set forth in the state's NCLB accountability system.

### **Goal 2: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year and performing at or above Level 3 on the state mathematics exam will be greater than that of all students in the same tested grades in the local school district.

### **Goal 2: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the school will exceed its predicted level of performance on the state mathematics exam by at least a small Effect Size (performing higher than expected to a small degree) according to a regression analysis controlling for students eligible for free lunch among all public schools in New York State.

### **Goal 2: Growth Measure**

Each year through 2008-09, each grade-level cohort will reduce by one-half the gap between the percent at or above Level 3 on the previous year's state mathematics exam and 75 percent at or above Level 3 on the current year's state mathematics exam. If a grade-level cohort exceeds 75 percent at or above Level 3 in the previous year, that cohort is expected to show at least an increase in the current year.

In 2009-10, each grade-level cohort will reduce by one-half the gap between the percent of students at or above a Scale Score of 650 on the 2008-09 state exam and 75 percent of students at or above a Scale Score of 650 on the 2009-10 state exam. If a grade-level cohort exceeds 75 percent at or above a Scale Score of 650 in 2008-09, that cohort is expected to show at least an increase in the percentage in 2009-10

## SCIENCE

### **Goal 3: Science**

All students at the school will demonstrate competency in the understanding and application of scientific reasoning.

**Goal 3: Absolute Measure**

Each year, 75 percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State science examination.

**Goal 3: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year and performing at or above Level 3 on the State science exam will be greater than that of all students in the same tested grades in the local school district.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**Goal 4: Social Studies**

All students at the school will demonstrate competency in the understanding and application of social, geographical, civic and world studies.

**Goal 4: Absolute Measure**

Each year, 75 percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State social studies examination.

**Goal 4: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the percent of all tested students who are enrolled in at least their second year and performing at or above Level 3 on the State social studies exam will be greater than that of all students in the same tested grades in the local school district.

**NCLB**

**Goal 5: NCLB**

The school will demonstrate academic success by making adequate yearly progress as required by NCLB.

**Goal 5: Absolute Measure**

Under the state's NCLB accountability system, the school's Accountability Status will be "Good Standing" each year.