



Charter Schools Institute  
*The State University of New York*

## Subsequent Renewal Report

### Tapestry Charter School

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**May 3, 2010**

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The final version of Institute renewal reports should be broadly shared by the school with the entire school community. The reports will be posted on the Institute’s website at: [www.newyorkcharters.org/pubsReportsRenewals.htm](http://www.newyorkcharters.org/pubsReportsRenewals.htm).

## **REPORT INTRODUCTION**

This report is the primary means by which the Charter Schools Institute (the “Institute”) transmits to the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York (the “SUNY Trustees”) its findings and recommendations regarding a school’s Application for Renewal, and more broadly, details the merits of a school’s case for renewal. This report has been created and issued pursuant to the *Practices, Policies and Procedures for the Renewal of Charter Schools Authorized by the State University Board of Trustees* (the “SUNY Renewal Practices”).<sup>1</sup>

Information about the SUNY renewal process, including the Institute’s comprehensive Charter Renewal Handbook and an overview of the requirements for renewal under the New York Charter Schools Act of 1998 (as amended, the “Act”), are available on the Institute’s website at: [www.newyorkcharters.org/schoolsRenewOverview.htm](http://www.newyorkcharters.org/schoolsRenewOverview.htm).

## **RECOMMENDATION AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **Recommendation**

### **Full-Term Renewal**

The Charter Schools Institute recommends that the SUNY Trustees approve the Application for Early Subsequent Renewal of the Tapestry Charter School and renew its charter for a period of five years—from 2011 to 2016—with authority to provide instruction to students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, with a maximum enrollment of 770 students, and consistent with the other terms set forth in its Application for Early Subsequent Renewal.

### **Background and Required Findings**

According to the SUNY Renewal Practices:

*In subsequent renewal reviews, and in contrast to initial renewal reviews, the State University Trustees evaluate the strength and effectiveness of a school’s academic program almost exclusively by the degree to which the school has succeeded in meeting its academic Accountability Plan goals during the Accountability Period. This approach is consistent with the greater time that a school has been in operation and a concomitant increase in the quantity and quality of student achievement data that the school has generated. It is also consistent with the Act’s purpose of moving from a rules-based to an outcome-based system of accountability in which schools are held accountable for meeting measurable student achievement results.*

Tapestry Charter School (“Tapestry”) has applied for an Early Subsequent Full-Term Renewal of five years. In its ninth year of operation, the SUNY Renewal Practices provide only two possible renewal outcomes for Tapestry: Full-Term Renewal or denial of its Application for Early Subsequent Renewal. In order to earn a Full-Term Subsequent Renewal, Tapestry must demonstrate that it has met the criteria for such a renewal as described in the SUNY Renewal Practices.

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<sup>1</sup> The *Practices, Policies and Procedures for the Renewal of Charter Schools Authorized by the State University Board of Trustees* (revised September 15, 2009) are available at: <http://www.newyorkcharters.org/documents/renewalPractices.doc>.

Specifically, the school must have “previously received a Full-Term Renewal and consistently met or come close to meeting its academic Accountability Plan goals.” Having previously been awarded a Full-Term Renewal of five years and based on the Institute’s review of the evidence that it gathered and that Tapestry Charter School has provided including, but not limited to, the school’s Application for Early Subsequent Renewal, evaluation visits conducted during the charter period, a renewal evaluation visit conducted in the fourth year of the current charter period, and the school’s record of academic performance as determined by the extent to which it has met its academic Accountability Plan goals, the Institute finds that the school has consistently met its academic Accountability Plan goals during the Accountability Period.”<sup>2</sup>

Based on all the evidence submitted in the current charter term and as described in, or submitted with, the Application for Renewal, the Institute makes the following findings required by the Act. The Tapestry Charter School as described in the Application for Early Subsequent Renewal meets the requirements of the Act and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations. The school has demonstrated the ability to operate in an educationally and fiscally sound manner in the next charter period. Finally, given the programs it will offer, its structure and its purpose, approving the school to operate for another five years is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in Education Law subdivision 2850(2).

Therefore, in accordance with the standard for Subsequent Renewal found in the SUNY Renewal Practices, the Institute recommends that the SUNY Trustees approve Tapestry Charter School’s Application for Charter Renewal and renew the charter for a full-term of five years.

### **Consideration of School District Comments**

In accordance with the Act, the Institute notified the school district in which the charter school is located regarding the school’s Application for Renewal. As of the date of this report, no comments were received in response.

### **Summary Discussion**

#### *Academic Success*

Tapestry Charter School has met the academic goals in its Accountability Plan. Since the first year of the Accountability Period, the school met the key goals of mathematics and English language arts goals each year. Notably, in the most recent year, the school exceeded each of the five measures comprising its overall mathematics goal with all but one student scoring proficient on the state mathematics exam. In English language arts, Tapestry also essentially met all five measures. The school has also met its science and social studies goals during the Charter Period. According to the state’s NCLB accountability system, the school is deemed to be in good standing.

Throughout its Accountability Period, Tapestry has posted strong results on the New York State 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade English language arts exam<sup>3</sup> and the school’s preliminary fourth-year cohort

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<sup>2</sup> SUNY Renewal Practices, Full-Term Renewal standard (9).

<sup>3</sup> In interpreting a school’s year-to-year changes in the absolute measure, the Institute puts the results in the context of overall state-wide changes. In general, the state-wide proficiency rate on the English language arts exam increased by five percent from 2006-07 to 2007-08 and by nine percent from 2007-08 to 2008-09. From a related perspective, the median school had a proficiency rate of 68.7 percent, 72.8 percent, and 80.9 percent during the three years respectively. These year-to-year changes suggest the importance of the comparative measures included in the goal.

Regents English proficiency rate suggests that the school is on track to demonstrating a similar level of performance at the high school level. The school has outperformed its local school district by a wide margin at the elementary, middle, and high school levels and has consistently exceeded the performance target set in the state's NCLB accountability system. In relation to demographically similar schools, Tapestry has performed better than expected to a large degree. With respect to cohort growth, Tapestry has demonstrated improvement, and overall, performance has improved steadily.

During the current Accountability Period, Tapestry has improved its performance on the state's 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics exam<sup>4</sup> and in the current year virtually all students scored proficient on the exam. In addition, preliminary fourth-year high school Accountability Cohort data indicate that the school is on track to achieving its absolute target on Regents mathematics exams this year. The school has consistently outperformed its local school district and demographically similar schools state-wide by large margins on the elementary/middle school mathematics exams while the leading high school cohort is on track to exceeding the local school district's fourth-year Accountability Cohort proficiency rate. In terms of growth, since 2006-07, when two years of 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade state test data became available, the school has consistently improved its overall cohort performance.

With regard to Tapestry's graduation goal, based on preliminary results from the school's first graduating cohort, with 100 percent of students satisfying the school's graduation requirements, Tapestry is on track to meeting its target. In addition, 100 percent of Tapestry's anticipated graduates have applied to college and 100 percent have been accepted in at least one college or university.

The school has informal systems to gather assessment and evaluation data and has used these data over the course of the charter period to identify weaknesses in student learning. Within the lower and high school programs, Tapestry has regularly administered useful standardized and other assessments. Throughout the charter period, the school has regularly communicated each student's achievements and progress to his or her parents/guardians, most notably through its portfolio system. In addition, the school implemented, late in the charter period, a proficiency-based system to evaluate student achievement of long-term learning targets.

Tapestry Charter School has a defined curriculum and uses it to prepare students to meet New York State learning standards. Teachers assume significant responsibility for regularly reviewing and revising curricular documentation. Teachers have received adequate guidance and resources in determining what to teach and when to teach it. Late in the charter period, the school had begun to develop more comprehensive curricular documents that integrate the school's instructional methods, namely the use of learning expeditions across subject areas.

High quality instruction has been evident in some classrooms at the school. Teachers generally plan purposeful lessons with clear learning targets aligned to the school's curriculum. In particular, students in the lower school have generally been engaged by rigorous instruction, which has been differentiated to meet the range of learning needs represented in the student population.

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<sup>4</sup> In interpreting a school's year-to-year changes in the absolute measure, the Institute puts the results in the context of overall state-wide changes. In general, the statewide proficiency rate on the mathematics exam increased by nearly six percent from 2006-07 to 2007-08 and by eight percent from 2007-08 to 2008-09. From a related perspective, the median school had a proficiency rate of 79.5 percent, 86.2 percent, and 90.8 percent during the three years respectively. These year-to-year changes in absolute results suggest the importance of the comparative measures included in the goal.

Elements of strong instructional leadership have been present at Tapestry during the charter term. School leaders are highly committed to the school's mission and instructional methodology and set high expectations for student achievement. The school has implemented a useful teacher evaluation system late in the charter period. In addition to strengthening the level of instructional support provided to teachers at the lower school, a building principal was hired and the previous school leader was promoted to serve as the school's executive director. At both the upper and lower schools, teachers receive additional support and professional development from "instructional guides" provided through the school's partnership with Expeditionary Learning.

Tapestry Charter School has provided effective support to assist at-risk students throughout the charter period. The school has clear procedures for identifying students with disabilities and provides them with sufficient support. Finally, the school provides sufficient resources, including multiple instructional specialists, in order to provide a range of interventions to meet the needs of struggling students.

Throughout the school, a safe and orderly environment has been established. Teachers generally employ effective classroom management strategies and foster an environment where learning is clearly valued. However, in the school's seventh year of operation, the second within the current charter term, inspectors noted low-level misbehavior particularly in crew classes.

#### *Organizational Effectiveness and Viability*

From its inception, the mission of Tapestry Charter School has been to, "provide a challenging and rigorous education in an environment that emphasizes diversity, compassion, collaboration, community, creativity, and leadership, so that students are academically and socially prepared to meet the demands of further education while maturing into productive and caring adults with a lifelong passion for learning." The school board and leadership have been mindful of the mission, which is displayed on the school website, in its family handbooks and in other materials produced by the school. The school board recently revised the school's mission statement (see Plans for the Next Charter Period, page 9) with the assistance of a consultant in an effort to more succinctly capture the spirit of Tapestry. Tapestry has generally been faithful to its school-wide key design elements – a school culture of caring, family and community engagement and ongoing professional development. The school has implemented its lower school key design elements: multi-age classrooms and progressive teaching techniques. As an outgrowth of its partnership with Expeditionary Learning, the high school has focused on its key elements; namely, rigorous academics with real world learning and physical and emotional fitness, as well as knowledge and understanding of the arts.

Parents and students are satisfied with the school, according to the results of annual surveys in which parents have expressed strong positive attitudes. Each year, more than 90 percent of the high school students return the following September. The school also maintains a significant student wait list. In the last four years, the school has had at least a 95 percent attendance rate each year.

Tapestry has established a well-functioning organizational structure with staff, systems, and procedures that allow the school to carry out its academic program. The organizational structure supports distinct lines of accountability with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Day-to-day operations are competently managed. The school has hired and retained quality personnel and has maintained adequate levels of student enrollment throughout the charter period.

The Tapestry school board has worked effectively to achieve the school's mission and provide oversight to the total educational program. The school has benefited from a strong a stable board of trustees, the members of which have adequate skills and expertise to provide effective governance. All trustees consistently attend board meetings and are active on board committees. The board has taken an active role in the development of the school's curriculum, the marketing of the school's program, fund-raising, and in particular, securing a new facility to house Tapestry's entire K-12 program. The board has been engaged in continuing to develop a partnership with Canisius College as a professional development resource for the school and where Tapestry high school students may attend classes at a reduced rate. It has received regular information and data from school leaders over the charter period and conducts an annual review of the executive director through a formalized process that includes undertaking a survey of the parents, teachers and the administration to determine the school's areas of strength and weakness.

The Tapestry school board appears to have generally operated within its by-laws. In terms of numbers of trustees, the board has had some vacancies and as one trustee has recently retired the board will likely need to recruit new trustees. The board has identified skills that it wants a new member to possess (public relations and legal skills) and is taking a careful approach to recruitment so that active, diligent members are added. The school board now has a comprehensive board manual to orient new trustees. The board has conflict of interest provisions in its code of ethics and by-laws and has avoided such conflicts to the extent possible, is very aware of the not-for-profit organization conflicts of its members and seeks advice from its outside accountant on the subject as necessary, such as conducting fair market value analyses when needed. The school's code of ethics needs to be revised to provide guidance to employees rather than just trustees. A very few technical defects were noted in the school's bylaws.

The school board has spent time throughout the charter period updating various policies. For example, the board recently formulated a social networking policy that had been submitted in draft form to the staff for feedback and then finalized. The complaint and discipline policies, however, have not undergone that process and are in need of revision. While the school board holds its meetings in compliance with the Open Meetings Law and reviews and approves board meeting minutes, there is a dearth of minutes for the board's active committees.

During the charter term and at the time of the renewal inspection the school appeared to be in general and substantial compliance with the Act and applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations with only minor exceptions and has compiled a record of substantial compliance with the terms of its charter during the charter term. Tapestry has designed and put into place effective systems and controls to ensure that legal and charter requirements were and are met including skilled personnel, polices and procedures and attention to detail. Minor exceptions in the teacher certification area were noted and were in the process of being corrected at the time of the visit. There was only one recorded complaint made to the Institute during the charter term and it required no formal action by the Institute. The school uses different paid and pro bono legal counsel depending on its needs and the subject matter at issue including for real estate and human resources issues.

While Tapestry enrolls a percentage of special education students that is reflective of the district and provides a more than adequate program to retain those students, the school only has approximately one percent of its students who are English language learners (ELLs). The school has active outreach to ELLs through two small parochial schools that are in contact with refugee populations, but this effort has not yielded many ELLs. The school's website also references the availability of the application in Spanish but a local district school focusing almost exclusively on ELLs was reported

to attract many of the area ELLs. The school has also recruited and provided applications at community centers that ELL parents frequent with little result. Buffalo was described by the school board as not being as diverse as New York City, for example, and therefore presenting more recruitment challenges with respect to ELLs. While the Institute finds that the above efforts satisfy the statute the Institute relayed to the school that further progress or efforts would be expected during the next charter term from Tapestry and all SUNY charter schools.

### *Fiscal Soundness*

Tapestry Charter School has operated pursuant to a long-range financial plan and has created realistic budgets that are monitored and adjusted appropriately over the course of the charter period. Annual budgets are developed by the school's contracted accounting firm with appropriate input from the school's executive director, principals and other key staff. Budget variances are routinely analyzed and shared with the executive director, board treasurer and finance committee.

The school has maintained appropriate fiscal policies, procedures and controls related to external and internal compliance for cash disbursements, cash receipts, bank reconciliations, payroll, fixed assets, grants/contributions, and the preparation of financial statements. The accounting firm works with the school's executive director, board treasurer and finance committee, along with the rest of the school board to ensure that the policies and procedures are documented and followed by school staff. The school's Fiscal Year (FY) 2008-09 audit report of internal controls—related to financial reporting and compliance with laws, regulations and grants—disclosed no material weaknesses, or instances of non-compliance. The lack of other deficiencies in the reports provides some, but not absolute, assurance that the school has maintained adequate internal controls and procedures.

The school has complied with financial reporting requirements during the charter period. Budget, quarterly and annual financial statement audit reports were filed in a timely, accurate and complete manner. Each of the school's annual financial statement audit reports followed generally accepted accounting principles as required and received an unqualified opinion, indicating that, in the auditor's opinion, the school's financial statements and notes fairly represent, in all material respects, the school's financial position, changes in net assets, and cash flows. The school board reviews and approves the annual financial statement audit report.

Tapestry has maintained adequate financial resources to ensure stable operations over the course of the charter period and has monitored and successfully managed stringent cash flow. The school completed FY 2008-09 in fairly stable financial condition, increasing both cash reserves and total net assets. However, despite the increase in cash reserves the school maintains limited liquid assets, which lessens the schools short-term fiscal viability. The school has a negative working capital ratio, indicating it does not have enough short-term assets possibly to cover all immediate liabilities, short-term debt or any unforeseen expenditures that may arise. It should be noted that the limited liquid assets and negative working capital is directly affected by the school's land acquisition and renovation/construction of a new facility, an intentional and strategic decision made by management and the school board. These two financial accomplishments can be attributed to the increase in net assets for the school. The school has no major investments and any cash is left in savings and/or money market accounts. With the exception of one year, revenues have exceeded expenses at an average of four and a half percent throughout the charter period. This positive trend demonstrates the school's ability to balance revenues and expenditures given economic and facility challenges.

### *Plans for the Next Charter Period*

The school has provided all of the key structural elements for a renewal charter and they are deemed to be reasonable, feasible, and achievable. The school has revised its mission statement as follows:

*Tapestry Charter School is a K-12 public school for children, parents and teachers who believe in weaving together the essential elements that inspire a lifelong passion for learning.*

Perhaps the most significant changes the school proposed by the school for the next charter period are its facility plans; in fact, those plans prompted the school's early application for renewal. Continued financing that would allow completion of the expansion has been contingent upon the school being granted a Subsequent Renewal. The completion of the expansion would allow the lower and upper grades to be housed in a single location within the term of the proposed renewal charter.

The school would continue providing instruction in kindergarten through 12th grades. Tapestry proposes an increase in its enrollment levels in both the lower and upper grades. The school would essentially double its lower grade enrollment over a three-year period, by adding a section to each grade. The increase in student population would provide additional funds to support the school's facility expansion plans. Additional students in the lower school would allow more students who are experienced with Expeditionary Learning model to be able to transition to the high school program successfully. The application asserts that by enlarging the lower school and co-locating the lower and high schools, teachers would become members of science and math departments that could then coordinate science and math curriculum planning and professional development.

As proposed in its Application for Early Subsequent Renewal, Tapestry would maintain most of the key design elements contained in its existing charter, while adding elements as a result of its proposed expansion. As noted above, the school would transition to using a single campus for all grades within the renewal charter period, which the school believes would strengthen the educational program. As part of the implementation of this approach, a second instructional guide would be added to the staff to serve these grades. Other Key Design Elements include the following: (1) multi-age classrooms; (2) a school culture of caring; (3) progressive teaching techniques; (4) weaving together humanities, science, arts, and social responsibility; (4) family and community engagement; and (5) ongoing professional development for teachers.

The school has presented a reasonable and appropriate fiscal plan for the term of the next charter that is likely achievable. The school has taken a strong strategic approach in budgeting and planning for the next term. Due to state deficit problems, and the uncertainty of per pupil funding, the school has developed a conservative working budget that shows per pupil funding remaining flat throughout the next charter term. The plan projects minor operating and cash flow surpluses in each year which will further strengthen the school's fiscal stability. The plan is contingent on the school meeting enrollment goals, which it has historically demonstrated the ability to accomplish. Long-range fiscal projections are more susceptible to error than those for a single year. Such projections are subject to revision due to changes in local conditions, objectives, laws and state funding. The school will be required to continually develop and adopt annual budgets based on known per pupil amounts for the districts from which it draws enrollment.

The school has taken on significant additional fiscal responsibilities in acquiring land and renovating and constructing a new building. The school was able to obtain a parcel of land for below market

value and has secured financing for the complete renovation of the existing building on the land from a local business developer. The renovation of the building reflects Phase I of the school's construction plan, which is scheduled to be completed by the start of the 2010-11 school year and will house the high school grades. Once complete and upon being granted a renewal charter, Phase II would begin. The school leadership believes that a renewal would give the school leverage to further secure Phase II financing, which would support the construction of an additional building connected to the high school and housing kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Revenue that would be generated from the increased enrollment enabling the school to shoulder the burden of the long-term financing debt associated with the new and renovated buildings without causing any issues to school operations, including increased staffing.

Members of the current board of trustees expressed their intent to continue their service to the school. Board members have the requisite skills and understanding of their roles and responsibilities in order to adequately provide oversight to the school during the term of the proposed charter. The school would continue their relationship with two organizational partners: Expeditionary Learning would continue to provide support for the ongoing implementation of the instructional approach; and the Canisius College of Education and Human Services would provide professional development services.

The Institute notes that while the school may have had a specific purpose in mind for seeking the early renewal decision that is available to all schools applying for Subsequent Renewal if they meet the criteria, its findings are in no way influenced by such purposes. To the extent that Tapestry Charter School has consistently achieved its key academic goals, continues to implement an educational program that supports achieving those goals, operates an effective and viable organization, and is fiscally sound, the Institute deems its plans to continue to implement the educational program as proposed in its Application for Renewal during the next as reasonable, feasible and achievable.

## SCHOOL OVERVIEW

### Opening Information

Date Initial Charter Approved by SUNY Trustees	January 23, 2001
Date Initial Charter Approved by: Board of Regents	April 24, 2001
School Opening Date	September, 2001

### Location

School Year(s)	Location(s)	Grades At This Location	District
2001-2006	40 North St. Buffalo, NY	All	Buffalo City School District
2006-2009	40 North St. Buffalo, NY 2253 Main St. Buffalo, NY	Elementary/Middle School High School	Buffalo City School District
2009-10	40 North St. Buffalo, NY 10 Days Park Buffalo, NY	Elementary/Middle School High School	Buffalo City School District

### Renewal

Type of Renewal	Date
Initial Full-Term Renewal approved by SUNY Board of Trustees	September 20, 2005

### Current Mission Statement

Tapestry provides a challenging and rigorous education in an environment that emphasizes diversity, compassion, collaboration, community, creativity, and leadership, so that students are academically and socially prepared to meet the demands of further education while maturing into productive and caring adults with a lifelong passion for learning.
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### Current Key Design Elements

<i>For Grades K-8</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-aged classrooms;</li> <li>• A school culture of caring;</li> <li>• Progressive teaching techniques based on differentiated instruction;</li> <li>• Weaving together humanities, sciences, arts, and social responsibility;</li> <li>• Family and community engagement; and</li> <li>• Ongoing professional development for faculty and staff.</li> </ul>
<i>For Grades 9-12</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A school culture of caring;</li> <li>• Physical and emotional fitness;</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of the arts;</li> <li>• Social responsibility;</li> <li>• Family and community engagement; and</li> <li>• Ongoing professional development for faculty and staff.</li> </ul>
<i>For Grades 5-12</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expeditionary Learning School (ELS) emphasizing high achievement through active learning, character growth and teamwork;</li> </ul>

## School Characteristics

School Year	Original Chartered Enrollment	Revised Charter Enrollment	Actual Enrollment <sup>5</sup>	Original Chartered Grades	Actual Grades	Days of Instruction
2001-02	100	105	104	K-4	K-4	180
2002-03	120	132	132	K-5	K-5	180
2003-04	140	162	163	K-6	K-6	180
2004-05	160	192	192	K-6	K-8	180
2005-06	180	216	217	K-6	K-8	180
2006-07	264	N/A	269	K-9	K-9	180
2007-08	336	N/A	349	K-10	K-10	180
2008-09	408	N/A	425	K-11	K-11	180
2009-10	480	N/A	507	K-12	K-12	180

## Student Demographics

	2006-07 <sup>6</sup>		2007-08 <sup>7</sup>		2008-09	
	Percent of School Enrollment	Percent of Buffalo CSD Enrollment	Percent of School Enrollment	Percent of Buffalo CSD Enrollment	Percent of School Enrollment <sup>8</sup>	Percent of Buffalo CSD Enrollment <sup>9</sup>
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>						
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Black or African American	25%	57%	33%	57%	40%	57%
Hispanic	7%	14%	7%	15%	6%	15%
Asian, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander	3%	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%
White	64%	25%	57%	25%	52%	24%
Multiracial	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	> 1%
<b>Special Populations</b>						
Students with Disabilities <sup>10</sup>	10%	N/A	8%	N/A	14%	N/A
Limited English Proficient	0%	7%	0%	8%	> 1%	8%
<b>Free/Reduced Lunch</b>						
Eligible for Free Lunch	22%	70%	20%	72%	22%	74%
Eligible for Reduced-Price Lunch	7%	8%	13%	8%	9%	8%

<sup>5</sup> Source: SUNY Charter School Institute's Official Enrollment Binder. (Figures may differ slightly from New York State Report Cards, depending on date of data collection.)

<sup>6</sup> Source: 2006-07 School Report Cards, New York State Education Department.

<sup>7</sup> Source: 2007-08 School Report Cards, New York State Education Department.

<sup>8</sup> Source: 2008-09 School Report Cards, New York State Education Department.

<sup>9</sup> Aggregated District data not yet available for 2008-09 school year.

<sup>10</sup> New York State Education Department does not report special education data. Statistics given were provided in school's charter renewal application.

### Current Board of Trustees<sup>11</sup>

<b>Board Member Name</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>	<b>Position/Committees</b>
Amy Friedman	6-30-10	Chair
Bobbie Dukarm	6-30-12	Vice-Chair
Cindy Walawander	6-30-12	Secretary
Tom Burns	6-30-10	Treasurer
Kevin Curtin	6-30-11	Parent Trustee
Teo Balback	6-30-11	Trustee
Corrine Kindzierski	6-30-11	Trustee
Alden Schutte	6-30-12	Trustee
Nancy Wallace	6-30-11	Trustee
Open	N/A	Trustee

### School Leader(s)

<b>School Year</b>	<b>School Leader(s) Name and Title</b>
2001-02 – 2009-10	Joy Pepper, Executive Director

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<sup>11</sup> Source: School charter renewal application.

**ACADEMIC ATTAINMENT AND IMPROVEMENT**

**Background**

At the beginning of the charter period the school developed and adopted an Accountability Plan that set academic goals in the key subjects of English language arts and mathematics, as well as science and social studies. The plan also included an NCLB goal. For each goal in the Accountability Plan specific outcome measures define the level of performance necessary to meet that goal. Furthermore, the Institute has established a set of required outcome measures that include the following three types: 1) the absolute level of student performance on state examinations; 2) the comparative level of student performance on state examinations; and 3) the growth in student learning according to year-to-year comparisons of grade level cohorts. Subsequent to the incorporation of Tapestry’s Accountability Plan into its charter, the Institute required that schools include additional high school measures in their Accountability Plans. While Tapestry is still held to the measures stated in its plan, the additional measures provide additional evidence to evaluate Tapestry’s performance.

The following table shows the outcome measures currently required by the Institute in each subject area goal, as well as for the NCLB goal. Schools may have also elected to include additional optional goals and measures in their Accountability Plan. After presenting the results of the measures in Tapestry’s Accountability Plan, the analysis provides additional evidence including results of the measures that are now required in all school Accountability Plans.

<b>Summary of Required Goals and Outcome Measures in Elementary/Middle School (K-8) Accountability Plans</b>					
<b>GOAL</b>	<b>Required Outcome Measures</b>				
	<b>Absolute</b>		<b>Comparative</b>		<b>Growth</b>
	75 percent proficient on state exam	Performance Index (PI) meets Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	Percent proficient greater than that of local school district	School exceeds predicted level of performance compared to similar public schools by small Effect Size	Grade-level cohorts reduce by half the gap between prior year’s percent proficient and 75 percent
<b>English Language Arts</b>	✦	✦	✦	✦	✦
<b>Mathematics</b>	✦	✦	✦	✦	✦
<b>Science</b>	✦		✦		
<b>Social Studies</b>	✦		✦		
<b>NCLB</b>	School is deemed in “Good Standing” under state’s NCLB accountability system				

<b>Summary of Required Goals and Outcome Measures in High School (9-12) Accountability Plans</b>			
<b>GOAL</b>	<b>Required Outcome Measures</b>		
	<b>Absolute</b>		<b>Comparative</b>
	75 percent proficient on Regents exams after four years	Performance Index (PI) meets Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	Percent proficient after four years greater than that of local school district
English language arts	◆	◆	◆
Mathematics	◆	◆	◆
Science	◆	◆	
Social Studies	◆	◆	
Graduation	- 75 percent of students in the high school graduation cohort will graduate after the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.		
College Prep  (only for college prep schools)	- The school will demonstrate preparation of its students for college through at least one optional measure of its own design.  - The school will demonstrate college attendance or achievement through at least one measure of its own design.		
NCLB	School is deemed in “Good Standing” under state’s NCLB accountability system		

The most important criterion for renewal is academic success, which is demonstrated in large part by meeting or coming close to meeting the goals in a school’s Accountability Plan. The Institute determines the outcome of a goal by evaluating the multiple measures associated with that goal.

The following presentation indicates the outcome of each of the school’s goals, as well as an analysis of the respective measures for each goal during the Accountability Period.<sup>12</sup> Italicized text indicates goals or measures as written in the school’s Accountability Plan; bold numbers appearing in the tables are the critical values for determining if a measure was achieved in a given year. Aside from required Accountability Plan measures, the following also presents the results of optional measures that the school may have included in its plan.

### **English Language Arts**

**Accountability Plan Goal:** Students will demonstrate proficiency in reading and writing of the English Language.

<sup>12</sup> Because the renewal decision is made in the last year of a Charter Period, the Accountability Period ends in the next to last year of the Charter Period. For initial renewals, the Accountability Period is the first four years of the Charter Period. For subsequent renewals, the Accountability Period includes the last year of the previous Charter Period through the next to last year of the current Charter Period.

**Outcome:** Tapestry Charter School has met its English language arts goal.

**Analysis of Accountability Plan Measures:**

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>Each year, 75 percent of 3-8 graders who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State ELA examination.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Grade</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>
	(Tested: 132)	(Tested: 126)	(Tested: 129)	(Tested: 134)
<b>3</b>	77.0	92.0	95.7	96.7
<b>4</b>	92.0	91.3	86.4	96.0
<b>5</b>	94.0	86.7	91.3	100.0
<b>6</b>	75.0	88.2	81.0	87.0
<b>7</b>	70.0	82.6	94.4	91.7
<b>8</b>	45.0	69.6	81.8	100.0
<b>All</b>	<b>75.8</b>	<b>84.9</b>	<b>88.4</b>	<b>94.8</b>

Since the advent of state testing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades in the 2005-06 school year, Tapestry has exceeded its absolute performance target in English language arts. In 2005-06, 76 percent of students were proficient and the school exceeded its 75 percent target by a slim margin. In 2006-07, the school’s performance improved and 85 percent were proficient. In 2007-08 performance again improved with 88 percent scoring proficient. In the most recent year, the school posted even stronger results with 95 percent of students scoring proficient.

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the school’s aggregate Performance Index on the State ELA exam will meet its Annual Measurable Objective set forth in the State’s No Child Left Behind (NCLB) accountability system.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Index</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>
	(Tested: 132)	(Tested: 126)	(Tested: 129)	(Tested: 134)
<b>PI</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>AMO</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>144</b>

Tapestry Charter School has surpassed the elementary/middle school English language arts Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) established by the state’s NCLB accountability system during each year of its accountability period.

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>75% of each high school accountability cohort will score at least 65 on the New York State English Regents exam.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Percent</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-010</b>
<b>Levels 3 &amp; 4</b>	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort (N= 52)
	-	-	-	<b>86.5</b>

While Tapestry’s Accountability Plan measure will first apply at the end of the 2009-10 academic year when the school first cohort completes its 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, preliminary data indicate that as of February, 2010, 87 percent of Tapestry’s first high school Accountability Cohort have achieved

proficiency on the Regents English language arts exam and the school has already exceeded its 75 percent target.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the percent of students who are enrolled in at least their second year and performing at or above Level 3 on the State ELA exam in each tested grade will be greater than that of the local school district.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2005-06</b> (Grades 3-8)	<b>2006-07</b> (Grades 3-8)	<b>2007-08</b> (Grades 3-8)	<b>2008-09</b> (Grades 3-8)
<b>School</b>	<b>75.8</b>	<b>84.9</b>	<b>88.4</b>	<b>94.8</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>34.5</b>	<b>42.5</b>	<b>54.5</b>

Tapestry Charter School has outperformed the Buffalo city school district on the state’s elementary/middle school English language arts exam by a wide margin during each year of the Accountability Period. In the most recent year, the school’s level of performance was over 40 percentage points higher than that of its local school district.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the percent of students in the high school accountability cohort passing the English Regents Exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the cohort of all students from the local school district.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2006-07</b> 2003 Cohort	<b>2007-08</b> 2004 Cohort	<b>2008-09</b> 2005 Cohort	<b>2009-10</b> 2006 Cohort
<b>School</b>	-	-	-	<b>86.5</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>

Data presented for Tapestry are preliminary as the school will graduate its first cohort of students in June of 2010 and district comparison data for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school year are yet unavailable. Assuming the Buffalo school district performs at a level similar to its performance in the previous two years on the Regents English language arts exam, by the completion of their 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, Tapestry’s first Accountability Cohort will have exceeded the performance of the Buffalo school district by a wide margin.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the school will exceed its expected level of performance on the State ELA exam by at least a small Effect Size (performing higher than expected to small degree) according to a regression analysis controlling for students eligible for free lunch among all public schools in New York State.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Index</b>	<b>2005-06</b> (Grades 3-8) (Tested: 143)	<b>2006-07</b> (Grades 3-8) (Tested: 146)	<b>2007-08</b> (Grades 3-8) (Tested: 148)	<b>2008-09</b> (Grades 3-8) (Tested: 149)
<b>Predicted</b>	69.7	71.0	76.7	84.3
<b>Actual</b>	77.6	82.9	88.5	91.3
<b>Effect Size</b>	<b>0.65</b>	<b>1.13</b>	<b>1.21</b>	<b>0.77</b>

In comparison to demographically similar schools state-wide, Tapestry has performed better than expected throughout the current Accountability Period and exceeded its Effect Size target each year.

<b>Growth Measure:</b> <i>Each year, grade-level cohorts of students will reduce by one-half the gap between the percent at or above Level 3 on the previous year's State ELA exam and 75 percent at or above Level 3 on the current year's State ELA exam.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Percent Level 3 &amp; 4</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07<sup>13</sup></b> (Grades 4-8) (N=104)	<b>2007-08</b> (Grades 4-8) (N=108)	<b>2008-09</b> (Grades 4-8) (N=112)
Baseline	-	80.8	84.3	88.4
Target	-	80.9	84.4	88.5
Actual	-	83.7	87.0	96.4
Cohorts Made	-	<b>(2 of 5)</b>	<b>(3 of 5)</b>	<b>(4 of 5)</b>
Target				

With respect to cohort growth, Tapestry's performance on the state's mathematics exam has improved during the Accountability Period. In 2006-07, two of the school's grade level cohorts achieved their target and overall performance remained nearly level. In 2007-08, three cohorts exceeded their targets and overall performance improved. In 2008-09, four out of five cohorts achieved their targets and overall performance improved substantially.

### Mathematics

**Accountability Plan Goal:** Students will demonstrate a mastery of mathematical concepts.

**Outcome:** Tapestry Charter School has met its mathematics goal.

### **Analysis of Accountability Plan Measures:**

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>Each year, 75 percent of 3-8 graders who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State Mathematics examination.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Grade</b>	<b>2005-06</b> (Tested: 132)	<b>2006-07</b> (Tested: 123)	<b>2007-08</b> (Tested: 128)	<b>2008-09</b> (Tested: 134)
<b>3</b>	95.0	100.0	100.0	95.7
<b>4</b>	89.0	95.7	100.0	100.0
<b>5</b>	100.0	76.9	100.0	100.0
<b>6</b>	63.0	93.8	76.2	100.0
<b>7</b>	52.0	87.0	94.4	100.0
<b>8</b>	15.0	39.1	77.3	100.0
<b>All</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>82.1</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>99.3</b>

Since the advent of state testing in the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades in the 2005-06 school year, Tapestry has improved its absolute performance on the state's mathematics exam and is currently exceeding its target by a wide margin. In 2005-06, 69 percent of students were proficient and the school fell short of its 75 percent target. In 2006-07, the school's performance improved and with 82 percent of students scoring proficient, the school first exceeded its performance target. In 2007-08 performance

<sup>13</sup> New York State began administering English language arts and mathematics exams in grades 3-8 in 2005-06, thus year-to-year growth could not be evaluated until 2006-07 when two years' of results were first available.

again improved with 91 percent scoring proficient. In the most recent year, the school posted even stronger results with 99 percent of students scoring proficient.

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the school's aggregate Performance Index on the State math exam will meet its Annual Measurable Objective set forth in the State's No Child Left Behind (NCLB) accountability system.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Index</b>	<b>2005-06</b> (Tested: 132)	<b>2006-07</b> (Tested: 123)	<b>2007-08</b> (Tested: 128)	<b>2008-09</b> (Tested: 134)
<b>PI</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>AMO</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>119</b>

Tapestry Charter School has surpassed the elementary/middle school mathematics Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) established by the state's NCLB accountability system during each year of its accountability period.

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>75% of each high school accountability cohort will score at least 65 on the New York State Math A Regents exam.<sup>14</sup></i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Percent</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-010</b>
<b>Levels 3 &amp; 4</b>	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort (N= 52)
	-	-	-	<b>84.6</b>

While Tapestry's Accountability Plan measure will first apply at the end of the 2009-10 academic year when the school first cohort completes its 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, preliminary data indicate that as of February, 2010, 85 percent of Tapestry's first high school Accountability Cohort have achieved proficiency on a Regents mathematics exam and the school has already exceeded its 75 percent target.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the percent of students who are enrolled in at least their second year and performing at or above Level 3 on the State Math exam in each tested grade will be greater than that of the local school district.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2005-06</b> (Grades 3-8)	<b>2006-07</b> (Grades 3-8)	<b>2007-08</b> (Grades 3-8)	<b>2008-09</b> (Grades 3-8)
<b>School</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>82.1</b>	<b>91.4</b>	<b>99.3</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>28.6</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>63.3</b>

Tapestry Charter School has outperformed the Buffalo city school district on the state's elementary/middle school mathematics exam by a wide margin during each year of the Accountability Period. In the most recent year, the school's level of performance was over 30 percentage points higher than that of its local school district.

<sup>14</sup> Beginning in June 2008, the Regents Integrated Algebra exam was administered in place of the Regents Math A exam; the results are presented based on student performance on all Regents math exams including Math A, Math B, Integrated Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2 and Trigonometry.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the percent of students in the high school accountability cohort passing the Mathematics A Regents Exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the cohort of all students from the local school district.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>
	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort
<b>School</b>	-	-	-	<b>86.4</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>

Data presented for Tapestry are preliminary as the school will graduate its first cohort of students in June of 2010 and district comparison data for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school year are yet unavailable. Assuming the Buffalo school district performs at a level similar to its performance in the previous two years on a Regents mathematics exam, by the completion of their 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, Tapestry's first Accountability Cohort will have exceeded the performance of the Buffalo school district by a wide margin.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the school will exceed its expected level of performance on the State Math exam by at least a small Effect Size (performing higher than expected to small degree) according to a regression analysis controlling for students eligible for free lunch among all public schools in New York State.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Index</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>
	(Grades 3-8) (Tested: 132)	(Grades 3-8) (Tested: 123)	(Grades 3-8) (Tested: 128)	(Grades 3-8) (Tested: 134)
<b>Predicted</b>	73.9	78.4	86.6	91.2
<b>Actual</b>	68.5	77.6	91.1	97.3
<b>Effect Size</b>	<b>-0.22</b>	<b>0.12</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.81</b>

In comparison to demographically similar schools state-wide, Tapestry has improved its relative performance during the current Accountability Period. In 2005-06, the school performed worse than expected and failed to meet its Effect Size Target. In 2006-07, the school's relative performance improved but not enough to exceed its target. In 2007-08, the school performed better than predicted to a medium degree and first exceeded its target. In the most recent year, the school performed better than expected to a large degree and again exceeded its Effect Size target.

<b>Growth Measure:</b> <i>Each year, grade-level cohorts of students will reduce by one-half the gap between the percent at or above Level 3 on the previous year's State Math exam and 75 percent at or above Level 3 on the current year's State Math exam.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Percent</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07<sup>15</sup></b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>
<b>Level 3 &amp; 4</b>		(Grades 4-8) (N= 101)	(Grades 4-8) (N=106)	(Grades 4-8) (N=112)
Baseline	-	76.2	84.9	92.9
Target	-	76.3	85.0	92.3
Actual	-	77.2	89.6	100.0
Cohorts Made		<b>(1 of 5)</b>	<b>(4 of 5)</b>	<b>(5 of 5)</b>
Target	-			

<sup>15</sup> New York State began administering English language arts and mathematics exams in grades 3-8 in 2005-06, thus year-to-year growth could not be evaluated until 2006-07 when two years' of results were first available.

With respect to cohort growth, Tapestry’s performance on the state’s mathematics exam has improved during the Accountability Period. In 2006-07, one of the school’s grade level cohorts achieved its target and overall performance remained nearly level. In 2007-08, four cohorts exceeded their targets and overall performance improved. In 2008-09, all five cohorts achieved their targets and overall performance improved with all cohorts achieving proficiency.

**Science**

**Accountability Plan Goal:** Students will demonstrate competency in the understanding and application of scientific reasoning.

**Outcome:** Based on the data available, the school met its science goal.

**Analysis of Accountability Plan Measures:**

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>Each year, 75 percent of fourth and eighth graders who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State Science examination.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Grade</b>	<b>2005-06</b> (Tested: 46)	<b>2006-07</b> (Tested: 46)	<b>2007-08</b> (Tested: 44)	<b>2008-09</b> (Tested: 46)
<b>4</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>96.0</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Tapestry has consistently posted strong results on the 4<sup>th</sup> grade science exam and has considerably improved its performance on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade exam during the current Accountability Period. The school is currently exceeding its 75 percent absolute performance target by a wide margin in both the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>75% of each high school accountability cohort will score at least 65 on a New York State science Regents exam.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Percent</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-010</b>
<b>Levels 3 &amp; 4</b>	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort (N= 52)
	-	-	-	<b>80.8</b>

While Tapestry’s Accountability Plan high school measure will first apply at the end of the 2009-10 academic year when the school’s first cohort completes its 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, preliminary data indicate that as of February, 2010, 81 percent of Tapestry’s first high school Accountability Cohort have achieved proficiency on a Regents science exam and the school has already exceeded its 75 percent target.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the percent of 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 the local school district.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2005-06</b> (Grades 4, 8)	<b>2006-07</b> (Grades 4, 8)	<b>2007-08</b> (Grades 4, 8)	<b>2008-09</b> (Grades 4, 8)
<b>School</b>	<b>76.1</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>93.0</b>	<b>97.8</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>N/A</b>

From 2005-06 through 2007-08, Tapestry has consistently outperformed the local community school district by a wide margin on the state science exam. While district comparison data for the 2008-09 school year is yet unavailable, Tapestry’s 98 percent proficiency rate exceeds the district’s performance in each of the two previous years. Assuming district performance remained at a similar level in the 2008-09 exam, the school will have met its target.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the percent of students in the high school accountability cohort passing a science Regents exam (65 or above) will exceed that of the cohort of all students from the local school district.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2006-07</b> 2003 Cohort	<b>2007-08</b> 2004 Cohort	<b>2008-09</b> 2005 Cohort	<b>2009-10</b> 2006 Cohort
<b>School</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>80.8</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>

Data presented for Tapestry are preliminary as the school will graduate its first cohort of students in June of 2010 and district comparison data for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school year are yet unavailable. Assuming the Buffalo school district performs at a level similar to its performance in the previous two years on a Regents science exam, by the completion of their 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, Tapestry’s first Accountability Cohort will have exceeded the performance of the Buffalo school district by a wide margin.

**Social Studies**

**Accountability Plan Goal:** Students will demonstrate competency in the understanding and application of social studies.

**Outcome:** Based on data available, the school met its social studies goal.

**Analysis of Accountability Plan Measures:**

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>Each year, 75 percent of fifth and eighth graders who are enrolled in at least their second year will perform at or above Level 3 on the New York State Social Studies examination.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Grade</b>	<b>2005-06</b> (Tested: 39)	<b>2006-07</b> (Tested: 39)	<b>2007-08</b> (Tested: 45)	<b>2008-09</b> (Tested: 39)
<b>5</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>90.0</b>

Tapestry has consistently posted strong results on the 5<sup>th</sup> grade social studies exam and has considerably improved its performance on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade exam during the current Accountability Period. The school is currently exceeding its 75 percent absolute performance target in both the 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades by a wide margin.

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> 75% of each high school accountability cohort will score at least 65 on the New York State Global History Regents exam.				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Percent</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-010</b>
<b>Levels 3 &amp; 4</b>	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort (N= 52)
	-	-	-	<b>82.7</b>

While Tapestry’s Accountability Plan measure will first apply at the end of the 2009-10 academic year when the school’s first cohort completes its 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, preliminary data indicate that as of February, 2010, 83 percent of Tapestry’s first high school Accountability Cohort have achieved proficiency on the Regents global history exam and the school has already exceeded its 75 percent target.

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> 75% of each high school accountability cohort will score at least 65 on the New York State United States History Regents exam.				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Percent</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-010</b>
<b>Levels 3 &amp; 4</b>	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort (N= 52)
	-	-	-	<b>88.5</b>

While Tapestry’s Accountability Plan measure will first apply at the end of the 2009-10 academic year when the school first cohort completes its 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, preliminary data indicate that as of February, 2010, 89 percent of Tapestry’s first high school Accountability Cohort have achieved proficiency on the Regents U.S. history exam and the school has already exceeded its 75 percent target.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> Each year, the percent of 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 the local school district.				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>
	(Grades 5, 8)	(Grades 5, 8)	(Grades 5, 8)	(Grades 5, 8)
<b>School</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>64.0</b>	<b>93.1</b>	<b>94.6</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>36.0</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>N/A</b>

From 2005-06 through 2007-08, Tapestry has consistently outperformed the local community school district by a wide margin on the state social studies exam. While district comparison data for the 2008-09 school year is yet unavailable, Tapestry’s 95 percent proficiency rate exceeds the district’s performance in each of the two previous years. Assuming district performance remained at a similar level in the 2008-09 exam, the school will have met its target.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the percent of students in the high school accountability cohort passing the Global History Regents Exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the cohort of all students from the local school district.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>
	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort
<b>School</b>	-	-	-	<b>82.7</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>

Data presented for Tapestry are preliminary as the school will graduate its first cohort of students in June of 2010 and district comparison data for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school year are yet unavailable. Assuming the Buffalo school district performs at a level similar to its performance in the previous two years on the Regents global history exam, by the completion of their 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, Tapestry’s first Accountability Cohort will have exceeded the performance of the Buffalo school district by a wide margin.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> <i>Each year, the percent of students in the high school accountability cohort passing the US History Regents Exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the cohort of all students from the local school district.</i>				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>
	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort
<b>School</b>	-	-	-	<b>88.5</b>
<b>District</b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>

Data presented for Tapestry are preliminary as the school will graduate its first cohort of students in June of 2010 and district comparison data for the 2008-09 and 2009-10 school year are yet unavailable. Assuming the Buffalo school district performs at a level similar to its performance in the previous two years on the Regents U.S. history exam, by the completion of their 4<sup>th</sup> year in high school, Tapestry’s first Accountability Cohort will have exceeded the performance of the Buffalo school district by a wide margin.

**ADDITIONAL GOAL INCLUDED IN THE ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN**

**Graduation**

**Accountability Plan Goal:** Students will graduate with a Regents diploma in a specified amount of time.

**Outcome:** Based on preliminary data, Tapestry is on track to meet its high school graduation goal.

**Analysis of Accountability Plan Measures**

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> 75% of each high school graduation-rate cohort will graduate each year				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
<b>Percent of Cohort Graduating After 4 Years</b>	<b>School Year</b>			
	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-010</b>
	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort (N= 50)
	-	-	-	<b>96.2</b>

Based preliminary data from its first graduating cohort, Tapestry is on track to exceed its graduation goal.

### **ADDITIONAL GOALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN<sup>16</sup>**

#### **College Preparation**

**Accountability Plan Goal:** N/A

**Outcome:** N/A

#### **Analysis of Accountability Plan Measures**

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> Each year, 75% of graduates will be accepted in at least one two or four-year college or university each year.				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
<b>Percent of Graduates Accepted into a 2 or 4-year College</b>	<b>School Year</b>			
	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-010</b>
	2003 Cohort	2004 Cohort	2005 Cohort	2006 Cohort (N= 50)
	-	-	-	<b>96.0</b>

Based preliminary data from its first graduating cohort, Tapestry is on track to exceed its college acceptance goal.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> Each year, the average performance of students in the 10 <sup>th</sup> grade will exceed the state average on the PSAT tests in Critical Reading.				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>School Year</b>			
	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b>
			(N=63)	(N=59)
School	-	NA	<b>34.5</b>	<b>35.9</b>
State Average	<b>40.9</b>	<b>40.2</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>40.4</b>

Tapestry first enrolled students in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade in 2007-08, however PSAT data are unavailable for the school's leading cohort of students. In 2008-09 and 2009-10, Tapestry's average PSAT Critical

<sup>16</sup> The following goal is now required in all high school Accountability Plans

Reading score for 10<sup>th</sup> grade test takers was below the New York State average and the school failed to meet its target.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> Each year, the average performance of students in the 10 <sup>th</sup> grade will exceed the state average on the PSAT tests in Mathematics.				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b> (N=63)	<b>2009-10</b> (N=59)
School	-	NA	35.9	34.5
State Average	42.0	41.6	42.4	42.1

Tapestry first enrolled students in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade in 2007-08, however PSAT data are unavailable for the school's leading cohort of students. In 2008-09 and 2009-10, Tapestry's average PSAT Mathematics score for 10<sup>th</sup> grade test takers was below the New York State average. Based on these limited data, the school did not meet its target.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> Each year, the average performance of students in the 12 <sup>th</sup> grade will exceed the state average on the SAT tests in reading.				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b> (N=32)
School	-	-	-	431
State Average	502	502	501	NA

While statewide comparison data for the 2008-09 school year is yet unavailable, Tapestry's average score of 431 on the SAT reading test is below the state's performance level in each of the two previous years. Assuming statewide performance remained at a similar level on the 2008-09 exam, the school will not have met its target based on these limited data.

<b>Comparative Measure:</b> Each year, the average performance of students in the 12 <sup>th</sup> grade will exceed the state average on the SAT tests in mathematics.				
<b>Results (in percents)</b>				
	<b>School Year</b>			
<b>Comparison</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>	<b>2009-10</b> (N=32)
School	-	-	-	407
State Average	515	515	515	NA

While statewide comparison data for the 2008-09 school year is yet unavailable, Tapestry's average score of 407 on the SAT reading test is below the state's performance level in each of the two previous years. Assuming statewide performance remained at a similar level on the 2008-09 exam, the school will not have met its target based on these limited data.

**NCLB**

In addition to meeting its specific subject area goals, the school is expected under No Child Left Behind to made adequate yearly progress towards enabling all students to score at the proficient level on the state English language arts and mathematics exams. In holding charter schools to the same standards as other public schools, the state issues an annual school accountability report that indicates the school’s status each year.

**Accountability Plan Goal:** Under the state’s NCLB accountability system, the school’s Accountability Status will be “Good Standing” each year.

**Outcome:** The school met the goal. Tapestry was deemed to be in good standing in each of the four years of the Accountability Period.

<b>Absolute Measure:</b> <i>Under the state’s NCLB accountability system, the school’s Accountability Status will be “Good Standing” each year.</i>				
<b>Results</b>				
<b>Status</b>	<b>School Year</b>			
	<b>2005-06</b>	<b>2006-07</b>	<b>2007-08</b>	<b>2008-09</b>
<b>Good Standing</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes