



**THE SUNY CHARTER SCHOOLS  
INSTITUTE**

*RENEWAL RECOMMENDATION REPORT  
BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY  
CHARTER SCHOOL*

**Report Date: December 7, 2022**

**Review Date: September 15, 2022**

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**Charter Schools Institute**  
The State University of New York

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## CHARTER BACKGROUND

# BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

413 East 144<sup>th</sup> Street, Bronx, New York | Grades: K-4 | NYC Community School District 7  
 452 College Avenue, Bronx, New York | Grades: 5 | NYC Community School District 7  
 500 Courtlandt Avenue, Bronx, New York | Grades: 6-8 | NYC Community School District 7  
 1160 Beach Avenue, Bronx, New York | Grades: 9 | NYC Community School District 12

### MISSION

*Brilla Public Charter Schools, K – 8 schools in the classical tradition, help students to grow intellectually, socially, and physically into young men and women of good character and spirit, and to be prepared for excellence in high school, college, and beyond.*

#### CURRENT CHARTER

Serves: Kindergarten – 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Chartered Enrollment: 822  
 Charter Expires on: June 30, 2023

#### PROPOSED FUTURE CHARTER

Serves: Kindergarten – 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Chartered Enrollment: 942  
 Charter Expiration: July 31, 2025

### KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS

Grow a grade each year;	+
Blended learning;	+
Paideia pedagogical approach;	+
Extended literacy block;	+
Core knowledge;	+
Power to lead; and,	+
Parent involvement.	+

## CHARTER BACKGROUND

### EDUCATION CORPORATION BACKGROUND

Brilla College Preparatory Charter School (“Brilla College Prep”), opened in fall 2013 under the authorization of the New York State Board of Regents (the “Board of Regents”) initially serving students in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade. The State University of New York Board of Trustees (the “SUNY Trustees”) approved the original charter for Brilla Veritas Charter School (“Brilla Veritas”) on April 13, 2016 and Brilla Veritas opened in fall 2017. Brilla College Prep merged into Brilla Veritas effective July 1, 2017, bringing Brilla College Prep under the authorization of the SUNY Trustees and effectively establishing Brilla College Preparatory Charter Schools (“Brilla Schools”), a SUNY authorized education corporation with the authority to operate four charter schools. The Trustees also approved Brilla Schools to operate Brilla Caritas Charter School (“Brilla Caritas”) and Brilla Pax Charter School (“Brilla Pax”), both of which opened in fall 2020.



Brilla Schools contracts with Seton Education Partners (“Seton”), a Wyoming not-for-profit charter management organization that provides all four charters with academic services, management and operations services, human resources support and development, budgeting, and financial reporting services as to the Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grade program.

Brilla College Prep grew to include its first 9<sup>th</sup> grade class in fall of 2022. The charter’s high school program, named Vertex Partnership Academies (“Vertex High”), is a combined high school program serving students enrolled in Brilla Schools as well as Public Prep Charter School Academies. The high school program is overseen jointly by the board of trustees of Brilla Schools and Public Prep Charter School Academies. The education corporations contract with Vertex Partnership Academies, Inc. (“Vertex”), a New York not-for-profit management organization, for academic services, management and operations services, human resources support and development, budgeting, and financial reporting for the high school program.

### NOTEWORTHY

In 2021-22, the first year in which the charter enrolled students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 25 Brilla College Prep students took the Regents Examination in Algebra I in lieu of the state’s 8<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics assessment. That year, every student scored at or above proficiency on the Regents Examination in Algebra I.

## CHARTER BACKGROUND

### **RESPONSE TO INTERRUPTED INSTRUCTION CAUSED BY COVID-19**

Brilla College Prep implemented various of strategies to accelerate student learning in response to interruptions to instruction caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2021-22, the charter introduced a high dosage tutoring program after school and instituted a daily 70-minute mathematics block supplemented with intervention three times per week. During these mathematics intervention blocks, teachers delivered one to one and small group instruction while some students participated in targeted Online learning programs. Leaders collected data on six week cycles to identify students for accelerated instruction during these times. During the summer following the 2021-22 school year, the charter participated in the Lavinia RISE program to offer five weeks of virtual instruction to over 170 academically struggling students to help them begin the 2022-23 school year on grade level in English language arts (“ELA”) and mathematics.

# RENEWAL RECOMMENDATION

## FULL-TERM RENEWAL

**Renewal through July 31, 2025.** *The Charter Schools Institute (the “Institute”) recommends the SUNY Trustees’ Charter Schools Committee approve the Application for Charter Renewal of Brilla College Preparatory Charter School through July 31, 2025 to align each related education corporation’s charter expiration and renewal schedule going forward. If renewed, the charter will be granted the authority to provide instruction to students in such configuration as set forth in the charter’s Application for Renewal. The Institute makes this recommendation as Brilla College Preparatory Charter School meets the requirements set forth in the Policies for Renewal of Not-For-Profit Charter School Education Corporations and Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York (the “SUNY Renewal Policies”).<sup>1</sup>*

The table below presents information on the Institute’s plan<sup>2</sup> to align the expiration dates of the charters under Brilla Schools to July 31, 2025. During the 2024-25 school year, the Institute will conduct a full renewal review of all charters under the education corporation:

CHARTER	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
Brilla College Prep	Charter Expiration		Alignment Year		
Brilla Veritas			Alignment Year		
Brilla Caritas			Charter Expiration		
Brilla Pax			Charter Expiration		

1. SUNY Renewal Policies (p. 12) are available on the [Institute’s website](#).

2. The above plan does not guarantee a specific renewal outcome for the education corporation or any of its charter schools.

## RENEWAL RECOMMENDATION



To earn a **Subsequent Full-Term Renewal**, a charter must demonstrate that it has met or come close to meeting its academic Accountability Plan goals.

### REQUIRED FINDINGS

In addition to making a recommendation based on a determination of whether the charter has met the SUNY Trustees' specific renewal criteria, the Institute makes the following findings required by the New York Charter Schools Act of 1998 (as amended, the "Act"):

- 1: the charter, as described in the Application for Charter Renewal, meets the requirements of the Act and all other applicable laws, rules, and regulations;
- 2: the education corporation can demonstrate the ability to operate the charter in an educationally and fiscally sound manner in the next charter term; and,
- 3: given the programs it will offer, its structure, and its purpose, approving the charter to operate for another two years is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes of the Act.<sup>3</sup>

3. See *New York Education Law § 2852(2)*.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Brilla College Prep is an academic success having met or come close to meeting its key Accountability Plan goals. The charter implements the program elements found in all Brilla Schools charters with fidelity. For more information on the educational program, see Appendix B: Benchmark Summary. The information below demonstrates the key findings for the SUNY Trustees and highlights the successes of the charter.

### FINDINGS & INFORMATION

#### ***Is the charter an academic success?***

Brilla College Prep is an academic success. The charter met or came close to meeting its Accountability Plan goals by demonstrating consistently high outcomes in ELA, mathematics, and science in every year with credible state assessment results. Notably in 2018-19, the charter exceeded the targets for all comparative and growth measures included under its Accountability Plan goals. In 2021-22, the first year with credible exam results suitable for analysis since 2018-19, the charter continued to post high achievement that surpassed the performance of the district.

Brilla College Prep demonstrates success in the following ways:

- The charter outperformed the district in ELA and mathematics in every year of the charter term with available data;
- The charter enrolls high proportions of at-risk students, including students with disabilities. The charter's students with disabilities posted higher proficiency rates in ELA and mathematics than their district peers over the charter term; and,
- Brilla College Prep's 8<sup>th</sup> grade students complete high school Regents exam requirements while enrolled in the middle school program. In 2021-22, 100% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders who took the Regents exam passed.

#### ***Is the charter an effective, viable organization?***

Brilla College Prep is an effective, viable organization. The board's governance of the education corporation and oversight of the network and charter leadership allow for clear academic and financial accountability structures. Seton provides the charter with a variety of administrative and operational supports allowing the charter's instructional leaders to primarily focus on developing the academic program. The education corporation board of trustees provides effective oversight that enables the charter to meet its academic goals.

#### ***Is the charter fiscally sound?***

Brilla Schools and Brilla College Prep are fiscally sound based on the evidence collected through renewal review. The education corporation has met its fiscal benchmarks, and presents a reasonable fiscal plan for the next charter term.

#### ***If the SUNY Trustees renew the education corporation's authority to operate the charter, are its plans for the charter reasonable, feasible, and achievable?***

Brilla College Prep's plans for the future are reasonable, feasible, and achievable. The charter plans to continue the same effective program at the elementary and middle school levels during the next charter term. If renewed, the charter will continue to grow its high school program.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Based on the Institute’s review of the charter’s performance as posted over the charter term; a review of the Application for Charter Renewal submitted by the education corporation; a review of academic, organizational, governance, and financial documentation; and a renewal review of the charter’s academic program, the Institute finds that the charter meets the required criteria for renewal.

The Institute recommends that the SUNY Trustees grant Brilla College Preparatory Charter School a Full-Term Subsequent Renewal of two years with an expiration of date of July 31, 2025 to align all charters in the education corporation.



# DP

DATA PRESENTATION

PAGES: 9-16

AP

ACADEMIC  
PERFORMANCE

CP

COMPLIANCE  
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CS

COMMUNITY  
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DEMOGRAPHICS

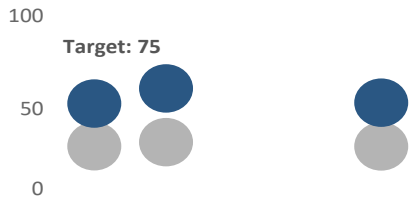


# ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

## BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

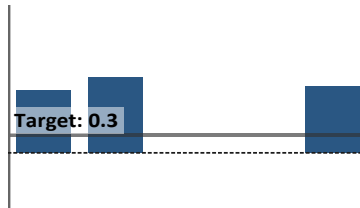
### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN GOAL

**District Comparison.** The percentage of students at **the charter** performing at or above proficiency in ELA compared to the district.



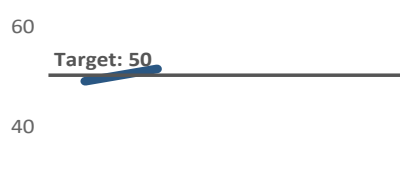
Test Year	Comp Grades	District %	Charter %
2018	3-5	30	53
2019	3-6	32	61
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	3-8	30	53

**Effect Size.** The chart shows charter's effect size above its predicted level of performance in **ELA** according to a regression analysis controlling for economically disadvantaged students among all public schools in New York State.



Test Year	Test Grades	Effect Size
2018	3-5	1.06
2019	3-6	1.27
2020	N/A	N/A
2021	N/A	N/A
2022	3-8	1.13

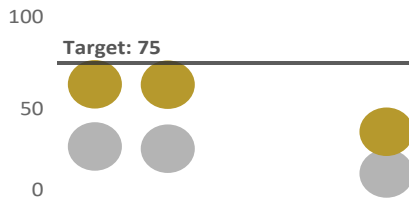
**Comparative Growth Measure: Mean Growth Percentile.** The charter's unadjusted mean growth percentile for all students in grades 4-8 will be above target of 50 in **ELA**.



Test Year	Charter Mean Growth
2018	49.0
2019	51.5
2020	N/A
2021	N/A
2022	N/A

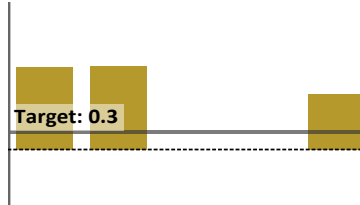
### MATHEMATICS ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN GOAL

**District Comparison.** The percentage of students at **the charter** performing at or above proficiency in mathematics compared to the district.



Test Year	Comp Grades	District %	Charter %
2018	3-5	30	64
2019	3-6	29	63
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	3-8	16	38

**Effect Size.** The chart shows charter's effect size above its predicted level of performance in **mathematics** according to a regression analysis controlling for economically disadvantaged students among all public schools in New York State.



Test Year	Test Grades	Effect Size
2018	3-5	1.42
2019	3-6	1.43
2020	N/A	N/A
2021	N/A	N/A
2022	3-8	0.95

**Comparative Growth Measure: Mean Growth Percentile.** The charter's unadjusted mean growth percentile for all students in grades 4-8 will be above target of 50 in **mathematics**.

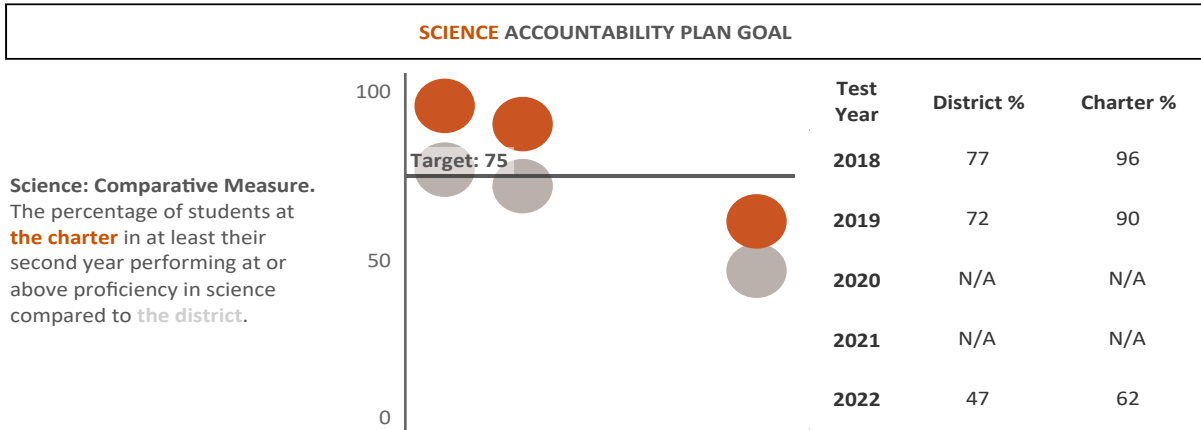


Test Year	Charter Mean Growth
2018	45.4
2019	54.0
2020	N/A
2021	N/A
2022	N/A



# ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

## BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL



**SPECIAL POPULATIONS PERFORMANCE\***

	2018	2019	2022
Students with Disabilities Enrollment	115	131	201
Tested on State Exam	65	71	132
Charter Percent Proficient on ELA Exam	26.2	33.8	21.2
District Percent Proficient	11.5	11.6	12.0
ELL Enrollment	135	119	159
Tested on NYSESLAT Exam	131	119	143
Charter Percent 'Commanding' or Making Progress	34.4	18.5	28.0

\* The academic outcome data about the performance of students receiving special education services and English language learners ("ELLs") above is not tied to separate goals in the charter school's formal Accountability Plan. The NYSESLAT, the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test, is a standardized state exam. "Making Progress" is defined as moving up at least one level of proficiency. Student scores fall into five categories/proficiency levels: Entering; Emerging; Transitioning; Expanding; and, Commanding. In order to comply with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act regulations on reporting education outcome data, the Institute does not report assessment results for groups containing five or fewer students and indicates this with an "s".

## ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE



### HAS THE CHARTER MET OR COME CLOSE TO MEETING ITS ACADEMIC ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN GOALS?

Brilla College Prep met or came close to meeting its key academic Accountability Plan goals over the charter term. The charter exceeded all comparative targets under the ELA and mathematics goals in each year with available state exam data. The charter also met its science and Every Student Succeeds Act (“ESSA”) goals. In 2021-22, a technical error prevented accurate public reporting of assessment results for Brilla College Prep’s 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. The Institute is working with the charter and the New York State Education Department (“NYSED”) to ensure accurate reporting of assessment results in the future. The Institute’s analysis of Brilla College Prep’s 2021-22 results accounts for the error and presents reliable conclusions.

Brilla College Prep outperformed the district during the charter term. The charter’s students enrolled in at least their second year posted proficiency rates that surpassed district performance by at least 23 percentage points in ELA and least 22 percentage points in mathematics each year. From 2017-18 through 2021-22, excepting 2019-20 and 2020-21 when state assessment scores were not available and credible, the charter posted effect sizes in both subjects that far exceeded the target of 0.3. This level of achievement indicates the charter performed higher than expected to a large degree in comparison to all public schools across the state enrolling similar percentages of economically disadvantaged students. In 2018-19, the most recent year with available growth percentiles, the charter exceeded the target of 50 for its ELA and mathematics growth measures.

Given the absence of reliable and credible performance data from the state’s ELA and mathematics assessments for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in 2019-20 and 2020-21, the Institute worked with charters and testing experts to develop a set of performance measures for use with internal and nationally normed assessments. The Institute continues to analyze each charter’s internal assessments to evaluate the charter’s academic attainment in lieu of reliable state exam data in 2020-21 and to contextualize the baseline state exam data from 2021-22. During the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years, the charter demonstrated academic success against key academic Accountability Plan goals using the nationally normed NWEA MAP assessment. In 2021-22, the charter’s median growth percentile among all tested students exceeded its targets in both ELA and mathematics.

## COMPLIANCE REPORTING



### HAS THE EDUCATION CORPORATION SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLIED WITH APPLICABLE LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND PROVISIONS OF ITS CHARTER?

*The education corporation substantially complies with applicable laws, rules and regulations, and provisions of its charter. During the current charter term, the education corporation demonstrates a clear record of compliance with the terms of its charter including the timely submission of required reporting to the Institute.*

#### BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

##### **FOIL**

Although the education corporation established and follows a compliant Freedom of Information Law (“FOIL”) policy, its website lacks the FOIL subject matter list with an appropriate link to the New York State Committee on Open Government. The Institute will follow up with the education corporation to ensure the list is available to the next charter term.

##### **Teacher Certification**

The Act allows charters to hire up to 15 uncertified faculty members contingent upon those teachers meeting certain requirements including: two years of Teach for America experience; three years of teaching experience; status as a higher education professor; exceptional experience in a subject; or, teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) or career and technical education courses.

At the time of the renewal review the charter employed 29 uncertified teachers, including 14 teachers over the limit allowed by the Act. Twenty of the 29 uncertified teachers meet the appropriate qualifications under the Act. Brilla Schools partners with teachers in monitoring and maintaining their certification status and partners with the New York City Charter Center to assist in designing individual pathways for teachers without a certification credential to earn one. Brilla Schools also offers reimbursements for application fees, workshops, and exams as well as a robust tuition reimbursement program for teachers in exchange for a three year commitment to Brilla Schools.

## COMMUNITY SATISFACTION

To report on parent satisfaction with the charter’s program, the Institute used satisfaction survey data, information gathered from a focus group of parents representing a cross section of students, and data regarding persistence in enrollment.

### PARENT SATISFACTION: SURVEY RESULTS

RESPONSE RATE	OVERALL SATISFACTION	INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP	PARENT INVOLVEMENT	STRONG RELATIONSHIPS
37%	95%	95%	95%	95%

#### Parent Survey Data

The Institute compiled data from the New York City Department of Education (“NYCDOE”) annual family survey from the 2021-22 school year for Brilla College Prep. In 2021-22, 37% of families who received the survey respond. This response rate is low in comparison to previous years and may not be completely representative of the community of Brilla College Prep families. Of the families who responded, 95% expressed satisfaction with the charter.

#### Public Comments

In accordance with the Act, the Institute notified the district about Brilla College Prep’s Application for Charter Renewal. The full text of any written comments received from the district appears below, which also includes a summary of any public comments.

The New York City Department of Education held its required hearing on Brilla’s renewal application on November 21, 2022 by videoconference. A network leader provided a history of the Brilla network of schools and information regarding the current academic success of the charters including how they effectively serve students with disabilities, ELLs, and economically disadvantaged students. The network leader also described Brilla College Prep’s pride in having a low suspension rate, having never expelled any students, and having high family engagement characterized by a 100% attendance rate at parent teacher conferences. Notwithstanding these accomplishments, the network leader described the charter’s culture of continuous improvement. No one spoke in opposition to the application.

#### Persistence in Enrollment

An additional indicator of parent satisfaction is persistence in enrollment. In 2021-22, 89% of Brilla Schools students returned from the previous year. Student persistence data from previous years of the charter term is available in the student demographics section of the report.

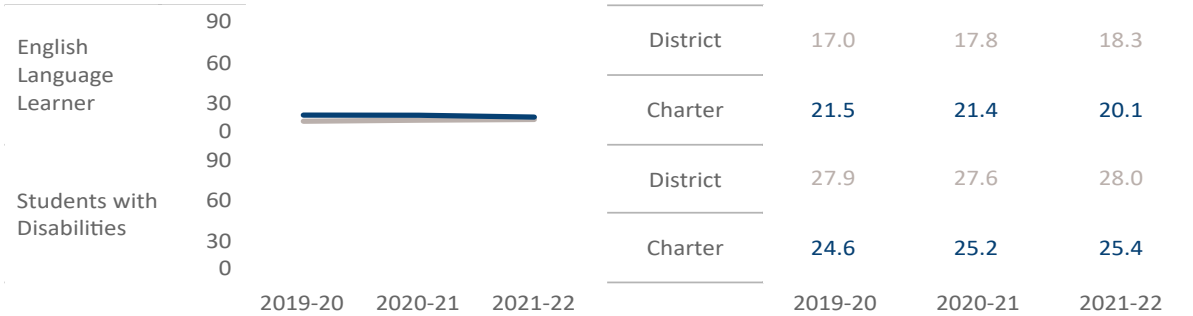
*The Institute derived the statistical information on persistence in enrollment from its database. No comparative data from the NYCDOE or NYSED are available to the Institute to provide either district or statewide context.*

# STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

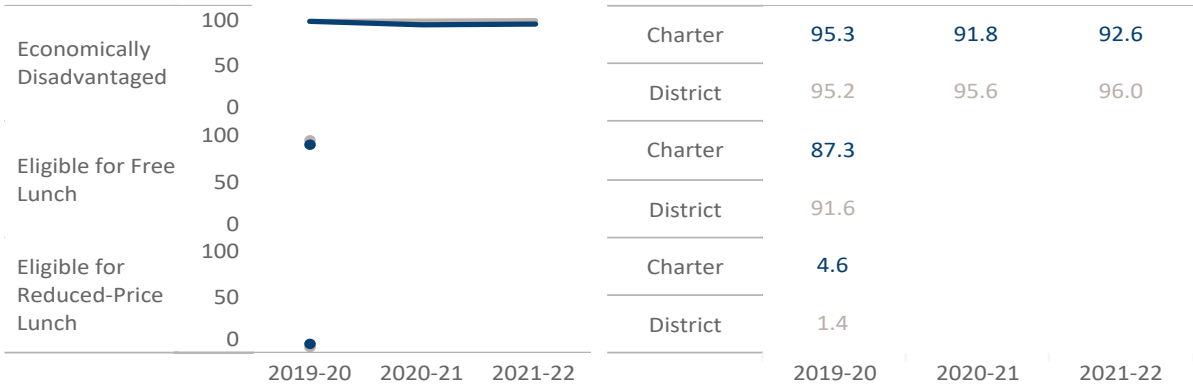
Brilla College Preparatory Charter School

Bronx CSD 7

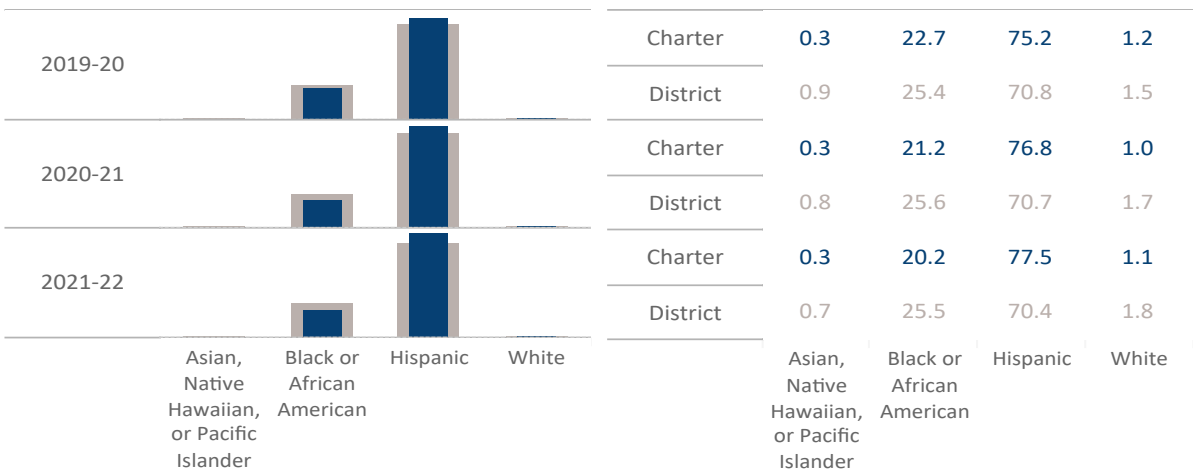
## Student Demographics: Special Populations



## Student Demographics: Free/Reduced Lunch



## Student Demographics: Race/Ethnicity

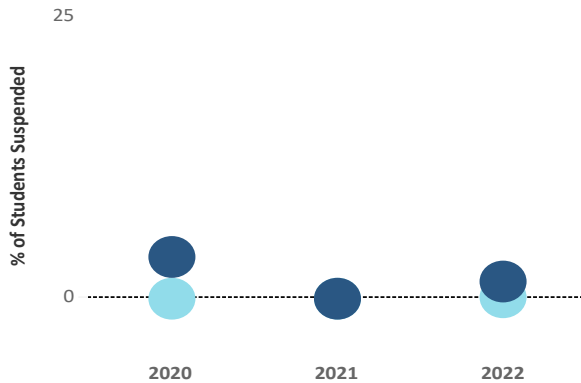


\* Data reported in these charts reflect BEDS day enrollment counts as reported by the NYSED except for the charter's 2020-21 ELL enrollment which reflects data reported by the education corporation and validated by the Institute.



# STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

## Brilla College Preparatory Charter School



## Bronx CSD 7

	ISS Rate	OSS Rate
2020	0.0	3.7
2021	0.0	0.0
2022	0.1	1.5

Data suitable for comparison are not available. The percentage rate shown here is calculated using the method employed by NYCDOE: the total number of students receiving an in school or out of school suspension at any time during the school year is divided by the total enrollment, then multiplied by 100.

**Persistence in Enrollment:** The percentage of students eligible to return from previous year who did return

**Expulsions:** The number of students expelled from the charter each year

2019-20	90.4
2020-21	93.2
2021-22	88.6

Year	2020	2021	2022
Expulsions	0	0	0

## Brilla College Preparatory Charter School's Enrollment and Retention Status: 2021-22

		Target	Charter
enrollment	economically disadvantaged	94.9	92.5
	English language learners	20.4	20.1
	students with disabilities	23.0	25.2
retention	economically disadvantaged	91.6	89.9
	English language learners	92.4	91.0
	students with disabilities	92.1	88.8

\* Data reported in these charts reflect information reported by the education corporation and validated by the Institute.

## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

### ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION TARGETS

As required by Education Law § 2851(4)(e), a school must include in its renewal application information regarding the efforts it will put in place to meet or exceed SUNY's enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, English language learners ("ELLs"), and students who are eligible applicants for the federal Free and Reduced Price Lunch ("FRPL") program. The Institute examines each charter's progress toward meeting or coming close to meeting its targets over the charter term as well as the efforts it has and will put in place to meet or continue to meet those targets.

Brilla College Prep efforts to meet its enrollment and retention targets that are effective. At the time of the renewal review, Brilla College Prep's enrollment and rates of retention among students with disabilities, ELLs, and economically disadvantaged students closely align to the district's. The charter, with support from the network, conducts the following efforts:

- Partnering with local universal pre-K programs and community daycare programs to hold information sessions for prospective families;
- Canvassing and handing out informational fliers in areas with high concentrations of low income residents and native speakers of languages other than English;
- Translating information session materials, recruitment materials, and social media marketing into languages other than English;
- Participating in the New York City Charter Center School Fair;
- Conducting home visits to families' residences of newly enrolled students before classes begin;
- Holding open house events to highlight the programs the charter offers for all types of students; and,
- Providing weekly and monthly opportunities for families to participate in charter school activities.

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### IS THE EDUCATION CORPORATION FISCALLY SOUND?

*Brilla Schools is fiscally sound as is its charter, Brilla College Prep, based on the Institute’s analysis of the fiscal evidence collected through the renewal review. The SUNY Fiscal Dashboard presents color-coded tables and charts indicating that Brilla College Prep and the education corporation have demonstrated fiscal soundness over the majority of the charter term.<sup>4</sup> The fiscal dashboard for Brilla College Prep and the education corporation can be found at the end of this section. The discussion that follows relates mainly to the Brilla Schools education corporation because a charter is not a legally distinct fiscal entity.*



Brilla Schools currently contracts with Seton which supports the charter’s Kindergarten – 8<sup>th</sup> grade programming in the areas of curriculum and assessment, recruiting, training, professional developments, financial management, technology, and real estate under the terms of a management contract that includes a 15% management fee over the charter term. The financial model ensures the education corporation and charter are financially sustainable. In addition to analyzing the soundness of the individual charter school, the Institute analyzed the soundness of the not-for-profit education corporation granted the authority to operate the charter and finds it too has adequate financial resources to ensure stable operations. The fiscal dashboards reflect the combined entity as fiscally strong. Brilla Schools contracts with Vertex for management of the high school program.



### DOES THE EDUCATION CORPORATION OPERATE PURSUANT TO A FISCAL PLAN IN WHICH IT CREATES REALISTIC BUDGETS THAT IT MONITORS AND ADJUSTS WHEN APPROPRIATE?

***The education corporation operates pursuant to a long-range financial plan in which it creates realistic budgets that it monitors and adjusts when appropriate. The plan ensures the financial strength of the charters operating under Brilla Schools, including Brilla College Prep. The following elements are generally present:***

INDICATORS	EVIDENT?
The education corporation has clear budgetary objectives and budget preparation procedures for the charter.	+
Board members, charter management, and staff members contribute to the budget process for the charter, as appropriate.	+

4. The U.S. Department of Education has established fiscal criteria for certain ratios or information with high – medium – low categories, represented in the table as green – gray – red. The categories generally correspond to levels of fiscal risk, but must be viewed in the context of each education corporation and the general type or category of school.

“+” : This indicator is generally present.

“-” : This indicator is generally not present.

“P” : The education corporation is progressing toward this indicator being present.

“N/A” : This indicator is not applicable.

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

The education corporation frequently compares its long-range fiscal plan for the charter to actual progress and adjusts it to meet changing conditions. **+**

The education corporation routinely analyzes budget variances for the charter; the education corporation board addresses material variances and makes necessary revisions. **+**

Actual expenses are equal to, or less than, actual revenue with no material exceptions. **+**

### DOES THE EDUCATION CORPORATION MAINTAIN APPROPRIATE INTERNAL CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES?

*The education corporation maintains, and the charter implements, appropriate internal controls and procedures. The following elements are generally present:*

INDICATORS	EVIDENT?
The education corporation has a history of sound fiscal policies, procedures and practices, and appropriate internal controls at the charter.	<b>+</b>
The most recent education corporation audit report, which covers fiscal operations for the charter, was free of any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in internal controls.	<b>+</b>
The education corporation reviews and updates its Financial Policies and Procedures Manual (“FPPM”), which covers the charter, on a regular basis. The most recent review of the FPPM is found in the next column. The Institute recommends, as a best practice, that the education corporation review and update its FPPM on an annual basis.	<b>OCTOBER 2021</b>

### DOES THE EDUCATION CORPORATION COMPLY WITH FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS?

*The education corporation complies with financial reporting requirements by providing the SUNY Trustees and NYSED with required financial reports that are on time, complete, and follow generally accepted accounting principles. The following reports, which include information about the charter, have been filed in a timely, accurate, and complete manner:*

INDICATORS	EVIDENT?
Annual financial statement audit reports, including federal Single Audit report, if applicable.	<b>+</b>
Annual budgets.	<b>+</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

Un-audited quarterly reports of income, expenses, and enrollment. +

Bi-monthly enrollment reports to the sending districts and, if applicable, to NYSED including proper documentation regarding the level of special education services provided to students. +

Grant expenditure reports. +

### DOES THE EDUCATION CORPORATION MAINTAIN ADEQUATE FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO ENSURE STABLE OPERATIONS?

*The education corporation maintains adequate financial resources for the charter to ensure stable operations. Critical financial needs of the charter are not dependent on variable income (grants, donations and fundraising). The following elements are generally present:*

INDICATORS	EVIDENT?
The education corporation maintains sufficient cash on hand to pay current bills of the charter and those that are due shortly.	+
The education corporation maintains adequate liquid reserves to fund expenses, including those of the charter, in the event of income loss (generally 30 days).	+
The education corporation prepares and monitors cash flow projections for the charter.	+
If the education corporation includes philanthropy in its budget for the charter, it monitors progress toward its development goals on a periodic basis.	+
If necessary, the education corporation pursues district state aid intercepts with NYSED to ensure adequate per pupil funding for the charter.	N/A
The education corporation accumulates unrestricted net assets that are equal to or exceed two percent of the charter's operating budget for the upcoming year.	+
The education corporation is in compliance with all loan covenants related to the charter.	+

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

Brilla College Prep reported operating surpluses in each year of the current charter term. The net assets of the charter have grown to \$8.8 million, contributing to the overall net assets of the combined education corporation of \$10.8 million as of June 30, 2021. The education corporation benefits from a combined balance sheet which is a combination of each individual charter's assets and liabilities. In order to track the operations of any individual charter within a multi-school education corporation, the Institute monitors each individual charter's revenues and expenses in order to report operating surpluses or deficits. The combined education corporation fiscal dashboard reflects fiscally strong with 3.0 months of cash on hand to pay liabilities due shortly. Brilla Schools has funded and maintained the required amount in a separate escrow account in case of dissolution of any of the charters. The Institute is reviewing the 2022 annual audits and anticipates continued strong fiscal health.

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

NOTE: Effective 2017-18, the charter merged finances with the education corporation, "Brilla College Preparatory Charter Schools." Accordingly, see the education corporation report containing the "Balance Sheet" for all charters merged into the education corporation.

#### CHARTER INFORMATION

#### BALANCE SHEET

##### Assets

##### Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents - GRAPH 1  
Grants and Contracts Receivable  
Accounts Receivable  
Prepaid Expenses  
Contributions and Other Receivables

##### Total Current Assets - GRAPH 1

Property, Building and Equipment, net  
Other Assets

##### Total Assets - GRAPH 1

##### Liabilities and Net Assets

##### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses  
Accrued Payroll and Benefits  
Deferred Revenue  
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt  
Short Term Debt - Bonds, Notes Payable  
Other

##### Total Current Liabilities - GRAPH 1

Deferred Rent/Lease Liability  
All other L-T debt and notes payable, net current maturities

##### Total Liabilities - GRAPH 1

##### Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions  
With Donor Restrictions

##### Total Net Assets

##### Total Liabilities and Net Assets

#### ACTIVITIES

##### Operating Revenue

Resident Student Enrollment  
Students with Disabilities

##### Grants and Contracts

State and local  
Federal - Title and IDEA  
Federal - Other  
Other  
NYC DoE Rental Assistance  
Food Service/Child Nutrition Program

##### Total Operating Revenue

##### Expenses

Regular Education  
SPED  
Other

##### Total Program Services

Management and General  
Fundraising

##### Total Expenses - GRAPHS 2, 3 & 4

##### Surplus / (Deficit) From School Operations

##### Support and Other Revenue

Contributions  
Fundraising  
Miscellaneous Income  
Net assets released from restriction

##### Total Support and Other Revenue

##### Total Unrestricted Revenue

##### Total Temporarily Restricted Revenue

##### Total Revenue - GRAPHS 2 & 3

##### Change in Net Assets

##### Net Assets - Beginning of Year - GRAPH 2

Prior Year Adjustment(s)

##### Net Assets - End of Year - GRAPH 2

	MERGED		MERGED		Opened 2017-18	
	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21	2021
<b>Assets</b>						
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Cash and Cash Equivalents - GRAPH 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants and Contracts Receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accounts Receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Contributions and Other Receivables	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Current Assets - GRAPH 1</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Property, Building and Equipment, net	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Assets - GRAPH 1</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>						
<b>Current Liabilities</b>						
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accrued Payroll and Benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	-
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	-	-	-	-	-	-
Short Term Debt - Bonds, Notes Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities - GRAPH 1</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deferred Rent/Lease Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other L-T debt and notes payable, net current maturities	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Liabilities - GRAPH 1</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Assets</b>						
Without Donor Restrictions	-	-	-	-	-	-
With Donor Restrictions	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Operating Revenue</b>						
Resident Student Enrollment	-	7,788,378	8,927,154	10,926,905	12,768,997	
Students with Disabilities	-	807,311	868,924	1,034,779	1,988,560	
<b>Grants and Contracts</b>						
State and local	-	37,442	45,037	51,949	-	
Federal - Title and IDEA	-	451,461	523,166	541,541	599,486	
Federal - Other	-	35,500	90,952	817,673	415,029	
Other	-	-	-	-	-	
NYC DoE Rental Assistance	-	1,330,000	1,877,191	2,414,682	2,751,254	
Food Service/Child Nutrition Program	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	-	10,450,092	12,332,424	15,787,529	18,523,326	
<b>Expenses</b>						
Regular Education	-	5,700,230	7,376,049	8,500,023	8,633,598	
SPED	-	1,591,432	2,210,872	3,165,260	3,424,705	
Other	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Program Services</b>	-	7,291,662	9,586,921	11,665,283	12,058,303	
Management and General	-	2,077,923	2,737,442	3,962,938	4,016,938	
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Expenses - GRAPHS 2, 3 &amp; 4</b>	-	9,369,585	12,324,363	15,628,221	16,075,241	
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) From School Operations</b>	-	1,080,507	8,061	159,308	2,448,085	
<b>Support and Other Revenue</b>						
Contributions	-	519,774	19,922	75,105	127,259	
Fundraising	-	9,110	2,961	6,554	4,245	
Miscellaneous Income	-	66,807	75,888	86,806	1,304,615	
Net assets released from restriction	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Support and Other Revenue</b>	-	595,691	98,771	168,465	1,436,119	
<b>Total Unrestricted Revenue</b>	-	11,045,783	12,431,195	15,955,994	19,959,445	
<b>Total Temporarily Restricted Revenue</b>	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Revenue - GRAPHS 2 &amp; 3</b>	-	11,045,783	12,431,195	15,955,994	19,959,445	
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	-	1,676,198	106,832	327,773	3,884,204	
<b>Net Assets - Beginning of Year - GRAPH 2</b>	-	3,080,220	4,756,418	4,863,250	4,906,477	
Prior Year Adjustment(s)	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Net Assets - End of Year - GRAPH 2</b>	-	4,756,418	4,863,250	5,191,023	8,790,681	

# FISCAL ANALYSIS

## BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

NOTE: Effective 2017-18, the charter merged finances with the education corporation, "Brilla College Preparatory Charter Schools." Accordingly, see the education corporation report containing the "Balance Sheet" for all charters merged into the education corporation.

### CHARTER INFORMATION - (Continued)

#### Functional Expense Breakdown

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Personnel Service	-	1,282,570	1,676,628	2,162,522	1,808,922
Administrative Staff Personnel	-	2,785,282	3,536,054	4,384,285	4,941,465
Instructional Personnel	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Instructional Personnel	-	-	-	-	-
Personnel Services (Combined)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Salaries and Staff</b>	-	<b>4,067,852</b>	<b>5,212,682</b>	<b>6,546,807</b>	<b>6,750,387</b>
Fringe Benefits & Payroll Taxes	-	685,343	1,002,722	1,147,829	1,209,070
Retirement	-	90,959	124,759	227,569	188,891
Management Company Fees	-	1,009,503	1,140,541	-	2,200,615
Building and Land Rent / Lease / Facility Financing	-	1,110,001	2,161,801	3,039,069	3,039,068
Staff Development	-	126,506	211,643	181,254	204,296
Professional Fees, Consultant & Purchased Services	-	670,017	783,914	2,396,270	920,780
Marketing / Recruitment	-	58,867	110,368	116,805	130,666
Student Supplies, Materials & Services	-	493,820	590,400	540,220	398,333
Depreciation	-	596,743	594,295	367,578	341,087
Other	-	459,974	391,238	633,793	692,048
<b>Total Expenses</b>	-	<b>9,369,585</b>	<b>12,324,363</b>	<b>15,197,194</b>	<b>16,075,241</b>

### CHARTER ANALYSIS

#### ENROLLMENT

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Original Chartered Enrollment	-	518	601	677	751
Final Chartered Enrollment (includes any revisions)	-	518	601	677	751
Actual Enrollment - <b>GRAPH 4</b>	-	523	566	669	791
Chartered Grades	-	K-5	K-6	K-7	K-7
Final Chartered Grades (includes any revisions)	-	-	-	-	-

#### Primary School District: NYC CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE

Per Pupil Funding (Weighted Avg of All Districts)	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Increase over prior year	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	5.1%	5.2%

#### PER STUDENT BREAKDOWN

Revenue	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Operating	-	19,981	21,802	23,599	23,413
Other Revenue and Support	-	1,139	175	252	1,815
<b>TOTAL - GRAPH 3</b>	-	<b>21,120</b>	<b>21,977</b>	<b>23,851</b>	<b>25,228</b>
Expenses	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Program Services	-	13,942	16,949	17,437	15,241
Management and General, Fundraising	-	3,973	4,840	5,924	5,077
<b>TOTAL - GRAPH 3</b>	-	<b>17,915</b>	<b>21,788</b>	<b>23,361</b>	<b>20,319</b>
% of Program Services	0.0%	77.8%	77.8%	74.6%	75.0%
% of Management and Other	0.0%	22.2%	22.2%	25.4%	25.0%
<b>% of Revenue Exceeding Expenses - GRAPH 5</b>	0.0%	17.9%	0.9%	2.1%	24.2%
<b>% of Revenue Expended on Facilities</b>	#DIV/0!	10.6%	17.5%	19.2%	16.4%

#### Student to Faculty Ratio

2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
-	11.1	10.3	10.8	11.5

#### Faculty to Admin Ratio

2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
-	2.8	2.4	2.5	4.3

#### Financial Responsibility Composite Scores - GRAPH 6

Score	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Fiscally Strong 1.5 - 3.0 / Fiscally Adequate 1.0 - 1.4 / Fiscally Needs Monitoring < 1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### Working Capital - GRAPH 7

Net Working Capital	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
0	0	0	0	0	0
As % of Unrestricted Revenue	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Working Capital (Current) Ratio Score	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Risk (Low ≥ 3.0 / Medium 1.4 - 2.9 / High < 1.4)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rating (Excellent ≥ 3.0 / Good 1.4 - 2.9 / Poor < 1.4)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### Quick (Acid Test) Ratio

Score	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Risk (Low ≥ 2.5 / Medium 1.0 - 2.4 / High < 1.0)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rating (Excellent ≥ 2.5 / Good 1.0 - 2.4 / Poor < 1.0)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### Debt to Asset Ratio - GRAPH 7

Score	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Risk (Low < 0.50 / Medium 0.51 - .95 / High > 1.0)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rating (Excellent < 0.50 / Good 0.51 - .95 / Poor > 1.0)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### Months of Cash - GRAPH 8

Score	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Risk (Low > 3 mo. / Medium 1 - 3 mo. / High < 1 mo.)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Rating (Excellent > 3 mo. / Good 1 - 3 mo. / Poor < 1 mo.)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOLS (COMBINED)

#### CHARTER INFORMATION

#### BALANCE SHEET

##### Assets

##### Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents - GRAPH 1  
Grants and Contracts Receivable  
Accounts Receivable  
Prepaid Expenses  
Contributions and Other Receivables

##### Total Current Assets - GRAPH 1

Property, Building and Equipment, net  
Other Assets

##### Total Assets - GRAPH 1

##### Liabilities and Net Assets

##### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses  
Accrued Payroll and Benefits  
Deferred Revenue  
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt  
Short Term Debt - Bonds, Notes Payable  
Other

##### Total Current Liabilities - GRAPH 1

Deferred Rent/Lease Liability

All other L-T debt and notes payable, net current maturities

##### Total Liabilities - GRAPH 1

##### Net Assets

Without Donor Restrictions  
With Donor Restrictions

##### Total Net Assets

##### Total Liabilities and Net Assets

#### ACTIVITIES

##### Operating Revenue

Resident Student Enrollment  
Students with Disabilities

##### Grants and Contracts

State and local  
Federal - Title and IDEA  
Federal - Other  
Other  
NYC DoE Rental Assistance  
Food Service/Child Nutrition Program

##### Total Operating Revenue

##### Expenses

Regular Education  
SPED  
Other  
Management and General  
Fundraising

##### Total Expenses - GRAPHS 2, 3 & 4

##### Surplus / (Deficit) From School Operations

##### Support and Other Revenue

Contributions  
Fundraising  
Miscellaneous Income  
Net assets released from restriction

##### Total Support and Other Revenue

Total Unrestricted Revenue

Total Temporally Restricted Revenue

##### Total Revenue - GRAPHS 2 & 3

##### Change in Net Assets

##### Net Assets - Beginning of Year - GRAPH 2

Prior Year Adjustment(s)

##### Net Assets - End of Year - GRAPH 2

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
		MERGED	MERGED	MERGED	MERGED
Cash and Cash Equivalents - GRAPH 1	-	4,298,063	4,948,769	6,051,857	10,417,281
Grants and Contracts Receivable	-	498,659	439,083	1,226,695	1,144,393
Accounts Receivable	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	-	162,408	309,079	633,521	1,011,823
Contributions and Other Receivables	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Current Assets - GRAPH 1</b>	-	<b>4,959,130</b>	<b>5,696,931</b>	<b>7,912,073</b>	<b>12,573,497</b>
Property, Building and Equipment, net	-	1,182,611	1,025,637	1,794,220	1,906,085
Other Assets	-	564,330	564,437	564,562	614,191
<b>Total Assets - GRAPH 1</b>	-	<b>6,706,071</b>	<b>7,287,005</b>	<b>10,270,855</b>	<b>15,093,773</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>					
<b>Current Liabilities</b>					
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	-	542,279	530,135	927,204	624,356
Accrued Payroll and Benefits	-	391,250	509,088	685,433	808,927
Deferred Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
Current Maturities of Long-Term Debt	-	80,880	85,868	794,563	-
Short Term Debt - Bonds, Notes Payable	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	31,705	-	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities - GRAPH 1</b>	-	<b>1,014,409</b>	<b>1,156,796</b>	<b>2,407,200</b>	<b>1,433,283</b>
Deferred Rent/Lease Liability	-	-	76,601	437,114	2,897,073
All other L-T debt and notes payable, net current maturities	-	203,181	121,660	1,000,678	-
<b>Total Liabilities - GRAPH 1</b>	-	<b>1,217,590</b>	<b>1,355,057</b>	<b>3,844,992</b>	<b>4,330,356</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>					
Without Donor Restrictions	-	5,488,481	5,931,948	6,425,863	10,763,417
With Donor Restrictions	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	-	<b>5,488,481</b>	<b>5,931,948</b>	<b>6,425,863</b>	<b>10,763,417</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	-	<b>6,706,071</b>	<b>7,287,005</b>	<b>10,270,855</b>	<b>15,093,773</b>
<b>Operating Revenue</b>					
Resident Student Enrollment	-	9,495,436	11,429,615	15,018,034	21,774,821
Students with Disabilities	-	929,286	1,150,906	1,437,349	2,910,766
<b>Grants and Contracts</b>					
State and local	-	284,771	58,440	72,492	-
Federal - Title and IDEA	-	560,533	655,199	681,317	980,041
Federal - Other	-	533,012	437,734	887,995	1,442,159
Other	-	-	-	-	-
NYC DoE Rental Assistance	-	1,700,000	2,523,191	3,627,541	5,377,703
Food Service/Child Nutrition Program	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	-	<b>13,503,038</b>	<b>16,255,085</b>	<b>21,724,728</b>	<b>32,485,490</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Regular Education	-	7,344,378	9,677,905	12,235,115	17,588,059
SPED	-	1,868,225	2,806,188	4,119,877	5,577,471
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Program Services</b>	-	<b>9,212,603</b>	<b>12,484,093</b>	<b>16,354,992</b>	<b>23,165,530</b>
Management and General	-	2,833,207	3,503,458	5,118,495	7,940,596
Fundraising	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenses - GRAPHS 2, 3 &amp; 4</b>	-	<b>12,045,810</b>	<b>15,987,551</b>	<b>21,473,487</b>	<b>31,106,126</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) From School Operations</b>	-	<b>1,457,228</b>	<b>267,534</b>	<b>251,241</b>	<b>1,379,364</b>
<b>Support and Other Revenue</b>					
Contributions	-	847,549	79,674	110,940	876,442
Fundraising	-	10,360	7,433	11,404	7,157
Miscellaneous Income	-	93,124	88,826	120,330	2,074,591
Net assets released from restriction	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Support and Other Revenue</b>	-	<b>951,033</b>	<b>175,933</b>	<b>242,674</b>	<b>2,958,190</b>
Total Unrestricted Revenue	-	14,454,071	16,431,018	21,967,402	35,443,680
Total Temporally Restricted Revenue	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Revenue - GRAPHS 2 &amp; 3</b>	-	<b>14,454,071</b>	<b>16,431,018</b>	<b>21,967,402</b>	<b>35,443,680</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	-	<b>2,408,261</b>	<b>443,467</b>	<b>493,915</b>	<b>4,337,554</b>
<b>Net Assets - Beginning of Year - GRAPH 2</b>	-	<b>3,080,220</b>	<b>5,488,481</b>	<b>5,931,948</b>	<b>6,425,863</b>
Prior Year Adjustment(s)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Assets - End of Year - GRAPH 2</b>	-	<b>5,488,481</b>	<b>5,931,948</b>	<b>6,425,863</b>	<b>10,763,417</b>

# FISCAL ANALYSIS

## BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOLS (COMBINED)

### CHARTER INFORMATION - (Continued)

#### Functional Expense Breakdown

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Personnel Service					
Administrative Staff Personnel	-	1,746,184	2,325,562	2,959,748	3,352,717
Instructional Personnel	-	3,421,195	4,552,838	6,131,819	8,309,203
Non-Instructional Personnel	-	-	-	-	-
Personnel Services (Combined)	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Salaries and Staff</b>	-	<b>5,167,379</b>	<b>6,878,400</b>	<b>9,091,567</b>	<b>11,661,920</b>
Fringe Benefits & Payroll Taxes	-	824,108	1,201,497	1,625,479	2,092,765
Retirement	-	112,696	152,683	237,855	324,115
Management Company Fees	-	1,188,373	1,412,013	-	3,691,870
Building and Land Rent / Lease / Facility Financing	-	1,480,000	2,807,801	4,329,069	8,029,597
Staff Development	-	191,566	271,200	235,302	389,531
Professional Fees, Consultant & Purchased Services	-	994,881	1,158,354	3,226,970	1,733,431
Marketing / Recruitment	-	81,600	155,924	188,424	280,083
Student Supplies, Materials & Services	-	759,810	811,635	771,268	897,893
Depreciation	-	632,943	643,605	472,187	667,577
Other	-	612,454	494,439	864,339	1,337,344
<b>Total Expenses</b>	-	<b>12,045,810</b>	<b>15,987,551</b>	<b>21,042,460</b>	<b>31,106,126</b>

### CHARTER ANALYSIS

#### ENROLLMENT

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Original Chartered Enrollment	-	688	850	1,037	1,381
Final Chartered Enrollment (includes any revisions)	-	638	781	947	1,291
Actual Enrollment - <b>GRAPH 4</b>	-	638	725	919	1,352
Chartered Grades	-	-	-	-	-
Final Chartered Grades (includes any revisions)	-	-	-	-	-

#### Primary School District:

Per Pupil Funding (Weighted Avg of All Districts)	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Increase over prior year	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

#### PER STUDENT BREAKDOWN

Revenue	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Operating	-	21,172	22,436	23,640	24,030
Other Revenue and Support	-	1,491	243	264	2,188
<b>TOTAL - GRAPH 3</b>	-	<b>22,663</b>	<b>22,679</b>	<b>23,904</b>	<b>26,219</b>
Expenses	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Program Services	-	14,445	17,231	17,797	17,136
Management and General, Fundraising	-	4,442	4,836	5,570	5,874
<b>TOTAL - GRAPH 3</b>	-	<b>18,887</b>	<b>22,067</b>	<b>23,366</b>	<b>23,010</b>
% of Program Services	0.0%	76.5%	78.1%	76.2%	74.5%
% of Management and Other	0.0%	23.5%	21.9%	23.8%	25.5%
<b>% of Revenue Exceeding Expenses - GRAPH 5</b>	0.0%	20.0%	2.8%	2.3%	13.9%
<b>% of Revenue Expended on Facilities</b>	#DIV/0!	11.0%	17.3%	19.9%	24.7%

#### Student to Faculty Ratio

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Student to Faculty Ratio	-	10.8	10.1	10.4	11.3

#### Faculty to Admin Ratio

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Faculty to Admin Ratio	-	2.8	2.5	2.7	4.1

#### Financial Responsibility Composite Scores - GRAPH 6

Score	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Score	0.0	3.0	2.9	2.8	3.0
Fiscally Strong 1.5 - 3.0 / Fiscally Adequate 1.0 - 1.4 / Fiscally Needs Monitoring < 1.0	N/A	Fiscally Strong	Fiscally Strong	Fiscally Strong	Fiscally Strong

#### Working Capital - GRAPH 7

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Net Working Capital	0	3,944,721	4,540,135	5,504,873	11,140,214
As % of Unrestricted Revenue	0.0%	27.3%	27.6%	25.1%	31.4%
Working Capital (Current) Ratio Score	0.0	4.9	4.9	3.3	8.8
Risk (Low ≥ 3.0 / Medium 1.4 - 2.9 / High < 1.4)	N/A	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW
Rating (Excellent ≥ 3.0 / Good 1.4 - 2.9 / Poor < 1.4)	N/A	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

#### Quick (Acid Test) Ratio

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Score	0.0	4.7	4.7	3.0	8.1
Risk (Low ≥ 2.5 / Medium 1.0 - 2.4 / High < 1.0)	N/A	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW
Rating (Excellent ≥ 2.5 / Good 1.0 - 2.4 / Poor < 1.0)	N/A	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

#### Debt to Asset Ratio - GRAPH 7

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Score	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3
Risk (Low < 0.50 / Medium 0.51 - .95 / High > 1.0)	N/A	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW
Rating (Excellent < 0.50 / Good 0.51 - .95 / Poor > 1.0)	N/A	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

#### Months of Cash - GRAPH 8

	2016 17	2017 18	2018 19	2019 20	2020 21
Score	0.0	4.3	3.7	3.4	4.0
Risk (Low > 3 mo. / Medium 1 - 3 mo. / High < 1 mo.)	N/A	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW
Rating (Excellent > 3 mo. / Good 1 - 3 mo. / Poor < 1 mo.)	N/A	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

## FUTURE PLANS



### IF THE SUNY TRUSTEES RENEW THE EDUCATION CORPORATION'S AUTHORITY TO OPERATE THE CHARTER, ARE ITS PLANS FOR THE CHARTER REASONABLE, FEASIBLE, AND ACHIEVABLE?

*Brilla College Prep is an academic success supported by an effective, viable organization. Brilla College Prep and the education corporation are fiscally sound and present sound financial plans. As such, the plans for Brilla Schools to operate Brilla College Prep for the next charter term are reasonable, feasible, and achievable.*

#### BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOL

**Plans for the Charter's Structure.** The education corporation has provided all of the key structural elements for a charter renewal and those elements are reasonable, feasible, and achievable.

**Plans for the Educational Program.** Brilla College Prep plans to continue implementing the same core elements of its educational program that enabled the charter and education corporation to demonstrate academic success in the current charter term. These elements are likely to enable the charter to meet its Accountability Plan goals in the next charter term. The charter will continue to grow its high school grades and develop its program.

**Plans for Board Oversight & Governance.** Board members express interest in continuing to serve Brilla Schools in the future. The board may add new trustees in the next charter term.

**Fiscal & Facility Plans.** Based on evidence collected through the renewal review, including a review of the five year financial plan, Brilla Schools presents a reasonable and appropriate fiscal plan for the next charter term including education corporation and school budgets that are feasible and achievable. The education corporation intends to maintain its contractual relationship with Seton and Vertex. The Institute has reviewed the proposed terms of the Seton contract and will review the final contract, and any other network contracts, when executed.

Brilla will operate its program in three private facilities during the next charter term. The elementary grades will operate in its current facility that has housed the program during the life of the charter. The middle school moved into new privately leased space at the start of the 2022-23 school year. The high school program opened in newly leased space beginning in the 2022-23 school year, as well. All facilities provide the necessary amenities for the charter to operate its educational programs during the next charter term.

	CURRENT	END OF NEXT CHARTER TERM
<b>Enrollment</b>	822	942
<b>Grade Span</b>	K-9	K-11
<b>Teaching Staff</b>	66	68
<b>Days of Instruction</b>	180	180

Brilla

# Ax

## APPENDICES

PAGES Ax 1-16

<b>CO</b> <sup>A</sup> CHARTER OVERVIEW	<b>BS</b> <sup>B</sup> BENCHMARK SUMMARY	<b>EO</b> <sup>C</sup> ED CORP OVERVIEW	<b>RI</b> <sup>D</sup> REPORT INFORMATION
PAGE Ax 1	PAGE Ax 3	PAGE Ax 6	PAGE Ax 13



**BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**CHAIR**

Eric Eckholdt

**TREASURER**

Charles Bozian

**TRUSTEES**

- Richard Ramirez
- James Jones
- Mary O’Grady
- Stephanie Saroki de García
- Brother Brian Carty FSC
- Elena Sada
- Darla Romfo
- David Ingles

**SETON EDUCATION PARTNERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Carlos de Quesada
- Samuel A. Di Piazza, Jr.
- Scott W. Hamilton
- Leo Linbeck III
- James (Jim) N. Perry, Jr.
- Daniel S. Peters
- Maria Beatriz (Mabe) Rodriguez
- Stephanie Saroki de García

**CHARTER LEADERS**

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

- Calina Fernandez, Principal (2021-22 to Present)*
- Margaret Rippe, Principal (2020-2021)*
- Alexandra Apfel, Principal (2017-18 to 2019-20)*
- Kelsey LaVigne, Head of Schools (2015 to 2016-17)*
- Aaron Gillespie, Head of Schools (2013-14 to 2014-15)*

**MIDDLE SCHOOL**

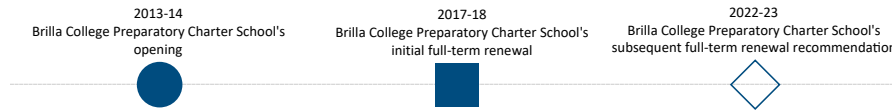
- William Scott, Principal (2022-23 to Present)*
- Kayla Scarborough, Principal (2021-22)*
- Matthew Larsen, Principal (2017-18 to 2020-21)*



**CHARTER CHARACTERISTICS**

SCHOOL YEAR	CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL AS A PERCENTAGE OF CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	GRADES SERVED
2018-19	601	566	94%	K-6
2019-20	677	669	99%	K-7
2020-21	751	791	105%	K-8
2021-22	756	781	103%	K-8
2022-23	822	739	90%	K-9

**TIMELINE OF CHARTER SCHOOL RENEWAL**



**CHARTER SCHOOL VISIT HISTORY**

SCHOOL YEAR	VISIT TYPE	DATE
2017-18	Initial Renewal	October 13, 2017
2022-23	Renewal Review	September 15, 2022

**CONDUCT OF THE RENEWAL REVIEW**

DATE(S) OF REVIEW	EVALUATION TEAM MEMBERS	TITLE
September 15, 2022	Sinnjinn Bucknell	Director of Performance and Systems

## BENCHMARK SUMMARY

For strong performing SUNY authorized charter schools that implement a common school design across multiple charters, the Institute provides an analysis and description of the charters' academic design structure using the Qualitative Education Benchmarks. This subset of the SUNY Renewal Benchmarks focuses on assessment, curriculum, pedagogy, leadership, at-risk programs, organizational capacity, and board oversight. The following program description analyzes and reports on the charter design that produced the high quality outcomes captured in the body of this renewal report.

### ASSESSMENT

Brilla Schools has an assessment system that improves instructional effectiveness and student learning. The programs have a valid and reliable process for scoring their assessment suite and leaders make results available to all stakeholders. Charter leaders and teachers use data to guide their practice and regularly communicate student progress to parents. The charter regularly administers a variety of valid and reliable assessments aligned to the curriculum and state standards. Each charter administers the NWEA MAP ("MAP") in reading and mathematics. The elementary programs administer standards-based and curriculum-aligned interim assessments ("IAs") three times a year and the middle school program administers IAs four times a year. Teachers across each charter supplement these assessments with exit tickets, running records, and other informal assessments. Charter leaders use assessment results to evaluate teacher effectiveness and to develop and adjust professional development and coaching strategies. Leaders also use assessment data to inform the teacher evaluation process, and teachers with lower performance receive more coaching. These practices provide school and network leaders with sufficient data to ensure an effective teaching staff and high academic achievement.

### CURRICULUM

Brilla Schools implements an effective curricular program with sufficient resources to support teachers in instructional planning. The network provides charters with a framework, supporting documents, and performance expectations that enable teachers to develop high quality lesson plans aligned to state standards. In ELA, the education corporation uses Core Knowledge at the elementary program and Wit and Wisdom at the middle school program. As a result of the network's analysis of reading and writing data trends across the charters, the education corporation established targeted literacy blocks in partnership with an external consultant to provide students with additional support in ELA. In mathematics, charters use Eureka Math across all grades. In science, charters use a combination of Core Knowledge and Amplify Science. Charters schedule ample time for teachers to conduct the intellectual preparation necessary to anticipate student misconceptions and tailor content to students' needs. Each week, teachers submit lesson plans and instructional leaders provide feedback. Across charters, grade level teams meet on a weekly basis to discuss challenging content and to preview the subsequent week's lessons with a focus on school-based priorities.

## PEDAGOGY

High quality instruction is evident across all Brilla Schools. Teachers' lessons include clear objectives aligned to purposeful activities. Teachers employ multiple effective strategies to check for student understanding such as circulating the classroom, conferencing with students, and using student hand signals. In most lessons co-teachers use strategic groupings of students to allow for more targeted instruction. Across the education corporation, teachers challenge students with rigorous content and embed opportunities for higher order thinking throughout lessons. Teachers frequently ask students to elaborate on their answers and provide specific evidence to back up assertions. In many classrooms, teachers implement Socratic questioning strategies to develop students' higher order thinking and problem solving skills. Across all Brilla Schools, teachers maintain classrooms that focus on academic achievement. Teachers implement clear and consistent routines with a sense of urgency to ensure students engage throughout lessons.

## INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

Brilla Schools establishes strong instructional leadership practices across its charters. The charters' leadership teams establish an environment of high expectations for both adults and students within the charter community. Leaders communicate charterwide priorities and provide teachers with information about their decision-making process, strengthening teachers' investment in the education corporation's mission. As a result, teacher preparation and classroom instruction focus on student mastery and growth. The charter leaders directly support a robust team of instructional coaches. The instructional coaches provide direct support to teachers based on their grade and content assignments. Within this structure, teachers receive frequent and effective support, differentiated by grade and content. Each charter provides teachers with sustained, systemic, and effective coaching aimed at improving teachers' instructional effectiveness. Instructional leaders observe teachers biweekly and conduct follow up meetings to review areas of growth and action steps. Leaders hold teachers accountable for quality instruction and student achievement through this consistent coaching and feedback system. If academic data indicate a teacher is not meeting expectations leaders escalate the frequency and intensity of the coaching cycle. Leaders implement performance improvement plans for teachers who continue to struggle. While network leaders at Brilla Schools are thoughtful about minimizing teacher turnover, charter leaders do not invite back teachers who fail to meet performance expectations.

## AT RISK PROGRAM

Brilla Schools has programs in place to meet the needs of students with disabilities, ELLs, and students who are at risk of academic failure. The charters have clear systems to identify students in each of these subgroups. Each charter administers a battery of assessments in the early fall designed to identify students performing below grade level expectations. The charters also have a clear process to identify students who may require evaluation for special education services and work closely with the district committee on special education ("CSE") and families to ensure students receive the evaluations in a timely manner. Families complete the Home Language Identification Survey as part of the admissions packet and charter staff members interview families to identify students who need to complete the New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners ("NYSITELL"). Once identified, the education corporation has sufficient services to support the learning needs of students with disabilities, ELLs, and students who struggle academically. Across all charters, classrooms are staffed with at least two teachers and every grade level has at least one integrated co-teaching

("ICT") classroom where a certified special education teacher provides support to students with disabilities and students struggling academically. The charters also employ learning specialists who push into classrooms where students require skills remediation and work with small groups to provide targeted interventions. For ELLs, student services leaders oversee the charters' specialized multi lingual learner specialist in providing language acquisition supports in both the regular classroom environment and in small groups pull-out sessions. All these supports establish an at-risk program that produces high achievement for students with disabilities and ELLs at the education corporation. In 2018-19, students with disabilities and ELLs enrolled at Brilla Schools posted proficiency rates in ELA and mathematics that exceeded their district and statewide peers in the same grade levels.

### ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

Brilla Schools has clear operational procedures and an organizational structure that effectively supports the delivery of the academic program at each charter. Seton provides support with financial oversight and bookkeeping, recruitment and human resources needs, data analysis support, and facilities maintenance. The network also provides the charter's curriculum, assessments, and materials for the Kindergarten- 8<sup>th</sup> grade program. These supports allow charter-based instructional leaders to focus on implementing the academic program successfully. Seton and the charters have clear lines of accountability that ensure leaders and teachers understand the responsibilities of each position. Brilla Schools maintain sufficient enrollment and have high retention year over year. The charters closely monitor progress towards meeting enrollment and retention targets for student subgroups. Notably, each charter far exceeds its enrollment target for ELLs. The network works to focus recruitment activities on high poverty areas in the charters' neighborhoods and to increase students with disabilities enrollment.

### BOARD OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNANCE

The Brilla Schools board works effectively to meet each charter's Accountability Plan goals. After opening a flagship elementary program at one charter, the board has expanded its oversight responsibilities to four charter schools and concomitantly increased its membership to build capacity. Board members have experience in education, finance, facilities, and other areas that enable them to provide effective oversight of the network and charters. As the education corporation continues to increase the number of students it serves, the board plans to focus on developing best practices for governance. Board members request and receive information on the charters that allows them to provide sufficient oversight. Network and charter leaders provide the board with monthly data reports on progress across the charters related to academics, culture, operations, and finance. Informed by this information, the board establishes clear priorities aligned to the charters' academic, fiscal, and operational success, and implements clear systems to monitor ongoing progress towards meeting these goals. The board creates measurable annual performance goals, conducts an annual evaluation of the network, and holds Seton accountable for the academic, financial, and operational success. The board also administers annual surveys to staff and families to gather additional feedback on the education corporation.

The strength of the board's structure and systems is evident throughout its oversight over the charter term of the program at each charter. The board works in a clear committee structure dividing work to ensure an appropriate level of oversight. The board has clearly defined the role and expectations of Seton and Vertex through a comprehensive management agreement and evaluation system of the network. The board and Seton have worked under a clear strategic plan and are thoughtful about modifications to that plan and continued growth.

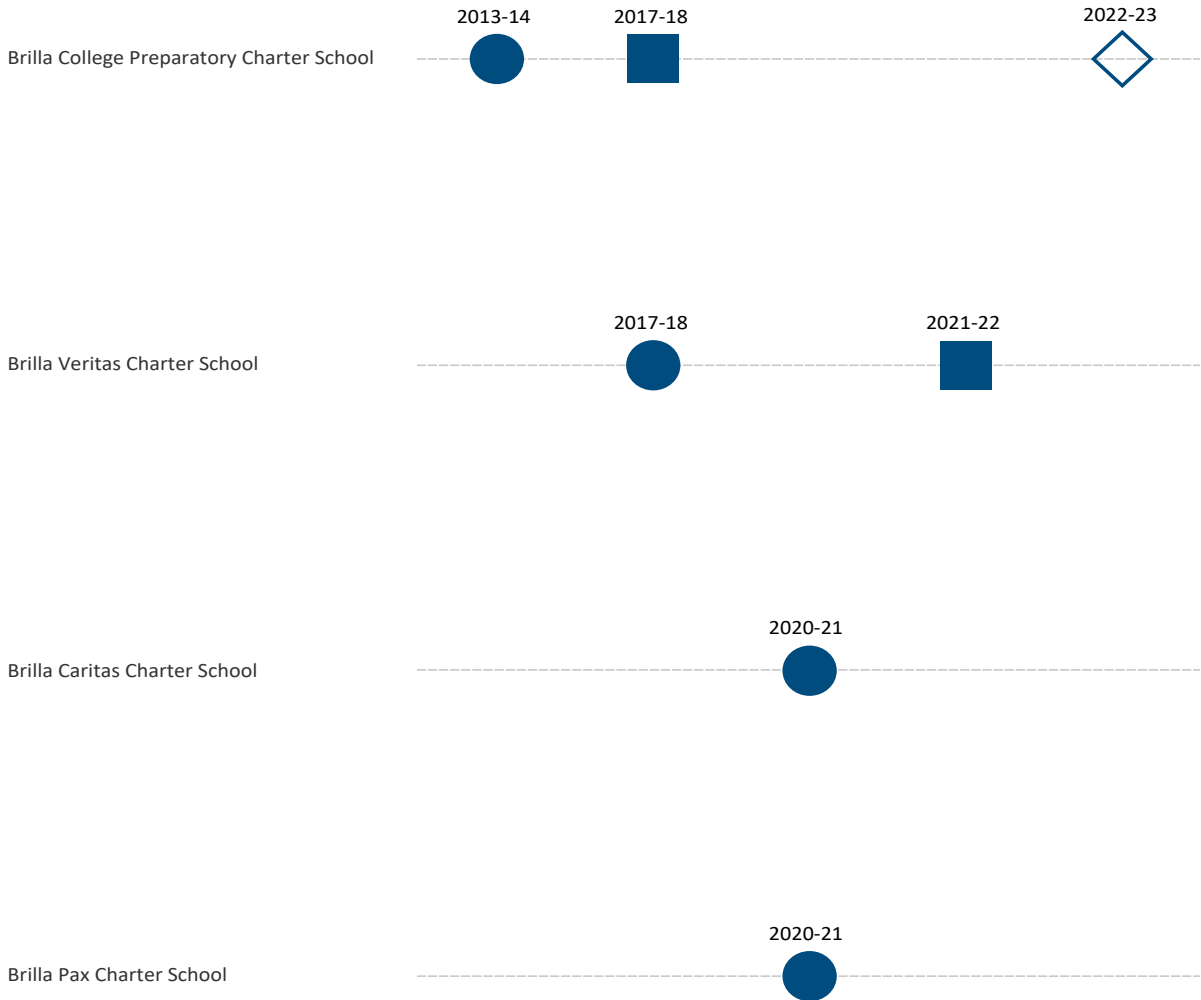


## EDUCATION CORPORATION TIMELINE OF CHARTER RENEWAL

Charter school opening

Initial Renewal - Full-Term

Subsequent Renewal Recommendation - Full-Term





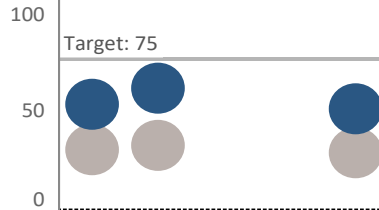
**EDUCATION CORPORATION CHARTER CHARACTERISTICS**

CHARTER	LOCAL DISTRICT	CO LOCATED	CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	GRADE SPAN
Brilla Caritas Charter School	Bronx CSD 10	No	270	K-2
Brilla College Preparatory Charter School	Bronx CSD 7	No	822	K-9
Brilla Pax Charter School	Bronx CSD 10	No	270	K-2
Brilla Veritas Charter School	Bronx CSD 7	No	538	K-5



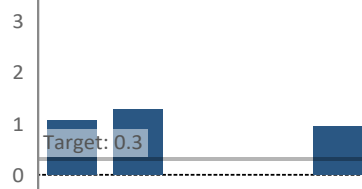
**BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOLS  
AGGREGATE ELA AND MATHEMATICS PERFORMANCE FOR ALL CHARTERS**

**Composite District Comparison.\*** The chart shows the percentage of students enrolled in at least their second year at **the education corporation's charters** performing at or above proficiency in comparison to that of students in the same tested grades in those charters' local districts.



Test Year	Districts %	Ed.Corp. %
2018	30	53
2019	32	61
2020	N/A	N/A
2021	N/A	N/A
2022	29	51

**Effect Size.** Charters are expected to exceed the predicted level of performance by an effect size of 0.3 or above. The chart shows a weighted average effect size for **all education corporation charters** administering state exams.



Test Year	Ed. Corp. Weighted Effect Size
2018	1.06
2019	1.27
2020	N/A
2021	N/A
2022	0.97

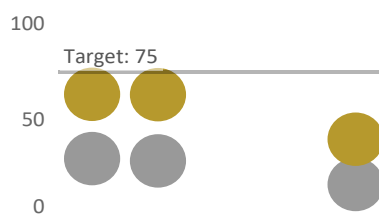
**Mean Growth Percentile.** The chart shows the unadjusted mean growth percentile for all students in grades 4-8 among **all education corporation charters**.



Test Year	Ed. Corp. Mean Growth Percentile
2018	49.0
2019	51.5
2020	N/A
2021	N/A
2022	N/A

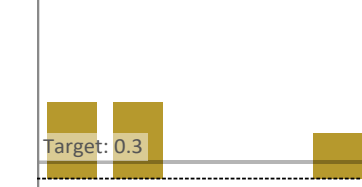
**EDUCATION CORPORATION AGGREGATE MATHEMATICS PERFORMANCE**

**Composite District Comparison.\*** The chart shows the percentage of students enrolled in at least their second year at **the education corporation's charters** performing at or above proficiency in comparison to that of students in the same tested grades in those charters' local districts.



Test Year	Districts %	Ed.Corp. %
2018	30	64
2019	29	63
2020	N/A	N/A
2021	N/A	N/A
2022	17	40

**Effect Size.** Charters are expected to exceed the predicted level of performance by an effect size of 0.3 or above. The chart shows a weighted average effect size for **all education corporation charters** administering state exams.



Test Year	Ed. Corp. Weighted Effect Size
2018	1.42
2019	1.43
2020	N/A
2021	N/A
2022	0.87

**Mean Growth Percentile.** The chart shows the unadjusted mean growth percentile for all students in grades 4-8 among **all education corporation charters**.



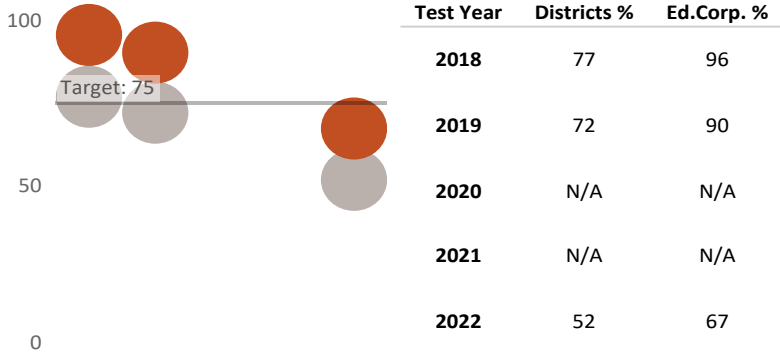
Test Year	Ed. Corp. Mean Growth Percentile
2018	45.4
2019	54.0
2020	N/A
2021	N/A
2022	N/A

\* The composite district comparison is a weighted proficiency rate including all comparison grades from Districts/New York City Community School Districts ("CSD's") in which a charter in the education corporation is located. The data reflected results for all charters in the education corporation that have produced New York State exam results.

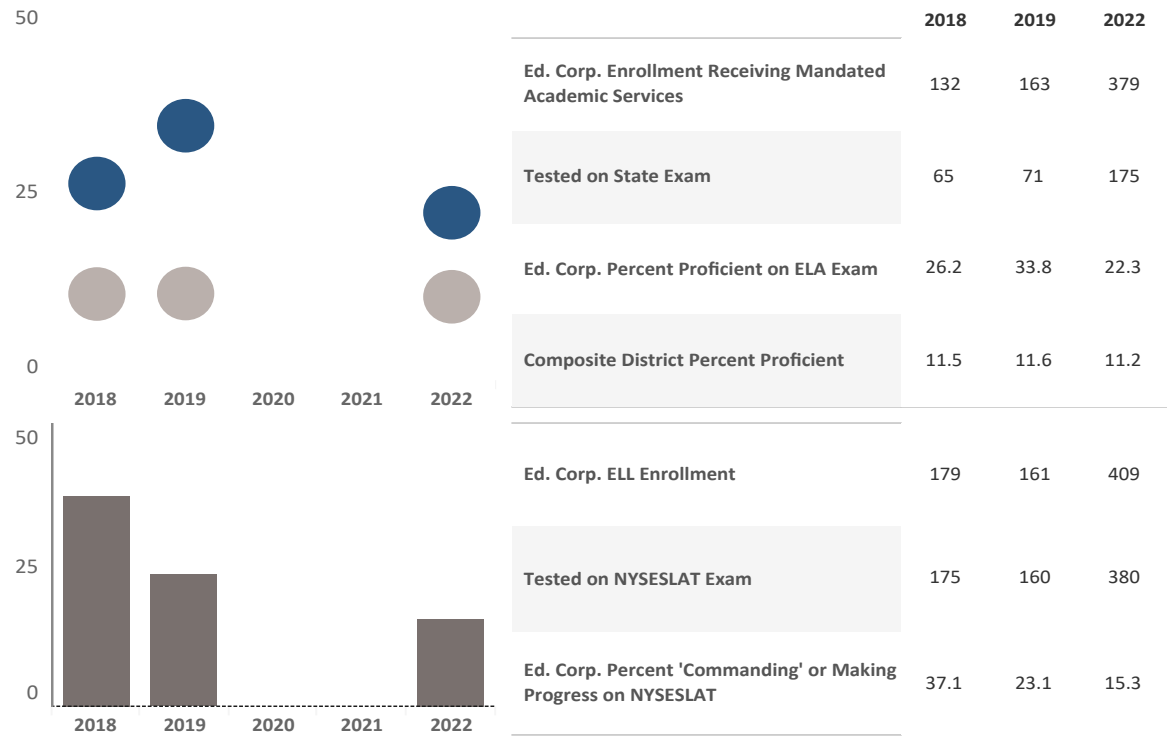


**BRILLA COLLEGE PREPARATORY CHARTER SCHOOLS  
 AGGREGATE SCIENCE PERFORMANCE FOR ALL CHARTERS**

**Composite District Comparison.** The chart shows the percentage of students enrolled in at least their second year at the education corporation performing at or above proficiency in comparison to that of students in the same tested grades in those charters' local districts.



**AGGREGATE PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND ELLS FOR EDUCATION CORPORATION\***

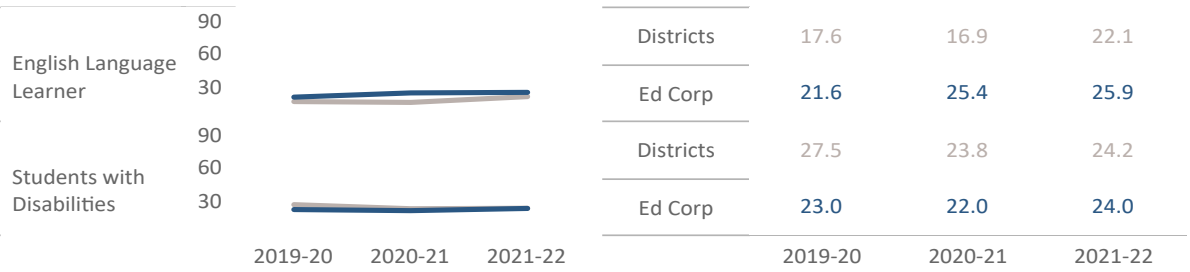


\*The academic outcome data about the performance of students receiving special education services and ELLs above is not tied to separate goals in a charter's formal Accountability Plan. The NYSESLAT, the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test, is a standardized state exam. "Making Progress" is defined as moving up at least one level of proficiency. Student scores fall into five categories/proficiency levels: Entering; Emerging; Transitioning; Expanding; and, Commanding.

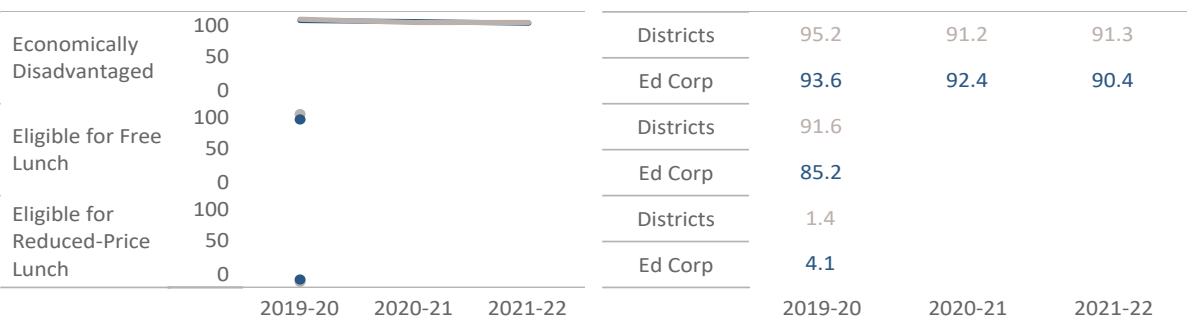


**Brilla College Preparatory Charter Schools Aggregate Education Corporation Enrollment and Persistence**

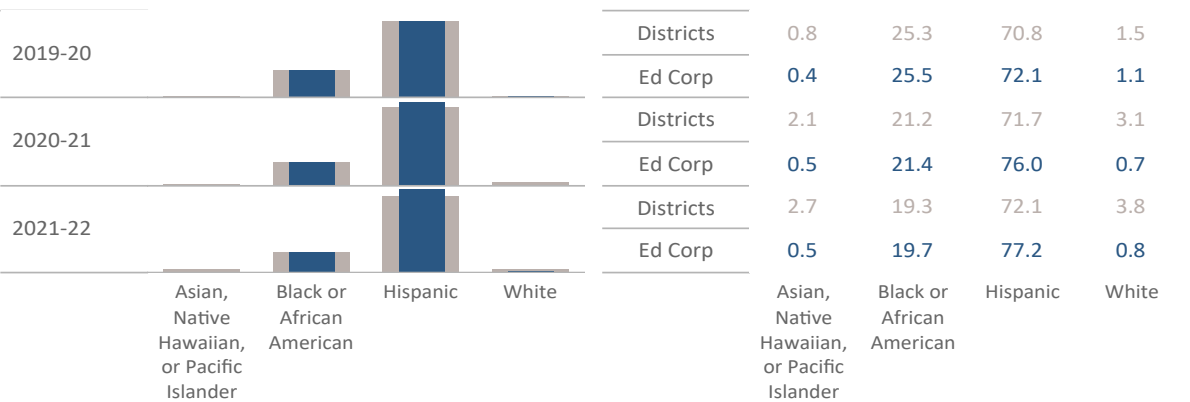
**Aggregate Education Corporation Demographics: Special Populations**



**Aggregate Education Corporation Demographics: Free/Reduced Lunch**



**Aggregate Education Corporation Demographics: Race/Ethnicity**

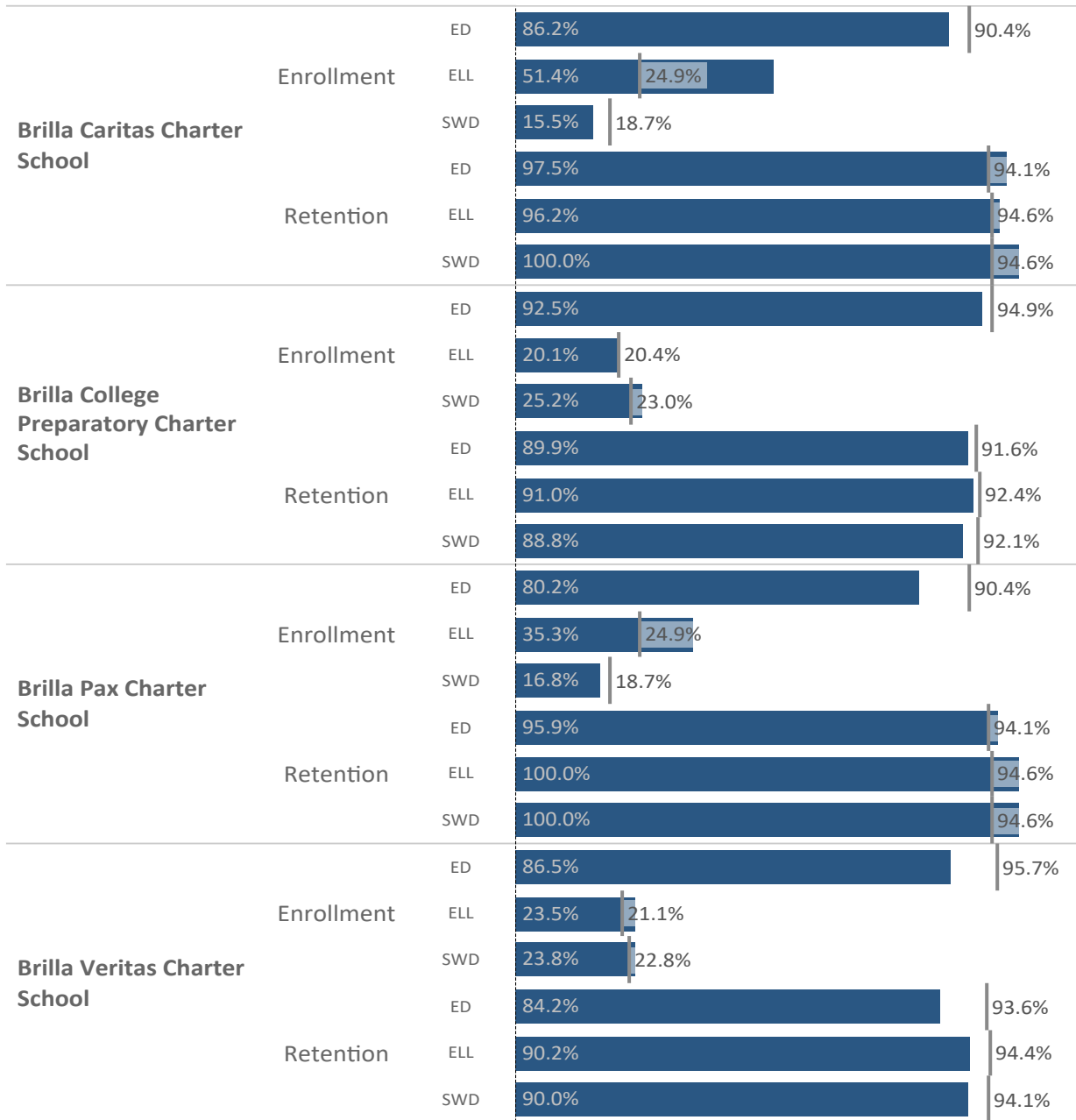


**Aggregate Education Corporation Persistence in Enrollment**

2019-20	2019-20	90.1
2020-21	2020-21	92.0
2021-22	2021-22	88.5



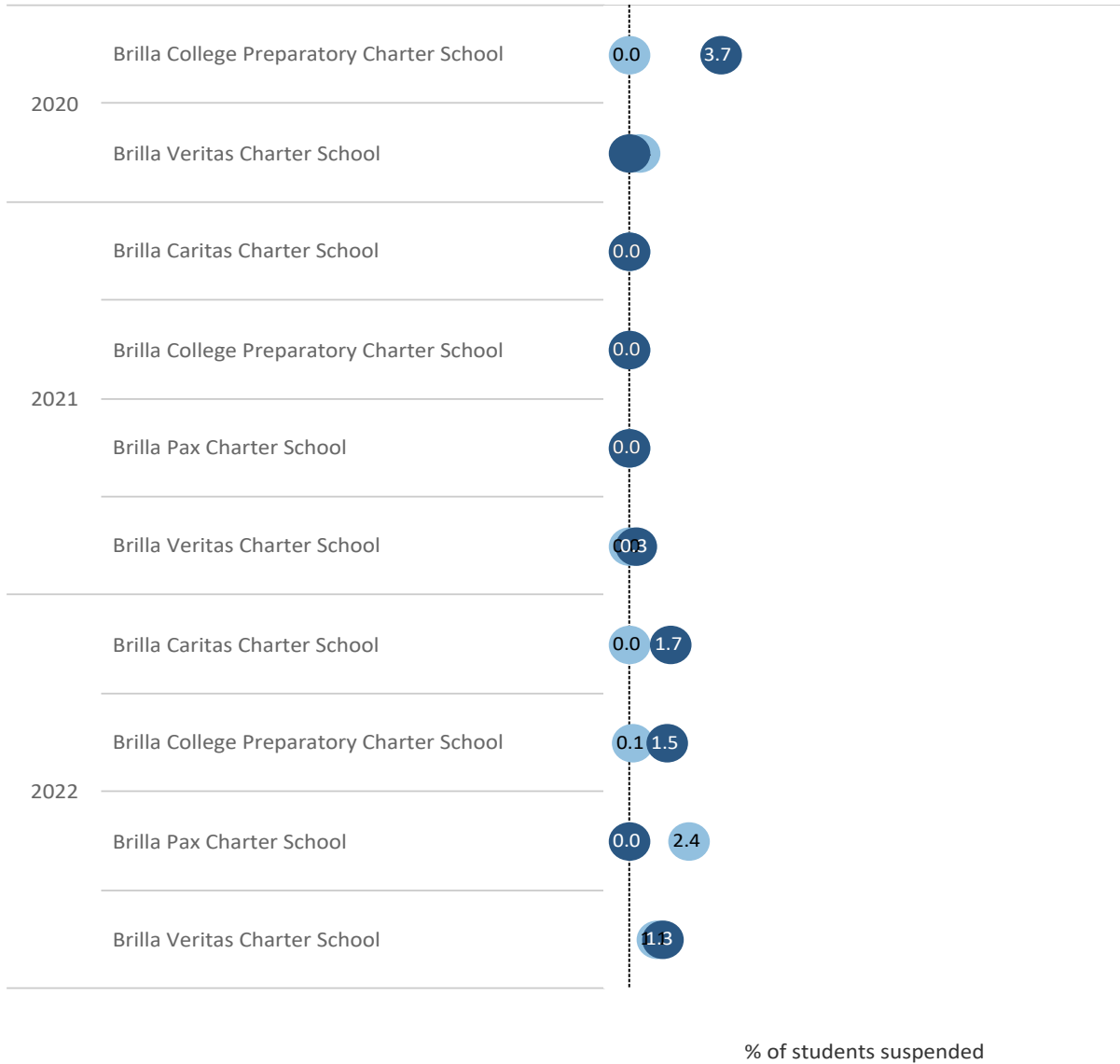
**ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION TARGETS**



The chart illustrates the **current enrollment and retention percentages** against the **enrollment and retention targets** for each operating charter in the education corporation. As required by Education Law § 2851(4)(e), a charter must include in its renewal application information regarding the efforts it has, and will, put in place to meet or exceed SUNY’s enrollment and retention targets for students with disabilities, ELLs, and FRPL students. This analysis is based on the most recent enrollment and retention data supplied to the Institute by the education corporation.



**Suspensions: Brilla College Preparatory Charter Schools's out of school suspension rate and in school suspension rate.**



Data suitable for comparison are not available. The percentage rate shown here is calculated using the method employed by the NYCDOE: the total the number of students receiving an out of school suspension at any time during the school year is divided by the total enrollment, then multiplied by 100.

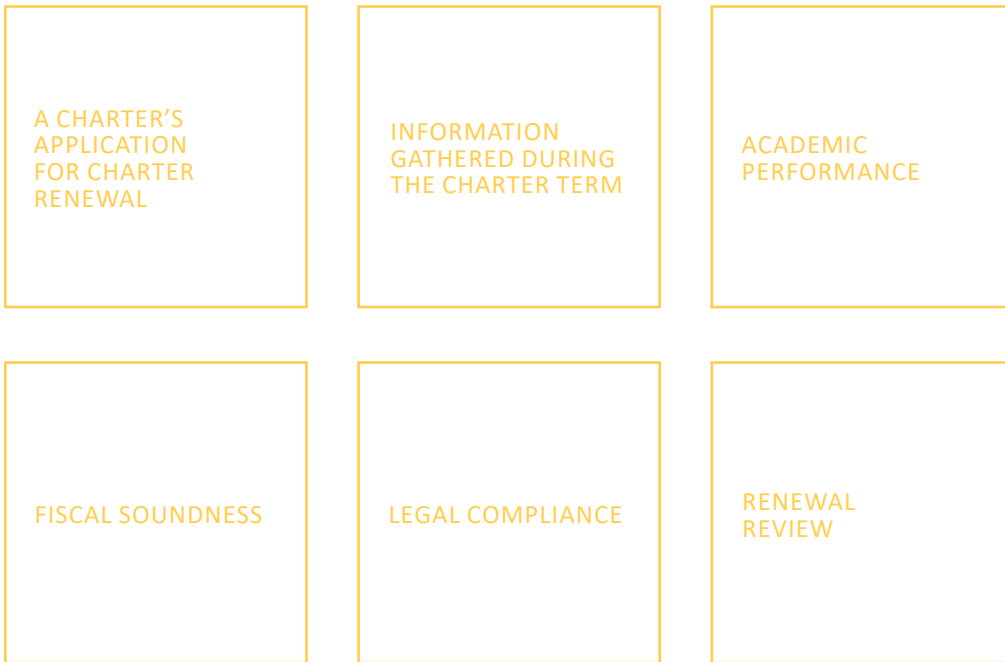
**During the most recent school year, the education corporation expelled 0 students.**

The sections below contain general information about the SUNY Trustees’ and Institute’s approach to renewal.

### REPORT FORMAT

This report is the primary means by which the SUNY Charter Schools Institute (the “Institute”) transmits to the State University of New York Board of Trustees (the “SUNY Trustees”) its findings and recommendations regarding a charter school’s Application for Charter Renewal, and more broadly, details the merits of a charter’s case for renewal. The Institute has created and issued this report pursuant to the ***Policies for the Renewal of Not-For-Profit Charter School Education Corporations and Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York*** (the “SUNY Renewal Policies”).<sup>1</sup>

### THE INSTITUTE MAKES ALL RENEWAL RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON



***Most importantly, the Institute analyzes the charter’s record of academic performance and the extent to which it has met its academic Accountability Plan goals.***

1. Revised September 4, 2013 and available on the [Institute’s website](#).

This renewal recommendation report compiles evidence using the **State University of New York Charter Renewal Benchmarks** (the “SUNY Renewal Benchmarks”),<sup>2</sup> which specify in detail what a successful charter school should be able to demonstrate at the time of the renewal review. The Institute uses the four interconnected renewal questions below for framing benchmark statements to determine if a charter has made an adequate case for renewal.

#### RENEWAL QUESTIONS



**IS THE CHARTER AN ACADEMIC SUCCESS?**

**IS THE CHARTER AN EFFECTIVE, VIABLE ORGANIZATION?**

**IS THE CHARTER FISCALLY SOUND?**

**IF THE SUNY TRUSTEES RENEW THE EDUCATION CORPORATION’S AUTHORITY TO OPERATE THE CHARTER, ARE ITS PLANS FOR THE CHARTER REASONABLE, FEASIBLE, AND ACHIEVABLE?**

This report contains appendices that provide additional statistical and organizationally related information including a statistical school overview, copies of any school district comments on the Application for Charter Renewal, and the SUNY Fiscal Dashboard information for the charter. If applicable, the appendices also include additional information about the education corporation, its schools and student achievement of those charters.



*Additional information about the SUNY renewal process 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](#).*

*2. Version 5.0, May 2012, available on the [Institute’s website](#).*



## IS THE CHARTER AN ACADEMIC SUCCESS? THE INFORMATION BELOW HIGHLIGHTS THE INSTITUTE'S AND SUNY TRUSTEES' APPROACH TO ACCOUNTABILITY PLANS FOR EACH SUNY AUTHORIZED CHARTER.

At the beginning of the Accountability Period,<sup>3</sup> the charter developed and adopted an Accountability Plan that set academic goals for performance in the key subjects of ELA and mathematics, as well as science and the federal Every Student Succeeds Act ("ESSA"). High school Accountability Plans also include goals for High School Graduation, College Preparation, and Social Studies. For each goal in the Accountability Plan, specific outcome measures define the level of performance necessary to meet that goal. The Institute examines results for all required Accountability Plan measures to determine goal attainment. The Act requires charters be held "accountable for meeting measurable student achievement results"<sup>4</sup> and states the educational programs at a charter school must "meet or exceed the student performance standards adopted by the board of regents"<sup>5</sup> for other public schools. SUNY's required accountability measures rest on performance as measured by statewide assessments. Historically, SUNY's required measures include measures that present schools':

ABSOLUTE PERFORMANCE, I.E., WHAT PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS SCORE AT A CERTAIN PROFICIENCY ON STATE EXAMS?

COMPARATIVE PERFORMANCE, I.E., HOW DID THE CHARTER DO AS COMPARED TO SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT AND SCHOOLS THAT SERVE SIMILAR POPULATIONS OF ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS?

GROWTH PERFORMANCE, I.E., HOW MUCH DID THE CHARTER GROW STUDENT PERFORMANCE AS COMPARED TO THE GROWTH OF SIMILARLY SITUATED STUDENTS?

Absolute, comparative, and growth achievement provide a basis for triangulating charter performance within each academic goal area. Furthermore, every SUNY authorized charter school may propose additional, mission aligned goals and measures of success when crafting its Accountability Plan. The final Accountability Plan adopted by the education corporation's board and approved by the Institute is included in the charter and frames the analysis of the charter's student achievement results.

The Institute consistently emphasizes comparative and growth performance over absolute measures in its analysis of goal attainment. Nevertheless, the Institute analyzes every measure included in a charter's Accountability Plan to determine its level of academic success, including the extent to which each charter has established and maintained a record of high performance and demonstrated progress toward meeting its academic Accountability Plan goals throughout the charter term. Whether or not a charter includes additional measures in its Accountability Plan, the Institute considers all available evidence of charter performance at the time of renewal.

3. Because the SUNY Trustees make a renewal decision before student achievement results for the final year of a charter term become available, the Accountability Period ends with the school year prior to the final year of the charter term. For a charter in a subsequent charter term, the Accountability Period covers the final year of the previous charter term and ends with the school year prior to the final year of the current charter term. In this renewal report, the Institute uses "charter term" and "Accountability Period" interchangeably.

4. Education Law § 2850(2)(f).

5. Education Law § 2854(1)(d).

State assessment data in ELA, mathematics, and science in 3<sup>rd</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade form the basis of data required to analyze the required accountability measures for elementary and middle schools. These data were not available in 2019-20 following the state’s cancellation of all state exams during the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Although schools participated in state assessments in ELA and mathematics in 2020-21, the participation rates that year were inconsistent. The resulting data is not sufficiently reliable or credible for cogent analyses of charter academic performance. In response, the Institute provided all SUNY authorized charter schools a framework for the analysis of norm-referenced and internally developed exam data. To every extent possible, the Institute attempted to maintain a consistent framework of examining absolute, comparative, and growth performance. During 2019-20 and 2020-21, charters reported data on a variety of norm-referenced and internally developed assessments to demonstrate student academic success. This renewal report contemplates charter performance during the pandemic through the lenses of absolute and growth performance on norm-referenced and internally developed ELA, mathematics, and science assessments along with high school completion and college readiness data.



**Charter Schools Institute**  
The State University of New York