



2005-06 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT SUPPLEMENT

Region 02

H.S. 253

BRONX HIGH SCHOOL FOR WRITING AND COMMUNICATION ARTS

New York City Public Schools
Joel I. Klein, Chancellor

Grade Levels:

Students on Oct. 31, 2005: 212

Students on May 1, 2006:

School Mission Statement

Our school is a small community of life-long learners, readers and writers. Using the written word as our vehicle, students explore their world and learn to know themselves. They write across all content areas in order to master concepts and demonstrate understanding. We offer a college preparatory program and provide opportunities for creative writing, advanced study and opportunities in the fields of publishing, the arts and communications. Students produce a variety of school publications to demonstrate and celebrate learning. We expect all our students to graduate with a New York State Regents endorsed diploma within four years and be prepared for college. Establishing a community of young people who grow into concerned, committed and productive citizens is another major goal of our small school. We encourage students to use various forms of communication to participate in the democratic process and community development.

Principal's Statement

We are a school devoted to writing and the arts. We emphasize writing and literacy across the content areas as well as arts integration activities. Students work with professional writers, actors and artists every week. All students have an Academic Advisor who meets with students twice weekly. Our lead partner, Epic Theatre Center, coordinates arts programming, external learning activities and college planning. We have many partnerships, including with Random House, MSNBC, the Harlem Writers Guild and the Bronx Writers Center.

Special Academic Programs

We train teachers in all content areas to focus on students' literacy development and writing skills. We incorporate project based learning and the inquiry process. Classes are 60 minutes long for extended time on task. All students take our writing class, which helps them improve their writing skills.

Extracurricular Activities

Tutoring in all subjects. PSAL campus-wide sports teams. Intramural sports. Drama club. Poetry club. Creative Writing club. Literary magazine. Journalism. Introduction to Book Publishing. Dance. Visual Arts club. Student events committee.

Community Support

New Visions for Public Schools, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Epic Theatre Center, Columbia University Teachers College (National Academy for Excellent Teaching), Lehman College (New York City Writing Project), NYU, Bronx Writers Center, Hudson Valley Writers Center, MSNBC, Random House, Harlem Writers Guild, Community Word Project.

Parent/School Support

Parents assisted on open school night, at student performances and presentations, and in reaching out to other parents to engage them in their child's education.

2006-07 School Accountability Status:

In Good Standing

This school received Title I Funding in:

2004-05: YES; 2005-06: YES; 2006-07: YES

The Division of Assessment and Accountability (DAA) compiled this report primarily from central databases and information provided by this school's principal. Throughout the report, N/A indicates that information was not available or did not apply to this school. The 2005-2006 Annual School Report is a supplement to the New York State Education Department's School Report Card for New York City Schools. Consult the Parent Guide for an explanation of the data in this report. Other DAA reports can be obtained online at www.nyc.gov/daa.

STUDENTS

Involved In Police Department Incidents

The total enrollment in this consolidated location is 212 students. Please keep this number in mind as you review the numbers of incidents.

	This school	Consolidated Locations	Similar Size schools
Major Crimes			
Property Crimes		1	1.5
Crimes Against Persons		2	3.2
Other Crimes		23	20.1
Non- Criminal		119	54.8

No separate data is available for this school. Multiple schools are found at a single address, and the incident data have been consolidated so that the same data are reported for all those schools. These schools are included in this consolidated location: HIGH SCHOOL OF COMPUTERS AND TECH. | HIGH SCHOOL FOR CONTEMP. ARTS | EVANDER CHILDS EVENING HS | BRONX ACADEMY OF HEALTH CAREERS | BRONX AEROSPACE ACAD. | EVANDER CHILDS HS | EVANDER CHILDS HS GED | BRONX HIGH SCHOOL FOR WRITING AND COMMUNICATION ARTS | BRONX LAB SCHOOL, Similar-Sized Schools include all schools and consolidated locations with enrollments of 3001-4000 students

<http://schools.nyc.gov/ourschools/schoolsafety.htm>

Recent Immigrants*

Percent of enrollment	2004	2005	2006
This school		4.9	5.7
Similar schools	13.4	11.1	8.5
City schools	11.6	9.8	7.6

* Students enrolled as of Oct. 31, 2005 who immigrated to the U.S. within the last three years.

Recent Immigrants' Place of Birth

Percent of students	2006
GUYANA	0.9
JAMAICA	0.9
JAPAN	0.9

Profile of Entering Ninth and Tenth Graders*

Characteristics	This School	Similar Schools	City Schools
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Gender Male	34.8	52.7	50.5
Gender Female	65.2	47.3	49.5
Part-time Special Education	5.4	7.1	5.8
Full-time Special Education	0	7.1	5.2
ELL	4.5	13.7	12.8
Over-age for grade	35.7	38.1	29.9
Percent eligible for free lunch	35.7	38.1	29.9
Avg. daily attend. during prior sem.	86.7	87.8	89.8
Percent meeting standard in:			
ELA (tested only)	19.1	17.2	32.7
Mathematics (tested only)	15.4	25.3	40.8

* This information is for the students who were on register as new 9th and 10th graders on October 31, 2005 and came from another school.

* Not applicable to elementary and middle schools

Admission to Other Schools in September 2005

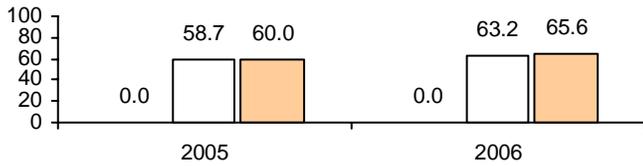
School Name	Boro	District	Leavers*	
			School Number	Percent

* Leavers are students who left their school for any reason.

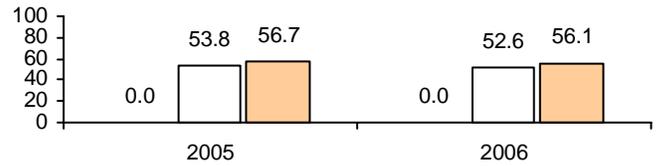
SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS

TEACHERS

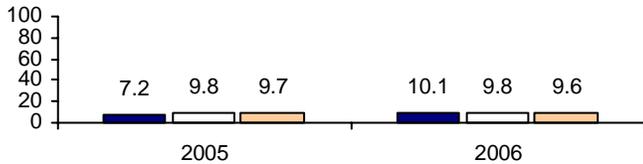
Percent More Than Two Years Teaching in This School



Percent More Than Five Years Teaching Anywhere



Average Days Absent



SCHOOL EXPENDITURES

Average Spending Per Student (Direct Services Only)

	2004	2005	2006
This school			N/A
Similar schools	\$10,651	\$11,055	N/A
City schools	\$11,138	\$11,607	N/A

Note: The state calculation of school expenditures per student for direct and indirect services in 2004 was \$12,896 for all New York City schools. An average of \$13,085 was calculated for all New York State schools including those in New York City.

How money was spent in this school in 2005 (Direct Services Only)



% is used for District Support.

OTHER SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Capacity

Percent of utilization*	2004	2005	2006
This school		99.0	191.0
Similar schools	100.7	102.2	96.8
City schools	106.0	106.4	103.5

*When over 100%, school has exceeded official capacity.

PERFORMANCE OF ALL STUDENTS ON REGENTS EXAMINATIONS

	2004-2005				2005-2006			
	Number	55 - 100	65 - 100	85 - 100	Number	55 - 100	65 - 100	85 - 100
	Tested	Percent	Percent	Percent	Tested	Percent	Percent	Percent
ENGLISH								
This School					5	80.0	40.0	0.0
Similar Schools	21585	71.3	50.5	8.1	24495	70.9	52.7	8.5
City Schools	63738	78.1	61.6	16.6	70344	77.6	62.9	16.6
MATH A								
This School					88	65.9	38.6	1.1
Similar Schools	26130	74.9	49.3	5.1	27815	77.4	50.6	4.8
City Schools	74616	81.2	61.0	13.6	76930	83.1	62.3	13.9
MATH B								
This School								
Similar Schools	3146	55.0	41.6	8.6	4042	52.7	39.0	7.5
City Schools	18163	70.4	58.5	16.3	21205	68.9	56.4	15.5
CHEMISTRY								
This School								
Similar Schools	5679	59.9	34.4	3.3	5133	60.8	35.1	3.8
City Schools	23988	77.5	55.9	10.5	24062	79.3	58.0	13.1
LIVING ENVIRONMENT								
This School	76	68.4	48.7	0.0	124	62.9	36.3	0.0
Similar Schools	20061	63.9	41.8	2.8	21169	67.3	42.9	2.6
City Schools	62307	72.7	55.2	10.6	65322	76.0	56.5	9.7
GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY								
This School								
Similar Schools	24901	59.8	38.8	6.5	27371	55.6	36.1	7.0
City Schools	73666	68.8	51.1	15.3	77999	66.6	49.4	16.5
U.S. HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT								
This School					87	60.9	39.1	5.7
Similar Schools	18654	67.9	49.5	13.8	21232	73.2	53.3	15.1
City Schools	60352	76.4	61.9	25.6	65271	79.8	64.0	27.7
LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH								
This School					12	83.3	75.0	33.3
Similar Schools	4973	97.0	94.0	63.0	4777	96.9	93.7	64.7
City Schools	22273	98.1	96.3	66.7	21600	98.2	96.2	67.4

These data are based on all students, including General Education and Special Education students, regardless of services received.

OTHER INDICATORS

SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (SAT) IN 2005-2006

Percent of 11th and 12th graders taking SAT

	This School	Similar Schools	City Schools
11th and 12th grade enrollment		27984	100890
Percent taking SAT		33.6	36.1

Average SAT Scores*

SAT Section	This School	Similar Schools	City Schools
Verbal		391	444
Mathematics		396	467

* Scores on each segment of this test range from 200 to 800.

STUDENT PLANS AFTER GRADUATION

Post-high school plans of the 2006 graduates*

	This School Percent	Similar Schools Percent	City Schools Percent
4-Year college		36.9	44.3
2-Year college		17.6	16.2
Employment		4.5	3.3
Military services		1.4	0.9
Other		39.6	35.2

** Data are not reported if the total number of 2006 graduates are less than 20.

* These are student reports, which do not include IEP diplomas or local certificates.