Department of Education
Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

Progress Report 2010-11

PS 503: The School of Discovery

PRINCIPAL:	Bernadette Fitzgerald
DBN:	20K503
ENROLLMENT:	873
SCHOOL TYPE:	Elementary
PEER INDEX:	61.38

(see p. 6 for more details on peer index)

OVERALL GRADE **B**

OVERALL SCORE **43.7** out of 100

PERCENTILE RANK **49**

This school's overall score is greater than or equal to that of 49 percent of Elementary schools.

Overall Grades - Elementary

GRADE	SCORE RANGE	% of Schools
A	56.7 or higher	25% of schools
B	40.6 - 56.6	35% of schools
C	25.7 - 40.5	30% of schools
D	18.3 - 25.6	7% of schools
F	18.2 or lower	3% of schools

For elementary, middle, and K-8 schools, the percent of schools receiving top grades was set in advance. Schools with average English and Math performance in the top third citywide cannot receive a grade lower than a C. Schools in their first year, in phase out, or with fewer than 25 students with progress results receive a report with no grade or score.

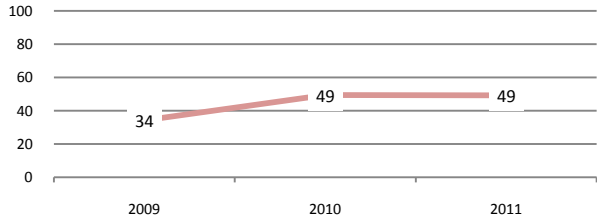
Overview

Each school's Progress Report (1) measures student year-to-year progress, (2) compares the school to peer schools and (3) rewards success in moving all children forward, especially children with the greatest needs. Strong Progress Report results are the basis for monetary rewards for school leaders, and poor results are an important factor in determining whether schools require intensive support or intervention. For more information, see schools.nyc.gov/community/planning/Support+and+Intervention.htm.

CATEGORY	SCORE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION
Student Progress	**25.2** out of 60	B	Student Progress measures how much individual students improved on state tests in English and Math between 2010 and 2011, compared to other students who started at the same level.
Student Performance	**6.6** out of 25	C	Student Performance measures student results on the 2011 state tests in English and Math.
School Environment	**10.8** out of 15	A	School Environment measures student attendance and a survey of the school community rating academic expectations, safety and respect, communication, and engagement.
Closing the Achievement Gap	**1.0** (15 max)		Schools receive additional credit for exceptional gains by students with disabilities, English Language Learners, and students starting with the lowest proficiency citywide.
Overall Score	**43.7** out of 100	B	The overall grade is based on the total of all scores above, including additional credit for closing the achievement gap. Category scores may not add up to total score because of rounding.

Performance over time

Percentile rank of this school's overall Progress Report score for the past three years:



The Progress Report is a one-year snapshot of a school's performance. The Progress Report methodology has evolved over time, in response to school and community feedback, changes in state policy, and higher standards. In 2009-10, New York State raised the cutoff for proficiency on English and Math tests, and the Progress Report introduced growth percentiles. For a description of methodology changes, visit schools.nyc.gov/ProgressReport.

Other accountability measures

These measures are separate from the Progress Report, and are an important part of school accountability in New York City and State.

Quality Review

The school's most recent Quality Review Score:

Well Developed

2010-11

The Quality Review is an observational evaluation conducted by an experienced educator, focused on how well a school is organized to educate its students.

State Accountability

The school's current status:

In Good Standing

2010-11

This status is determined by the New York State Department of Education under the No Child Left Behind Act.

GRADE **B**

SCORE 25.2

(out of 60)

GRADE	SCORE RANGE
A	34.0 or higher
B	24.3 - 33.9
C	15.4 - 24.2
D	10.9 - 15.3
F	10.8 or lower

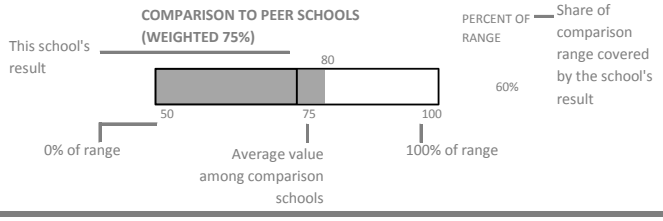
Student Progress represents 60% of the total score. The grade is based on growth percentiles, a measure of how much individual students improved on state tests in English and Math between 2010 and 2011, compared to other students who started at the same level. The section evaluates growth percentiles for all students, and students in the school's lowest third. An explanation of growth percentiles is at the end of this report.

	THIS SCHOOL'S RESULTS	COMPARISON TO PEER SCHOOLS (WEIGHTED 75%)	PERCENT OF PEER RANGE	COMPARISON TO CITY SCHOOLS (WEIGHTED 25%)	PERCENT OF CITY RANGE	POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED
English							
Median Adjusted Growth Percentile (n=236)	55.0	55.0 (49.6 – 67.6 – 85.6)	15.0%	55.0 (52.5 – 68.7 – 84.9)	7.7%	15	1.98
Median Adjusted Growth Percentile for School's Lowest Third (n=82)	66.5	66.5 (56.4 – 74.2 – 92.0)	28.4%	66.5 (56.5 – 73.9 – 91.3)	28.7%	15	4.27
Mathematics							
Median Adjusted Growth Percentile (n=254)	71.0	71.0 (39.3 – 64.0 – 88.7)	64.2%	71.0 (44.5 – 67.2 – 89.9)	58.4%	15	9.41
Median Adjusted Growth Percentile for School's Lowest Third (n=88)	74.5	74.5 (42.6 – 67.6 – 92.6)	63.8%	74.5 (47.8 – 68.8 – 89.8)	63.6%	15	9.56

TOTAL POINTS	60	25.22

How To Interpret These Charts

To determine the number of points earned, this school's 2010-11 results on each metric are compared to the historical results of peer schools and all schools serving the same grade levels citywide. The comparison to peer schools is worth 75% of the points for each metric and the comparison to all schools citywide is worth 25% of the points. The bars represent the range of results for the peer and city comparison schools for 2008-09 and 2009-10 that are within two standard deviations of the average. The percent of the range that is shaded is the school's share of possible points. The share is multiplied by the weight (75% or 25%) and the possible points for the metric to determine the points earned.



Score Calculation Example

FORMULA	(	PERCENT OF PEER RANGE	x	0.75	+	PERCENT OF CITY RANGE	x	0.25	)	x	POINTS POSSIBLE	=	POINTS EARNED
EXAMPLE	(	60%	x	0.75	+	80%	x	0.25	)	x	15	=	9.75

GRADE **C**

SCORE 6.6 (out of 25)

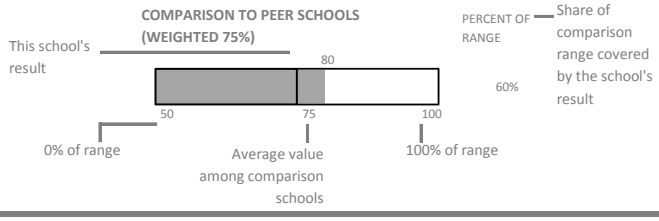
GRADE	SCORE RANGE
A	14.1 or higher
B	10.1 - 14.0
C	5.8 - 10.0
D	1.6 - 5.7
F	1.5 or lower

Student Performance represents 25% of the total score. The Student Performance grade is based on results on the 2011 state tests in English and Math. The section evaluates the percent of students who reach or exceed proficiency (Level 3 and 4), and the average proficiency rating of students.

	THIS SCHOOL'S RESULTS	COMPARISON TO PEER SCHOOLS (WEIGHTED 75%)	PERCENT OF PEER RANGE	COMPARISON TO CITY SCHOOLS (WEIGHTED 25%)	PERCENT OF CITY RANGE	POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED
English							
Percentage of students at level 3 or 4 (n=406)	29.6%	29.6% (11.1% – 49.9% – 88.7%)	23.8%	29.6% (18.2% – 58.9% – 99.6%)	14.0%	6.25	1.33
Average Student Proficiency (n=406)	2.60	2.60 (2.37 – 2.89 – 3.41)	22.1%	2.60 (2.45 – 3.03 – 3.61)	12.9%	6.25	1.24
Mathematics							
Percentage of students at level 3 or 4 (n=419)	50.6%	50.6% (22.0% – 65.7% – 100.0%)	36.7%	50.6% (31.2% – 73.0% – 100.0%)	28.2%	6.25	2.16
Average Student Proficiency (n=419)	2.99	2.99 (2.55 – 3.23 – 3.91)	32.4%	2.99 (2.67 – 3.39 – 4.11)	22.2%	6.25	1.87
					TOTAL POINTS	25	6.60

How To Interpret These Charts

To determine the number of points earned, this school's 2010-11 results on each metric are compared to the historical results of peer schools and all schools serving the same grade levels citywide. The comparison to peer schools is worth 75% of the points for each metric and the comparison to all schools citywide is worth 25% of the points. The bars represent the range of results for the peer and city comparison schools for 2008-09 and 2009-10 that are within two standard deviations of the average. The percent of the range that is shaded is the school's share of possible points. The share is multiplied by the weight (75% or 25%) and the possible points for the metric to determine the points earned.



Score Calculation Example

FORMULA	(	PERCENT OF PEER RANGE	x	0.75	+	PERCENT OF CITY RANGE	x	0.25	)	x	POINTS POSSIBLE	=	POINTS EARNED
EXAMPLE	(	60%	x	0.75	+	80%	x	0.25	)	x	6.25	=	4.06

GRADE **A**

SCORE 10.8

(out of 15)

GRADE	SCORE RANGE
A	8.5 or higher
B	6.0 - 8.4
C	3.8 - 5.9
D	2.7 - 3.7
F	2.6 or lower

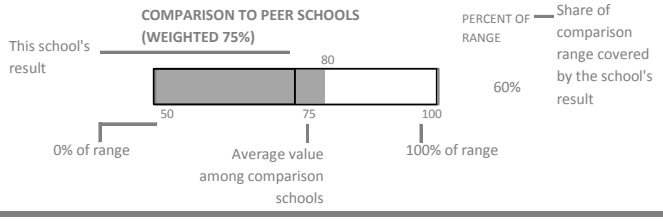
School Environment represents 15% of the total score. The School Environment grade is based on student attendance and results of the NYC School Survey, on which parents and teachers rate academic expectations, safety and respect, communication, and engagement.

School Survey Results

	THIS SCHOOL'S RESULTS	COMPARISON TO PEER SCHOOLS (WEIGHTED 75%)	PERCENT OF PEER RANGE	COMPARISON TO CITY SCHOOLS (WEIGHTED 25%)	PERCENT OF CITY RANGE	POINTS POSSIBLE	POINTS EARNED
Academic Expectations	8.3	8.3 (7.3 – 8.1 – 8.9)	62.5%	8.3 (7.1 – 8.1 – 9.1)	60.0%	2.5	1.55
Communication	7.7	7.7 (6.5 – 7.5 – 8.5)	60.0%	7.7 (6.1 – 7.4 – 8.7)	61.5%	2.5	1.51
Engagement	7.9	7.9 (6.4 – 7.5 – 8.6)	68.2%	7.9 (6.3 – 7.6 – 8.9)	61.5%	2.5	1.66
Safety and Respect	8.4	8.4 (7.2 – 8.1 – 9.0)	66.7%	8.4 (7.1 – 8.2 – 9.3)	59.1%	2.5	1.62
Attendance Rate	95.4%	95.4% (89.5% – 92.6% – 95.7%)	95.2%	95.4% (89.8% – 93.6% – 97.4%)	73.7%	5	4.49
					TOTAL POINTS	15	10.83

How To Interpret These Charts

To determine the number of points earned, this school's 2010-11 results on each metric are compared to the historical results of peer schools and all schools serving the same grade levels citywide. The comparison to peer schools is worth 75% of the points for each metric and the comparison to all schools citywide is worth 25% of the points. The bars represent the range of results for the peer and city comparison schools for 2008-09 and 2009-10 that are within two standard deviations of the average. The percent of the range that is shaded is the school's share of possible points. The share is multiplied by the weight (75% or 25%) and the possible points for the metric to determine the points earned.



Score Calculation Example

FORMULA	(	PERCENT OF PEER RANGE	x	0.75	+	PERCENT OF CITY RANGE	x	0.25	)	x	POINTS POSSIBLE	=	POINTS EARNED
EXAMPLE	(	60%	x	0.75	+	80%	x	0.25	)	x	2.5	=	1.63

Schools receive additional credit for exceptional gains by students with disabilities, English Language Learners, and students starting with the lowest proficiency citywide. A school earns full additional credit when its results are in the top 20% of schools citywide. It earns half credit when its results are in the top 40%. Additional Credit can only improve a school's Progress Report score. It cannot lower a school's score. Elementary, middle, and K-8 schools are eligible for points on 15 additional credit metrics, each of which is worth up to 1 point. (In the table below, "." indicates that a school has fewer than 15 eligible students in a category.)

CATEGORY	THIS SCHOOL'S RESULTS	TOP 20% CUTOFF	TOP 40% CUTOFF	POINTS EARNED
Percent at level 3 or 4				
English				
Self-Contained (n=0)	.	12.0%	6.5%	.
CTT (n=49)	4.1%	33.3%	22.6%	.
SETSS (n=8)	.	35.3%	22.7%	.
Mathematics				
Self-Contained (n=0)	.	29.4%	16.7%	.
CTT (n=49)	14.3%	56.8%	42.4%	.
SETSS (n=8)	.	60.0%	41.7%	.
Percent at 75th Growth Percentile or Higher				
English				
English Language Learners (n=108)	25.9%	48.5%	42.7%	.
Lowest Third Citywide (n=112)	36.6%	54.3%	47.4%	.
Self-Contained/CTT/SETSS (n=28)	28.6%	57.1%	50.0%	.
Black and Hispanic Males in Lowest Third Citywide (n=47)	40.4%	52.9%	46.8%	.
Mathematics				
English Language Learners (n=126)	47.6%	55.0%	44.0%	0.5
Lowest Third Citywide (n=98)	46.9%	52.9%	43.0%	0.5
Self-Contained/CTT/SETSS (n=28)	32.1%	52.8%	44.3%	.
Black and Hispanic Males in Lowest Third Citywide (n=43)	30.2%	50.0%	40.7%	.
Movement of students with disabilities to less restrictive environments (n=68)	0.16	0.28	0.20	.
			TOTAL POINTS	1.0

PEER INDEX CALCULATION

The Peer Index is used to sort schools on the basis of demographics. A higher Peer Index indicates a higher need population. The Peer Index operates on a 1-100 scale and is calculated using the following formula:

FORMULA	(	% eligible for free lunch	x	30	) +	(	% students with disabilities	x	30	) +	(	% Black/Hispanic	x	30	) +	(	% English language learners	x	10	) =	PEER INDEX
FOR THIS SCHOOL	(	93.0%	x	30	) +	(	16.4%	x	30	) +	(	77.5%	x	30	) +	(	53.0%	x	10	) =	61.38

PEER GROUP FOR: PS 503: The School of Discovery

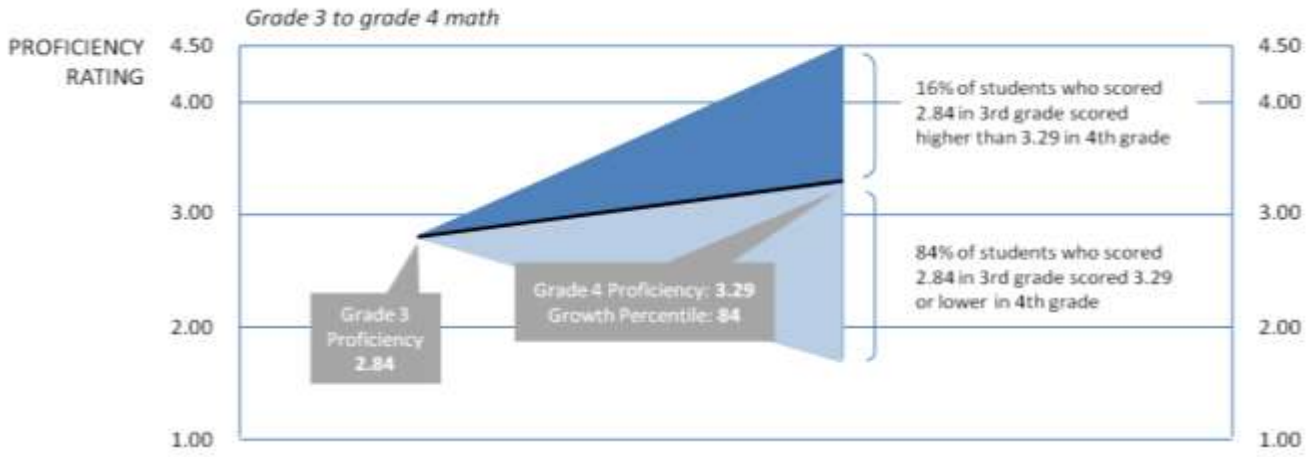
Each school's performance is compared to the performance of schools in its peer group. Peer schools are those New York City public schools with a student population most like this school's population, according to the peer index. Each elementary and middle school has up to 40 peer schools and each K-8 school has up to 30 peer schools.

DBN	SCHOOL	PEER INDEX	% FREE LUNCH	% IEP	% BLACK or HISPANIC	% ELL
16K309	P.S. 309 The George E. Wibecan Preparatory Academy	60.66	85.7%	19.7%	94.6%	6.4%
01M064	P.S. 064 Robert Simon	60.73	76.9%	34.8%	88.3%	7.2%
05M200	P.S. 200- The James Mccune Smith School	60.74	77.4%	20.7%	98.1%	18.8%
03M145	P.S. 145, The Bloomingdale School	60.76	75.8%	24.0%	94.2%	25.8%
17K397	P.S. 397 Foster-Laurie	60.82	95.4%	9.1%	94.9%	9.9%
13K056	P.S. 056 Lewis H. Latimer	60.86	84.6%	23.2%	93.8%	4.0%
30Q076	P.S. 076 William Hallet	60.95	76.7%	36.7%	82.6%	21.5%
10X306	P.S. 306	61.00	74.9%	21.9%	98.6%	24.1%
15K001	P.S. 001 The Bergen	61.04	80.9%	17.2%	93.0%	37.3%
31R016	P.S. 016 John J. Driscoll	61.09	89.4%	22.9%	81.5%	29.5%
05M125	P.S. 125 Ralph Bunche	61.11	79.8%	26.3%	91.4%	18.7%
17K375	P.S. 375 Jackie-Robinson School	61.15	85.6%	15.9%	96.7%	16.9%
14K017	P.S. 017 Henry D. Woodworth	61.20	79.4%	30.3%	88.4%	17.6%
19K345	P.S. 345 Patrolman Robert Bolden	61.22	93.1%	11.3%	95.3%	13.2%
10X340	P.S. 340	61.26	83.4%	20.7%	92.1%	24.2%
17K221	P.S. 221 Toussaint L'Ouverture	61.29	89.6%	15.0%	97.4%	6.9%
08X107	P.S. 107	61.30	79.1%	23.5%	98.4%	9.9%
84X419	Bronx Academy of Promise Charter School	61.34	85.4%	12.2%	99.0%	23.5%
13K270	P.S. 270 Johann DeKalb	61.35	87.6%	19.6%	95.7%	4.8%
09X035	P.S. 035 Franz Siegel	61.38	87.4%	13.3%	98.2%	17.1%
20K503	**PS 503: The School of Discovery**	**61.38**	**93.0%**	**16.4%**	**77.5%**	**53.0%**
12X195	P.S. 195	61.45	84.0%	16.2%	96.2%	25.1%
14K016	P.S. 016 Leonard Dunkly	61.45	77.6%	22.4%	98.7%	18.3%
12X061	P.S. 061 Francisco Oller	61.48	79.4%	24.0%	99.5%	6.3%
08X069	P.S. 069 The New Vision School	61.49	82.7%	22.8%	94.7%	14.3%
11X041	P.S. 041 Gun Hill Road	61.49	87.0%	16.2%	96.7%	15.1%
14K018	P.S. 018 Edward Bush	61.57	85.7%	15.3%	98.5%	17.2%
19K013	P.S. 013 Roberto Clemente	61.59	90.7%	13.5%	97.9%	9.7%
14K297	P.S. 297 Abraham Stockton	61.62	83.2%	21.4%	95.8%	15.1%
17K006	P.S. 006	61.64	86.8%	16.7%	97.1%	14.5%
17K092	P.S. 092 Adrian Hegeman	61.70	95.5%	10.8%	94.6%	14.3%
11X068	P.S. 068 Bronx	61.72	92.7%	16.4%	95.9%	2.1%
10X205	P.S. 205 Fiorello Laguardia	61.78	92.1%	15.3%	91.7%	20.5%
22K245	P.S. 245	61.79	90.7%	13.1%	98.6%	10.7%
08X140	P.S. X140 The Eagle School	61.83	89.4%	16.2%	98.4%	6.4%
14K059	P.S. 059 William Floyd	61.85	88.3%	17.3%	98.0%	7.8%
11X111	P.S. 111 Seton Falls	61.86	79.5%	26.8%	96.4%	10.4%
15K172	P.S. 172 Beacon School of Excellence	61.90	86.7%	23.9%	84.7%	33.0%
16K262	P.S. 262 El Hajj Malik El Shabazz Elementary School	61.91	88.9%	18.8%	98.1%	1.9%
31R018	P.S. 018 John G. Whittier	62.00	84.2%	30.4%	88.8%	9.8%
32K045	P.S. 045 Horace E. Greene	62.00	91.8%	12.9%	98.4%	10.7%
	PEER GROUP AVERAGES	61.37	85.2%	19.8%	94.2%	16.1%

The Progress Report for elementary and middle schools focuses on students' growth to proficiency and beyond, regardless of their starting point. The Progress Report measures individual students' growth on state English and Math tests using growth percentiles.

1 GROWTH PERCENTILES

A student's growth percentile compares his or her growth to the growth of all students in the City who started at the same level of proficiency the year before. A student's growth percentile is a number between 0 and 100, which represents the percentage of students with the same score on last year's test who scored the same or lower than the student on this year's test. For example, a student with a growth percentile of 84 earned a score on this year's test that was the same or higher than 84 percent of the students in the City who had the same score as he did last year.



2 ADJUSTED GROWTH PERCENTILES

To evaluate a school on its students' growth percentiles, the Progress Report uses an adjusted growth percentile. Growth percentile adjustments are based on students' demographic characteristics, and reflect average differences in growth compared to students with the same starting proficiency level. The adjustments are made to students' ending proficiency rating as follows:

CATEGORY		ADJUSTMENT	
Special Education	Self-contained	+0.25	
Special Education	CTT	+0.15	
Special Education	SETSS	+0.10	
Title I Free Lunch		+0.01	per 10% of students eligible

Note: special education program for purposes of adjustments is based on the most restrictive setting of students over the last four school years.

3 MEDIAN ADJUSTED GROWTH PERCENTILES

The Progress Report evaluates a school based on its median adjusted growth percentile, the adjusted growth percentile of the middle student when all the students' adjusted growth percentiles are listed from lowest to highest.