Department of Education
Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

Progress Report 2010-11

P.S. 171 Peter G. Van Alst

PRINCIPAL:	Anne Bussel
DBN:	30Q171
ENROLLMENT:	567
SCHOOL TYPE:	Elementary
PEER INDEX:	55.43

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

OVERALL GRADE **B**

OVERALL SCORE **49.7** out of 100

PERCENTILE RANK **64**

This school's overall score is greater than or equal to that of 64 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.

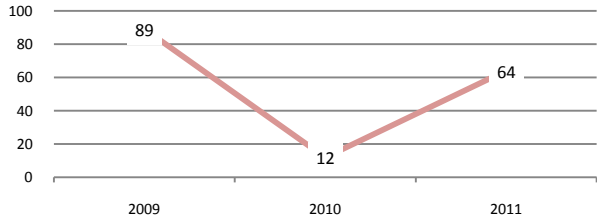
Overview

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	**33.6** 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	**7.0** out of 15	B	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	**2.5** (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	**49.7** 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:

Proficient

2007-08

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 33.6

(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

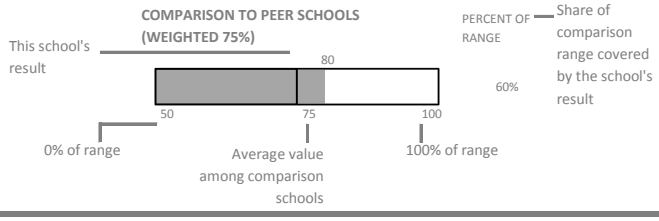
Student Progress represents 60% of the total score. The grade is based on growth percentiles, a measure of how much individual students improved on state tests in English and Math between 2010 and 2011, compared to other students who started at the same level. The section evaluates growth percentiles 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=200)	73.0	47.6 – 65.5 – 73.0 – 83.4	70.9%	52.5 – 68.7 – 73.0 – 84.9	63.3%	15	10.35
Median Adjusted Growth Percentile for School's Lowest Third (n=73)	77.0	53.2 – 71.7 – 77.0 – 90.2	64.3%	56.5 – 73.9 – 77.0 – 91.3	58.9%	15	9.44
Mathematics							
Median Adjusted Growth Percentile (n=208)	63.5	42.4 – 65.4 – 63.5 – 88.4	45.9%	44.5 – 67.2 – 63.5 – 89.9	41.9%	15	6.74
Median Adjusted Growth Percentile for School's Lowest Third (n=71)	66.0	44.9 – 66.7 – 66.0 – 88.5	48.4%	47.8 – 68.8 – 66.0 – 89.8	43.3%	15	7.07

TOTAL POINTS	60	33.60

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	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

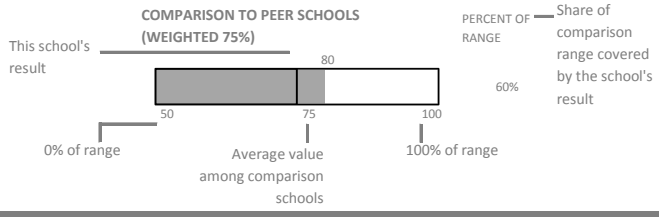
Student Performance represents 25% of the total score. The Student Performance grade is based on results on the 2011 state tests in English and Math. The section evaluates the percent of students who reach or exceed proficiency (Level 3 and 4), and the average proficiency rating of students.

	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=298)	39.9%	39.9% (22.1% – 57.5% – 92.9%)	25.1%	39.9% (18.2% – 58.9% – 99.6%)	26.7%	6.25	1.59
Average Student Proficiency (n=298)	2.77	2.77 (2.55 – 2.99 – 3.43)	25.0%	2.77 (2.45 – 3.03 – 3.61)	27.6%	6.25	1.60
Mathematics							
Percentage of students at level 3 or 4 (n=302)	52.0%	52.0% (31.9% – 71.6% – 100.0%)	29.5%	52.0% (31.2% – 73.0% – 100.0%)	30.2%	6.25	1.85
Average Student Proficiency (n=302)	3.04	3.04 (2.75 – 3.35 – 3.95)	24.2%	3.04 (2.67 – 3.39 – 4.11)	25.7%	6.25	1.54

TOTAL POINTS	25	6.58

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 **B**

SCORE 7

(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.

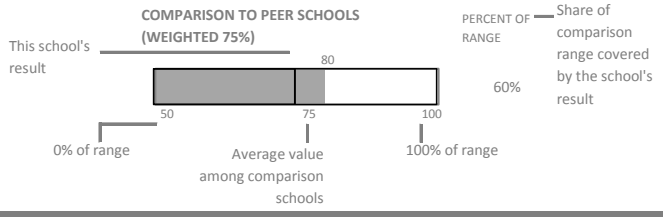
School Survey Results

	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	8.0	6.9 – 8.0 – 9.1	50.0%	7.1 – 8.1 – 9.1	45.0%	2.5	1.22
Communication	7.3	6.0 – 7.3 – 8.6	50.0%	6.1 – 7.4 – 8.7	46.2%	2.5	1.23
Engagement	7.5	6.2 – 7.4 – 8.6	54.2%	6.3 – 7.6 – 8.9	46.2%	2.5	1.31
Safety and Respect	8.1	6.9 – 8.0 – 9.1	54.5%	7.1 – 8.2 – 9.3	45.5%	2.5	1.31
Attendance Rate	92.7%	90.5% – 93.4% – 96.3%	37.9%	89.8% – 93.6% – 97.4%	38.2%	5	1.90

TOTAL POINTS	15	6.97

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=14)	.	12.0%	6.5%	.
CTT (n=45)	2.2%	33.3%	22.6%	.
SETSS (n=3)	.	35.3%	22.7%	.
Mathematics				
Self-Contained (n=14)	.	29.4%	16.7%	.
CTT (n=45)	8.9%	56.8%	42.4%	.
SETSS (n=3)	.	60.0%	41.7%	.
Percent at 75th Growth Percentile or Higher				
English				
English Language Learners (n=47)	40.4%	48.5%	42.7%	.
Lowest Third Citywide (n=99)	49.5%	54.3%	47.4%	0.5
Self-Contained/CTT/SETSS (n=45)	55.6%	57.1%	50.0%	0.5
Black and Hispanic Males in Lowest Third Citywide (n=37)	59.5%	52.9%	46.8%	1.0
Mathematics				
English Language Learners (n=55)	40.0%	55.0%	44.0%	.
Lowest Third Citywide (n=83)	33.7%	52.9%	43.0%	.
Self-Contained/CTT/SETSS (n=45)	26.7%	52.8%	44.3%	.
Black and Hispanic Males in Lowest Third Citywide (n=28)	39.3%	50.0%	40.7%	.
Movement of students with disabilities to less restrictive environments (n=53)	0.21	0.28	0.20	0.5
			TOTAL POINTS	2.5

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	(	88.7%	x	30	)	+	(	18.9%	x	30	)	+	(	69.7%	x	30	)	+	(	22.6%	x	10	)	=	55.43

PEER GROUP FOR: P.S. 171 Peter G. Van Alst

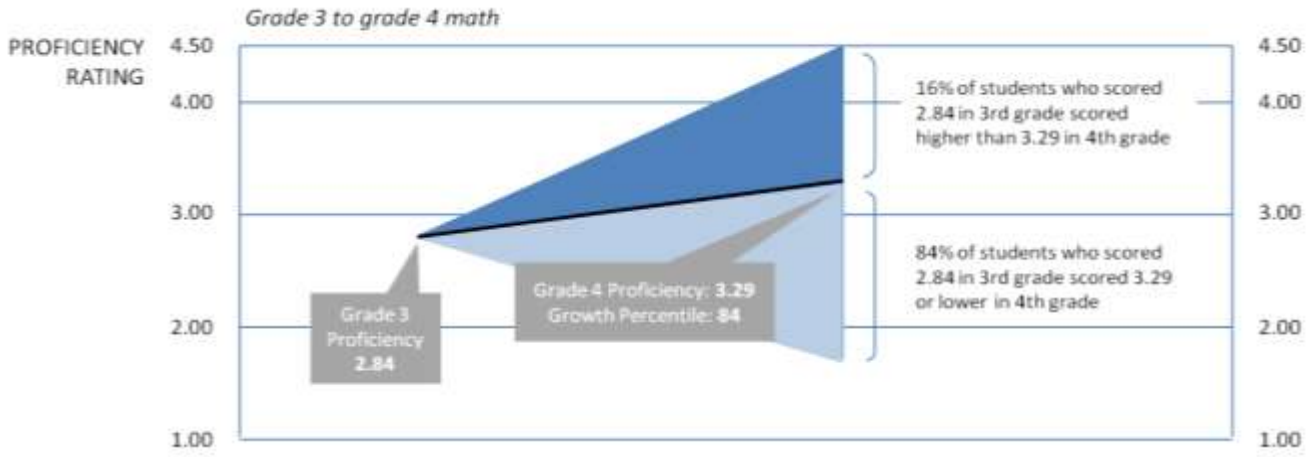
Each school's performance is compared to the performance of schools in its peer group. Peer schools are those New York City public schools with a student population most like this school's population, according to the peer index. Each elementary and middle school has up to 40 peer schools and each K-8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

DBN	SCHOOL	PEER INDEX	% FREE LUNCH	% IEP	% BLACK or HISPANIC	% ELL
28Q050	P.S. 050 Talfourd Lawn Elementary School	54.26	87.3%	15.6%	72.2%	17.4%
18K208	P.S. 208 Elsa Ebeling	54.27	71.9%	11.9%	95.4%	5.1%
11X076	P.S. 076 The Bennington School	54.28	71.7%	12.6%	92.5%	12.2%
01M134	P.S. 134 Henrietta Szold	54.33	84.1%	16.8%	75.4%	14.4%
16K021	P.S. 021 Crispus Attucks	54.39	68.6%	14.0%	98.6%	0.2%
08X072	P.S. 072 Dr. William Dorney	54.41	67.7%	22.6%	89.1%	6.2%
30Q112	P.S. 112 Dutch Kills	54.42	88.3%	19.9%	65.1%	24.1%
27Q223	P.S. 223 Lyndon B. Johnson	54.63	79.6%	13.8%	87.4%	4.0%
08X036	P.S. 036 Unionport	54.63	78.6%	19.2%	78.5%	17.5%
27Q045	P.S. 045 Clarence Witherspoon	54.65	74.9%	12.4%	92.9%	6.0%
84K358	Achievement First East New York School	54.71	71.3%	10.9%	99.8%	1.2%
24Q068	P.S. 068 Cambridge	54.78	72.3%	16.9%	85.3%	24.4%
27Q317	WATERSIDE CHILDREN'S STUDIO SCHOOL	54.86	80.3%	19.0%	80.7%	8.7%
15K124	P.S. 124 Silas B. Dutcher	54.87	85.9%	13.2%	76.1%	22.9%
29Q037	Cynthia Jenkins School	54.96	67.7%	16.3%	98.3%	2.7%
29Q176	P.S. 176 Cambria Heights	55.05	80.3%	7.2%	95.4%	1.7%
84M702	The Sisulu-Walker Charter School of Harlem	55.08	73.2%	10.4%	97.8%	6.7%
18K276	P.S. 276 Louis Marshall	55.12	68.2%	14.8%	97.5%	9.6%
04M083	P.S. 083 Luis Munoz Rivera	55.24	75.6%	15.4%	88.8%	12.9%
21K188	P.S. 188 Michael E. Berdy	55.32	82.4%	19.5%	80.5%	6.0%
30Q171	**P.S. 171 Peter G. Van Alst**	**55.43**	**88.7%**	**18.9%**	**69.7%**	**22.6%**
29Q181	P.S. 181 Brookfield	55.52	69.7%	17.7%	96.1%	4.7%
84M341	Harlem Children's Zone/Promise Academy II	55.52	70.5%	14.2%	98.4%	5.8%
13K093	P.S. 093 William H. Prescott	55.52	88.6%	8.7%	84.1%	10.8%
84X346	South Bronx Classical Charter School	55.55	77.6%	6.2%	99.4%	5.9%
27Q123	P.S. 123	55.57	82.0%	17.9%	83.5%	5.5%
11X087	P.S. 087 Bronx	55.57	76.2%	15.9%	92.8%	0.9%
11X105	P.S. 105 Sen Abraham Bernstein	55.65	81.2%	18.1%	78.4%	23.6%
22K203	P.S. 203 Floyd Bennett	55.69	73.9%	17.5%	92.6%	5.1%
24Q014	P.S. 014 Fairview	55.69	75.7%	12.8%	85.4%	35.0%
31R021	P.S. 21 Margaret Emery-Elm Park	55.70	76.4%	15.2%	87.1%	20.9%
08X182	P.S. 182	55.72	75.9%	14.5%	94.3%	3.4%
24Q089	P.S. 089 Elmhurst	55.76	87.1%	11.2%	72.7%	44.7%
20K506	P.S. 506: The School of Journalism & Technology	55.76	86.9%	13.1%	76.4%	28.4%
84M708	Harlem Day Charter School	55.81	72.5%	12.4%	98.8%	7.2%
84M329	Harlem Link Charter School	55.94	75.2%	15.9%	93.8%	4.8%
84X422	Icahn Charter School 3	55.96	75.1%	11.6%	96.7%	9.4%
19K273	P.S. 273 Wortman	55.96	72.4%	14.9%	98.5%	2.2%
28Q048	P.S. 048 William Wordsworth	56.13	79.4%	20.2%	84.6%	8.5%
22K194	P.S. 194 Raoul Wallenberg	56.21	82.3%	22.3%	78.9%	11.5%
18K279	P.S. 279 Herman Schreiber	56.24	74.1%	16.5%	95.2%	5.0%
	PEER GROUP AVERAGES	55.22	77.4%	15.0%	87.7%	11.6%

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.