# Progress Report Overview 2011-12

NYC Department of Education

HIGH SCHOOLS

**School:** **Hillside Arts & Letters Academy (28Q325)**

Principal: Matthew C. Ritter
Address: 167-01 Gothic Drive
Jamaica, NY 11432

Main Phone: 718-658-1249
School Type: High School**
Enrollment: 200

For a translation of this overview, please visit
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The NYC School Progress Report informs families about the school's strengths and weaknesses, emphasizing how far students have come in the past year. Progress Report grades are made up of 3 sections: student progress, student performance, and school environment. In each section, your school's results are compared to the results of other schools serving similar students. To view your school's Progress Report in detail, visit ARIS Parent Link at arisparentlink.org.

**Overall Progress Report Grade**

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| **Student Progress** | out of 55 points<br>0 — 55 | The Student Progress grade is based on the annual progress students make toward meeting the state's graduation requirements by earning course credits and passing State Regents exams. |
| **Student Performance** | out of 20 points<br>0 — 20 | The Student Performance grade is based on how many students are graduating and the types of diplomas they earn. |
| **School Environment** | out of 15 points<br>0 — 15 | The School Environment grade is based on student attendance and the school's NYC School Survey, where parents, teachers, and students rate academic expectations, safety and respect, communication, and engagement. |
| **College and Career Readiness** | out of 10 points<br>0 — 10 | College and Career Readiness measures how well students are prepared for life after high school on the basis of passing advanced courses, meeting English and math standards, and enrolling in a post-secondary institution. |
| **Closing the Achievement Gap** | (16 points max) | Schools receive additional credit for exceptional graduation results among students with disabilities and English Language Learners, and for exceptional graduation and/or Regents results among students with the lowest proficiency citywide. |

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| **Overall Grade** | out of 100 points<br>0 — 100 | The Overall Grade is based on the total of all scores above, including additional credit. Category scores may not add up to overall score because of rounding. |

**Schools in their first year of operation, or that do not have a graduating class, or that have been designated for phase out, receive a Progress Report with no grades or scores.

## What's new on this year's Progress Report?

This year's Progress Report has the same metrics as last year, plus a new section for “College and Career Readiness” that recognizes schools for success in preparing students for life after high school. This includes taking preparatory courses such as Advanced Placement or technical courses and meeting the standards for English and math readiness set by the City University of New York. The section also measures enrollment in postsecondary programs including college, vocational programs, and public service (e.g. military).

## What are schools doing to get students ready for college and careers?

Students who learn to solve problems and think critically are more likely to graduate from high school ready for college. New York and many other states are transitioning to new learning standards, called the Common Core standards, designed to prepare all students for success in college and careers. Teachers are already beginning to integrate these new standards into class work. To learn more about Common Core standards, ask your child’s teacher or visit our Common Core Library online at:

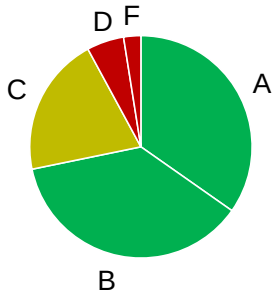
http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/CommonCoreLibrary/ForFamilies/default.htm

As we continue to work toward graduating students who are college and career ready, we are setting specific instructional expectations for this school year. Principals and teachers are preparing to strengthen student work by examining and refining what students are learning, how they are learning, and how they are being tested on what they learn. We are also working to develop excellent teachers in all of our schools by examining and refining the feedback teachers receive about their work.

## How many schools earned each grade?

A high school's overall Progress Report grade is based on the number of overall points it earns:

- Schools earning 70 or more points received As (35% of schools)
- Schools earning between 58 and 69.9 points received Bs (37% of schools)
- Schools earning between 47 and 57.9 points received Cs (20% of schools)
- Schools earning between 40 and 46.9 points received Ds (5% of schools)
- Schools earning less than 39.9 points received Fs (3% of schools)




## What happens if a school receives a low grade?

Strong Progress Report results are the basis for rewards for school leaders and poor results are an important factor in determining support and intervention needs for schools. If a school receives a D or an F, it indicates that students in that school are demonstrating a slower pace of learning and progress than students at similar schools.

If your child's school received a low grade, take the opportunity to ask the school's principal, parent coordinator, and staff members about plans for improving. The Department of Education closely monitors schools that receive Ds, Fs, or Cs or worse for three years in a row. These schools are evaluated and considered for intensive support or intervention.

## How can I learn more about my student's academic performance?

You can keep track of your child's daily attendance, schedule, and test scores on ARIS Parent Link at www.arisparentlink.org. ARIS Parent Link is available in ten languages and has information about ways to support your child in school. Contact the parent coordinator at your child’s school if you have questions about logging on or need your password.

To contact your school's principal or parent coordinator, call the main office. You can reach this school's main office by calling 718-658-1249.