



JOEL I. KLEIN, *Chancellor*

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007

SCHOOL ALLOCATION MEMORANDUM NO. 93.2, FY09

DATE: April 27, 2009

TO: **COMMUNITY SUPERINTENDENTS, INTEGRATED SERVICE CENTERS AND SCHOOL PRINCIPALS**

FROM: George Raab- Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: **CAMPAIGN for MIDDLE SCHOOL SUCCESS – ALGEBRA REGENTS INITIATIVE**

The Campaign for Middle School Success (CMSS) is a multi-tiered program designed to support all New York City middle schools to assist them in accelerating student learning, creating a culture of success, engaging students through rigorous and relevant instruction, supporting the development of the whole adolescent, and valuing parents, caregivers and families and external stakeholders as partners.

There are three primary goals for this campaign:

1. Improve overall student achievement in NYC middle schools
2. Close the achievement gap between Black and Hispanic and White and Asian American middle school students
3. Improve middle school student engagement and social-emotional development

One aspect of the CMSS is the Middle School Regents Initiative, a 20-week middle and high school collaboration launched in 2008 to provide middle school students with advanced Regents-level high school math instruction. This program enhances students' learning, development, and achievement in mathematics by supplementing the middle school math curriculum with after-school and Saturday Regents math preparation. Middle schools involved in the MSRI partner with one to four other middle schools and a high school to form an MSRI Cluster. Middle schools offer students after-school instruction during the week while the high school hosts the cluster middle school students and middle school teachers on Saturdays for Regents Prep sessions. To further support instruction, the high school recruits high school students who work in pairs to be math tutors at the middle schools during the week and during the Saturday sessions.

Through differentiated math instruction by highly qualified middle and high school teachers (who are supported with professional development), a rigorous and challenging Regents-level math curriculum, project-based hands-on learning activities, the integration of technology, and mentoring by high school tutors, middle school students will develop and improve their critical thinking, problem solving, logical reasoning skills and overall math ability. Participating eighth grade students are encouraged to take both the specialized high school examinations and the high school Integrated Algebra Regents Exam before leaving middle school.

Selection Criteria

In 2007-2008, the MSRI had a single cluster. Middle schools were selected based on their participation in the Middle School Initiative and interest in participating in the MSRI. For 2008-2009, the pilot was expanded to 3 clusters (3 high schools and 7 middle schools). In addition to

the cluster in Brooklyn at Benjamin Banneker, additional clusters were created in upper Manhattan and Queens using the same criteria.

Allocation Methodology

Schools selected to participate in the Middle School Algebra Regents Initiative will be reimbursed for the actual costs they incurred to secure high school tutors for the program. Tutors are paid \$8.00/hour, and the number of tutors and tutoring hours provided by each school varies.

The list of participating schools receiving allocations for the Middle School Algebra Regents Initiative is below

LOCATION	SCHOOL NAME	TOTAL ALLOCATION
05M195	I.S. 195 Roberto Clemente	\$ 972
06M322	Middle School 322	\$ 324
08X302	M.S. 302 Luisa Dessus Cruz	\$ 1,296
16K584	M.S. 584	\$ 2,916
19K166	J.H.S. 166 George Gershwin	\$ 3,888
32K296	J.H.S. 296 The Halsey	\$ 324
32K349	I.S. 349 Math, Science & Tech.	\$ 648
TOTAL ALLOCATION		\$ 10,368

Funds should be scheduled in **“TL MS Planning Grant”** allocation category.

Gr:bf

Cc: Dr. Marcia V. Lyles
 Dr. Sabrina Hope King
 Anita Cassity
 Linda Curtis-Bey
 Lisa Dare
 Melissa Hamann