

NEWS



NEW YORK STATE BOARD OF REGENTS

THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, March 2, 2009

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COMMISSIONER MILLS ANNOUNCES RECORD NUMBER OF SCHOOLS REMOVED FROM REGISTRATION REVIEW; NAMES 5 NEW SURR SCHOOLS

State Education Commissioner Richard Mills today removed 25 schools from School Under Registration Review (SURR) status, the largest number of schools ever removed from registration review in a year. SURR schools are those farthest from meeting State standards and face the possibility of closure if they do not make improvements required by the Commissioner.

The Commissioner also announced that he had placed an additional five schools under registration review and that four schools in New York City and Buffalo that otherwise would have been named to SURR status will be phased out and closed under agreements with the districts.

These actions bring the total number of Schools Under Registration Review to 43 statewide, 20 of them in New York City, the smallest number of SURRs since the initial year of the program in 1989.

Of the schools removed from registration review this year, 13 were in New York City; six in Buffalo; three in Syracuse; and one each in Rochester, Roosevelt, and Wyandanch. Of the five schools identified, four are in New York City and one in Rochester.

Commissioner Mills said, "The large number of schools removed this year reflects the significant improvement of many schools in English language arts and mathematics since the inception of the Grades 3-8 assessment program in the 2005-2006 school year. While these schools have made progress, there is much unfinished work, and these schools must now build upon these efforts to increase student achievement."

The Commissioner also announced that he has reached agreements with the Chancellor of the New York City public schools and the superintendent of the Buffalo School District to phase out a total of three current SURR schools (two in Buffalo and one in New York City). In addition, four schools that would have been placed on the SURR list will be closed, three in New York City and one in Buffalo.

Last year, the cut-points for SURR identification were raised by eight points on the School Performance Index (SPI) for Grade 3-8 and High School English language arts and Mathematics. Many of the lowest performing schools in the State showed strong gains in performance last year and, despite the increase in the cut-point, the number of schools farthest from State standards declined from 06-07 to 07-08. This, combined with the aggressive efforts of some districts to close low-performing schools, resulted in fewer schools being identified for registration review this year.

“We are encouraged that the efforts of districts and schools have resulted in this large number of schools removed from registration review,” said Chancellor of the Board of Regents Robert Bennett. “The progress made by the Roosevelt Middle School, a SURR school for four years located in a district that has been a particular focus of the Regents, is encouraging news.

Johanna Duncan Poitier, Senior Deputy Commissioner of Education – P-16 said, “I am especially proud of the hard work that the educators, school board and children of the Roosevelt School District have done to improve student achievement.”

Since 1989, 312 schools have been identified for registration review. Of these, 228 have been removed because of improving academic performance, including 61 that have been removed in the last five years. An additional 66 schools that did not meet their performance targets have been closed by school districts, including six last year.

The level of achievement that schools were required to demonstrate to avoid possible consideration for registration review was a Performance Index of 106 in Elementary-Middle Level English, 93 in Elementary-Middle Level math, and 116 in high school English and mathematics.

Attached are lists of schools identified for, and removed from, registration review.

SPI Definition: The SPI is computed by giving one point to a school for each student performing at Level 2 and two points for each student performing at Level 3 or 4 and dividing by the total number of students. For example, if 10 students perform at Level 1, 20 at Level 2, and 25 at Levels 3 and 4, the school’s SPI will be 127 $(0 + 20 + 50/55)$

ATTACHMENT A
New Schools Identified for Registration Review
February 2009

School	District	Criterion	Cut-point for Farthest from State Standards	2007-2008 Performance
East High School	Rochester	HS ELA	116	109
New Explorers High School	NYC–CSD 7	HS ELA	116	109
PS 230	NYC–CSD 9	3-8 ELA	108	101
West Bronx Academy	NYC–CSD 10	HS ELA	116	108
Boys and Girls High School	NYC–CSD 16	HS Math	116	110

ATTACHMENT B
Schools Removed from Registration Review
February 2009

District	School	Year Identified	Criteria	Performance Index	Targets
Buffalo	PS 18	2002	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	132 145	126 113
Buffalo	PS 19	2003	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	130 129	126 113
Buffalo	PS 53	2001	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	132 144	126 113
Buffalo	PS 61*	2005	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	110 130	118 117
Buffalo	Hamlin Park	2006	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	115 129	112 107
Buffalo	Grabiarz	2006	3-8 Math	117	112
Rochester	Joseph C. Wilson	2007	3-8 Math	129	117
Roosevelt	Roosevelt Middle School	2004	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	150 149	126 113
Syracuse	Clary Magnet	2006	3-8 Math	115	112
Syracuse	Applied Science	2006	3-8 Math	142	112
Syracuse	Elmwood	2006	3-8 Math	145	117
Wyandanch	Wyandanch Memorial High School	2006	HS ELA	155	125
NYC–CSD 2	Graphic Communication Arts HS	2004	HS Math	135	116
NYC–CSD 4	JHS 13	2006	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	124 112	116 102
NYC–CSD 7	JHS 151**	2004	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	114 128	115 100
NYC–CSD 8	JHS 123	2005	3-8 ELA	127	120
NYC–CSD 8	MS 302	2005	3-8 ELA	129	119
NYC–CSD 9	JHS 22	2006	3-8 Math	122	112
NYC–CSD 9	IS 232	2006	3-8 Math	128	116
NYC–CSD 9	IS 339	2006	3-8 Math	137	108

NYC–CSD 16	JHS 57	2005	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	122 136	119 115
NYC–CSD 17	IS 246	2006	3-8 Math	135	114
NYC–CSD 23	PS 12	2005	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	137 173	128 113
NYC–CSD 32	IS 291	2005	3-8 ELA 3-8 Math	118 132	117 114
NYC–CSD 32	IS 349	2003	3-8 ELA	129	114

- Note: Although 25 schools are listed above, SED will not count the Roosevelt campus as removed from registration review until both the middle school and high school are no longer identified.
- *PS 61 was eligible for removal because the school made AYP for two consecutive years, is now in Good Standing under NCLB, and is not farthest from a State standard.
- ** JHS 151’s performance was within one point of its target and was determined to have made sufficient progress to be removed from registration review.

**ATTACHMENT C
SURR Schools to Be Phased Out/Closed**

District	School	Year Identified	Year of Closure
Buffalo	Grover Cleveland High School	2003	2012
Buffalo	South Park High School	2002	2009
NYC CSD 10	MS 399	2003	2012

**ATTACHMENT D
Schools Not Identified for Registration Review Because of Decision
to Phase Out/Close School**

District	School	Year of Closure
Buffalo	The Academy School	2009
NYC 18	Samuel Tilden High School	2010
NYC 12	Business School For Entrepreneurial Studies	2010
NYC 18	South Shore High School	2010

- Note: Business School For Entrepreneurial Studies and South Shore High School, which the NYC Chancellor had previously agreed to phase out and are in the process of closing, were again this year farthest from State standards.

**Attachment E
Schools Under Registration Review (SURR)
February 2009**

New York City

District	School	BEDS	Year Identified*	SED Status – Group
75	PS 12	307500012012	2005	Corrective Action – Group 13A
04	JHS 45	310400010045	2006	Corrective Action– Group 14A
05	IS 172	310500010172	2003	Corrective Action – Group 11A (Closing 6/2009)
05	I.S. 286 Renaissance Military and Leadership	310500010286	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
06	MS 326 Writers Today and Leaders Tomorrow	310600010326	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
07	MS 203	320700010203	2006	Corrective Action– Group 14A
07	PS/IS 224	320700010224	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
07	New Explores High School	320700011547	2008	Newly Identified – Group 16
08	MS 301	320800010301	2006	Corrective Action – Group 14A
08	MS 424 – Hunts Point School	320800010424	2007	MS 201 closed in June 2007 and was replaced by MS 424, which has assumed its SURR status.
09	PS 230	320900010230	2008	Newly Identified – Group 16

District	School	BEDS	Year Identified*	SED Status – Group
09	New Millennium Business Academy Middle School	320900010328	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
10	MS 399	321000010399	2003	Corrective Action – Closing (6/2012)
10	West Bronx Academy for the Future	321000011243	2008	Newly Identified – Group 16
13	JHS 258	331300010258	2001	Fourth Year Redesign – Group 9 (Closing 6/2009)
16	Boys and Girls High School	331600011455	2008	Newly Identified – Group 16
18	Canarsie HS	331800011500	2006	Corrective Action – Group 14 (Closing 6/2011)
19	Franklin K. Lane	331900011420	2002	Third Year Redesign – Group 10 (Closing 6/2012)
32	Bushwick Community HS	333200010564	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
27	Far Rockaway	342700011465	2004	Second Year Redesign – Group 12 (Closing 6/2011)

Upstate SURR Schools

District	School	BEDS	Year Identified	Status (Group)
Albany	Philip Livingston Magnet Academy	010100010031	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
Buffalo	Buffalo Elementary School Of Technology	140600010006	2006	Corrective Action – Group 14A
Buffalo	PS 11 Poplar Street Academy	140600010011	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
Buffalo	PS 37	140600010037	2004	Corrective Action – Group 12A
Buffalo	Mayor Frank A. Sedita Community School	140600010038	2001	PS 38 was closed in June 2006 and merged with PS 77 to become the Frank A Sedita School, effective September 2006
Buffalo	PS 76 – Herman Badillo	140600010076	2005	Corrective Action – Group 13A
Buffalo	Burgard High School	140600010101	2001	Fourth Year Redesign – Group 9 (Closing 6/2011)
Buffalo	Grover Cleveland High School	140600010103	2003	Second Year Redesign – Closing (Closing 6/2012)
Buffalo	South Park H.S.	140600010110	2002	Third Year Redesign – Closing (8/2009)
Buffalo	West Hertel Elementary School	140600010118	2005	Corrective Action – Group 13A
Buffalo	Harvey Austin School	140600010197	2005	School Added to SURR list as result of Merger of PS 171 and Buffalo Traditional in 2/2005.

District	School	BEDS	Year Identified	Status (Group)
				(Closing 6/2011)
Rochester	East High School	261600010061	2008	Newly Identified – Group 16
Rochester	Thomas Jefferson High School	261600010063	2006	Corrective Action – Group 14
Rochester	James Monroe High School	261600010066	2006	Corrective Action – Group 14
Rochester	Bioscience & Health Career HS at Franklin	261600010076	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
Rochester	School for Engineering & Manufacturing	261600010082	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
Rochester	Global Media Arts at Franklin	261600010084	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
Rochester	International Finance & Economic Development HS At Franklin	261600010086	2006	Corrective Action – Group 14
Roosevelt	Roosevelt Campus Schools: Roosevelt High School	280208030005	1990	Under Jurisdiction of Special Legislative Act. In 2004 the Roosevelt Junior-High School was split into the Roosevelt Middle School and the Roosevelt High School. The Middle School was removed from registration review in February 2009.
Syracuse	Seymour Magnet	421800010028	2005	Corrective Action – Group 13A
Syracuse	Delaware Elementary School	421800010041	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15
Syracuse	Blodgett Elementary	421800010055	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15

District	School	BEDS	Year Identified	Status (Group)
	School			
Mount Vernon	Nelson Mandela Community HS	660900010025	2007	Corrective Action– Group 15

*Year identified refers to the school year of initial identification, i.e., 1989 means the school was identified during the 1989-90 school year. For former SURR schools that were re-identified, year identified is the year of re-identification. Group designations are based upon year of most recent identification or redesign. Schools that are phasing out are eliminating grades and not enrolling new students.