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The New York State School Report Card
for
P.S. 54
in
Buffalo City School District

An Overview of Academic Performance



March 2002



The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department

March 25, 2002

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School Profile

Principal: Ms. Elizabeth Martina		Phone: (716)838-7400	
Organization 2000-01		School Staff ¹ (both full- and part-time)	
Grade Range	Student Enrollment	Count of Teachers	Count of Other Professionals
PK-2	447	35	2

1999-00 School District-wide Total Expenditure per Pupil	\$11,742
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Student Enrollment			
Grade Level	October 2000	Grade Level	October 2000
Pre-Kindergarten	126	Grade 7	0
Kindergarten	140	Grade 8	0
Grade 1	157	Grade 9	0
Grade 2	150	Grade 10	0
Grade 3	0	Grade 11	0
Grade 4	0	Grade 12	0
Grade 5	0	Ungraded Elementary with Disabilities	0
Grade 6	0	Ungraded Secondary with Disabilities	0

Student Demographics Used To Determine Similar School Groups	1998-99		1999-2000		2000-01	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
English Language Learners	0	0.0%	4	0.7%	0	0.0%
Eligible For Free Lunch	186	39.2%	269	59.0%	248	55.5%

Similar Schools Group	This school is in Similar Schools Group 4. All schools in this group are elementary level schools in large cities other than New York City. The schools in this group are in the lower range of student needs for elementary level schools in these districts.
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¹ Some district-employed staff serve in more than one school. These shared people are not reported here.

System of Accountability for Student Success (SASS)

This section presents this school's results relative to Commissioner's standards for school performance. To raise performance, the Commissioner has established State standards for schools for each school year through 2002-03.

Schools are expected to meet or exceed the Commissioner's standards. School districts must develop and implement local assistance plans (LAP) to bring every public school up to these levels. Schools that fall below a standard are assigned adequate yearly progress (AYP) targets. This school-specific program of attainable goals is intended to allow schools below standard to "compete against themselves" by showing adequate progress towards closing the gap between their baseline performance and the State standard.

A Performance Index is used to assess school performance relative to elementary- and middle-level State standards for English language arts and for mathematics. The Performance Index credits each school for the students demonstrating some of the Learning Standards (Level 2) and for the students demonstrating all of the assessed Learning Standards (Level 3 and Level 4). Students at the higher levels contribute more to the Performance Index than do Level 2 students. Level 1 performance earns no credit. As a guide to understanding, the Performance Index may be understood as the sum of the percentage of students performing at or above Level 2 plus the percentage of students performing at or above Level 3.

More information about this school accountability program is available from the State Education Department Web site (<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/repcrd2002>). There you can find the rules for which students' results are included in the Performance Index, for how the performance of English language learners is included, for how the baseline numbers are calculated, for accountability for very small schools, and for when and how adequate yearly progress targets are assigned. Please note that Performance Index is only presented for schools that reported 20 or more continuously enrolled students' results. For this purpose continuously enrolled is defined as being enrolled in the school from October through the date of the State assessment.

The Commissioner has decided that until there is a State plan to meet the requirements of the Federal "No Child Left Behind" legislation he will not establish a State SASS standard for the 2003-04 school year for the elementary- and middle-level State assessments for English language arts and for mathematics. Therefore, no AYP targets are computed for the 2003-04 school year at this time. Schools that met a State standard in 1999-00 but performed below the State standard in 2000-01 are assigned AYP targets for the 2001-02 and 2002-03 school years. These AYP targets are determined using the 2002-03 State SASS standard Performance Index value of 150. Schools that performed below a State standard in 1999-00 were previously assigned AYP targets for 2001-02 and 2002-03, while schools that met State standards in 2000-01 are not assigned AYP targets.