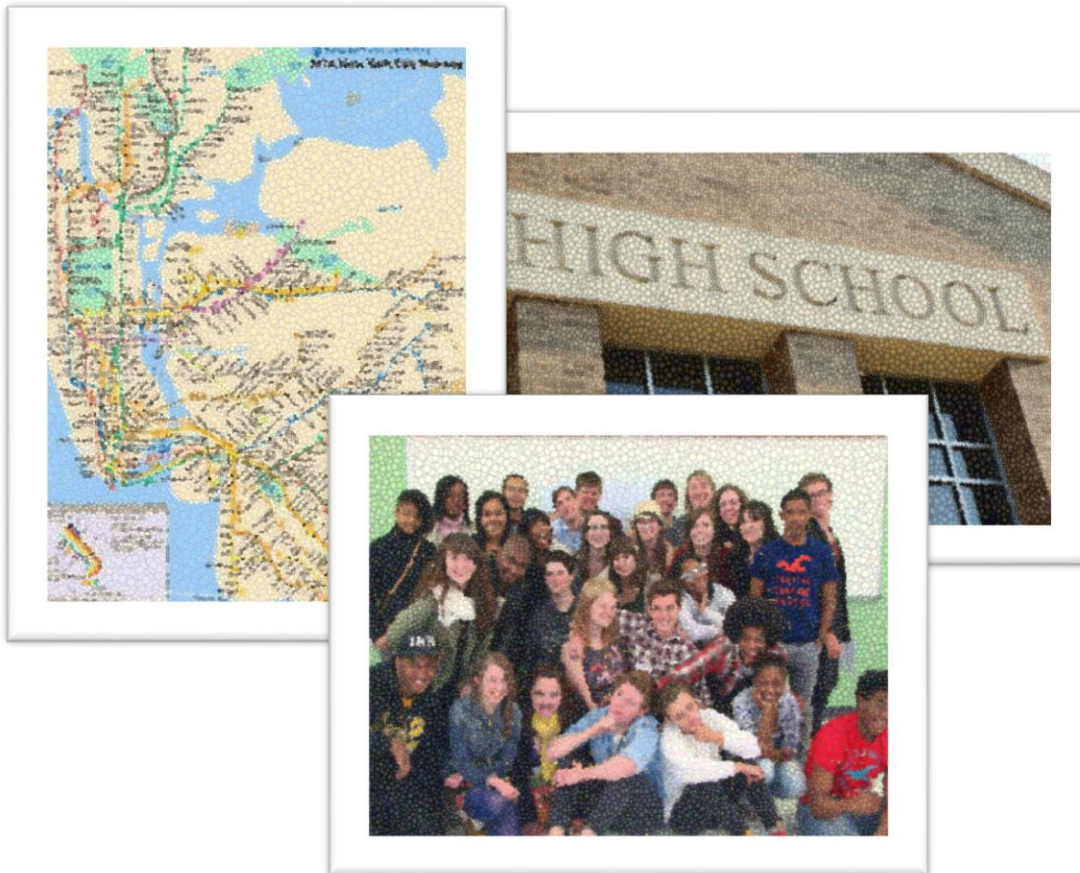


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# NYC's Top Ranked Screened High Schools

## *Equity and Diversity Discussion Paper*



The analysis presented here is a continuation of a report [Equity Discussion Paper: Should the New York City Department of Education Increase the Number of Screened High Schools for Outer-Borough Academically Strong Students](#) I wrote in 2015. In New York City, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have a choice of applying to more than 400 high schools with over 700 individual programs. The focus of this report is the top ranked 50 New York City-Department of Education (NYC-DOE) high schools (using the DOE’s own peer school system that is based on 8th Grade ELA and Math test scores): 31 screened schools (with several requiring an audition) and the eight Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT) exam admissions based high schools. 11 highly competitive screened programs within hybrid model high schools were also included in the grouping. Academically strong students are defined as any NYC-DOE District or Charter school 7<sup>th</sup> grade student scoring a 3.0 or higher on the New York State English Language Arts (ELA) Exam<sup>1</sup>.

## New Findings and Observations

- My [2015 Discussion Paper](#) showed that it was highly likely that the number of seventh grade students scoring a Level 3 or 4 will see a significant increase as elementary and middle schools successfully transition to the new Common Core based New York State Grades 3 to 8 ELA and Math exams. In just three years, the number of seventh graders students scoring a Level 3 or 4 on the NYS ELA exam increased by 12,483 students or 66% (includes both NYC-DOE District and NYC Charter Schools). Almost all of the top ranked screened high schools require a student to have a Level 3 or 4 test score. So while the number of openings in the top ranked 50 top ranked high schools had a tiny increase of around 360 seats or 3%, the potential demand for these schools grew sharply.

### Seventh Graders scoring a 3 or 4 on NYS ELA Exam (NYC-DOE and Charter Schools)

2013-14	2016-17	Change	Percentage Change
18,964 students	31,447 students	+12,483	+66%

Source: NYC-DOE ELA Results 2013-2016, NYC-DOE Charter Schools 2017 and NYSED Report Card 2017

- The citywide gap between supply and potential demand has widened. There are now around 12,000 incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade high school seats in the top ranked 50 high schools with a potential demand of 31,000 students applying for those seats (this figure does not include seventh grade private and parochial school students). For NYC-DOE schools only (test score data by race/ethnicity is not available for NYC charter schools), a total of 27,584 seventh graders that took the NYS ELA exam in 2017 had a test score of Level 3 or 4. Of the 27,584 students with a Level 3 or 4 score, 12,512 students were black or Hispanic (45%).
- There are 31 screened high schools in the NYC-DOE top ranked high school group. These 31 schools have a total enrollment (grades 9 to 12) of 26,000 students. Of the 26,000 students, 42% are black or Hispanic (11,043 students).<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The methodology decision to use a Level 3 score on the ELA exam for constructing the ranking was discussed in the 2015 Discussion Paper. Other factors such as grades and NYS Math score are equally important. Only test scores from 7<sup>th</sup> grade are used by the high schools for an admissions decision.

<sup>2</sup>See appendix 1 on page 13 for chart

## New Findings and Observations

- More than half of these top ranked screened high schools, 18 out of 31, have an enrollment in which at least 35% of the students are either Black or Hispanic. Nine of the top ranked screened schools have an enrollment in which at least 50% of the students are Black or Hispanic.<sup>3</sup>
- There are seven screened schools in the top ranked group with an enrollment between 15% and 20% black and Hispanic students. Given the higher number of black and Hispanic students in the other screened schools, these seven schools should be able to do a better job of admitting a student body that is more racially and ethnically diverse.
- 22 out of the 31 screened high schools have an enrollment with 40% or more students residing in a poverty household.
- The Bronx and Brooklyn Borough President’s Task Force on Equity is shining a light on the “Gifted and Talented” programs. While the Borough President’s should be applauded for their campaign to increase the number of gifted/talented and SHSAT school seats, a related question still needs to be addressed. What happens when gifted and talented students reach 8<sup>th</sup> grade? If they live in the outer boroughs, there simply aren’t enough screened high schools for academically strong students to accommodate them.
- With the just released 2017 NYS ELA test results, there are now around 31,000 academically strong students applying for high school and only 12,000 seats in the top ranked 50 NYC-DOE high schools. The gap between the number of seats and potential demand has increased sharply since the 2015 Report was issued. While the eight SHSAT schools continue to consume the attention of elected officials, NYC-DOE, media and advocacy groups, the top ranked screened high schools group remains on the sidelines of public policy and discourse. Increasing the number of screened high schools for academically strong students does not mean there has to be a lessening of efforts for greater diversity at the SHSAT exam schools. Both goals can be strived for at the same time.
- The borough of the Bronx has one of the most admissions competitive high schools in the City: Bronx Center for Science and Mathematics High School (which happens to fall just right below the top 50 schools ranking based on ELA scores). Bronx Center is a limited unscreened school. The school has the highest seat per applicant ratio (33 applicants for every seat opening) of 20 top high schools for applications received. Bronx Center has a higher ratio of applicants per seat than all of the better known screened high schools including Bard, Beacon and Townsend Harris. With so few choices, Bronx students seeking an academically strong screened high school must apply outside the borough
- The last time the NYC-DOE opened a new screened high school for academically strong students was in 2012. That school, Millennium Brooklyn, in the heart of Park Slope, today has an enrollment of 654 students with a highly diverse ethnic and racial student body: 9% Asian; 23% black; 25% Hispanic; 9% “multiple race categories not represented”; and 34% white. 42% of the students reside in poverty households. In 2017, a total of 2,105 students put Brooklyn Millennium on their high school application for only 146 seats for incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders. A NYC-DOE [school profile](#) of Millennium Brooklyn shows numerous examples of a rigorous academic environment along with 90% of the graduating students going on to college including acceptances to elite schools. [Inside Schools](#) also has a very favorable review. Millennium Brooklyn also has one of the only ASD-Nest (autism spectrum) programs in the City.

<sup>3</sup> NYC-DOE data includes a separate category for students from households “multiple race categories not represented” (see Chart 3). Therefore, the black and Hispanic enrollment figure for each school is higher when students from the “multiple race categories not represented” group are added together with the already counted black and Hispanic students.

## ***Recommendation***

- **There is only one practical solution- the NYC-DOE should create more screened high schools for academically strong students. There should be “Millennium” modeled high schools in the Bronx and underserved parts of Queens and Brooklyn. The NYC-DOE just has to build on its successful track record of creating new screened high schools for academically strong students.**

### **1. Background**

In 2015, I began working on a Discussion Paper about the admissions practices of the New York City Department of Education (NYC-DOE) high school choice system and its top ranked screened high schools. The end result was [\*“Equity Discussion Paper: Should the New York City Department of Education Increase the Number of Screened High Schools for Outer-Borough Academically Strong Students”\*](#). The report showed that a very serious inequity exists with the geographic distribution of the top ranked 50 screened high schools; too few schools are located in boroughs other than Manhattan. Also, the number of academically strong students far exceeds the number of available seats in the top ranked screened high schools. In the fall of 2015, the Discussion Paper was sent to senior staff at the New York City Department of Education, the Comptroller, City Council Speaker and the Bronx and Queens Borough Presidents offices, pointing out these two extreme inequities, and explaining that because of the public’s intense and very narrow focus on the eight Specialized High School Achievement Test (SHSAT) exam schools, the needs of a far larger number of academically strong students are being ignored.

While these problems are quite conspicuous, and while there has been a steady flow of investigative reporting, research studies and advocacy in recent years regarding the New York City Department of Education high school choice system, with the exception of one in-depth reporting article from the Bronx based [\*Norwood News\*](#), ***there hasn’t been a single printed word about the importance of increasing the number of screened high schools for academically strong students.*** Furthermore, some of these articles leave the reader with the misperception that the NYC-DOE high school screened high schools contribute to the perpetuation of a system of racial and economic segregation.

The June 2017 Update shows that to capture the full reality of the high school choice system, more pertinent information must be given consideration. The June 2017 Update provides new data, which is basically just a cut and paste from the 2016-17 New York City Department of Education Demographic Snapshot file. The new information demonstrates that despite many known obstacles with the high school choice system, black and Hispanic students have navigated and gain admissions into top ranked screened high schools. While there is still plenty of room for improving diversity, the top ranked screened schools offer large numbers of academically strong black and Hispanic students an opportunity to learn in ethnically, racially and income integrated schools where the only denominator is being an academically strong student.

## 2. NYC-DOE Demographic Profiles data for the top 50 ranked high schools

The excerpt below is from a New York Times editorial, [“Confronting Segregation in New York City’s Schools”](#) that ran on May 15, 2017.

“Created during the mayoralty of Michael Bloomberg, New York’s choice system frees eighth graders who once would have attended their neighborhood high schools to apply anywhere in the city. But many of the most desirable high schools seem to have washed their hands of all but the best-prepared students by basing admission on auditions, or scores on a one-day, high-stakes test, or top performance on statewide exams, or portfolios of middle school work. Others apply vague entrance criteria that leave a room for arbitrariness.

By eighth grade, however, many low-income black and Hispanic children who have spent their early grades confined to failing schools — and passed through similarly poor middle schools — have already fallen too far behind in the competition for the high schools that could prepare them for college.

In some cases, for example, middle school students may not have taken courses necessary for entry and may not have the work samples to submit because teachers were unaware that they were supposed to preserve them. And low-income children who might qualify for admission are often defeated by a byzantine application process that wealthier parents navigate with paid consultants.

The choice system was constructed not for the poor, but to keep white middle-class families invested in the public schools. Even some who supported the strategy 20 years ago, though, now recognize that it promotes class segregation and presents enormous obstacles to vulnerable families. As The Times article points out, the racial isolation of black and Hispanic students is just as great in high school as in elementary schools, evidence that the choice system is failing.”

Everything said in this editorial may be truthful. However, the reader would never know from this editorial that the NYC-DOE high school choice system story is a bit more complex. The three charts in this section show that thousands of black and Hispanic students are being educated in high schools screened for academically strong students. In fact, when all black and Hispanic students are counted, they comprise more than 42% of the top ranked screened high schools total student enrollment. Furthermore, one would never know from this editorial that there are several thousand academically strong black and Hispanic students that will not get a seat in a top ranked screened high school simply because there are too few of these schools to meet the overwhelming demand. These pieces of information must be included for a full and critical understanding of the NYC-DOE high school choice system.

The 2017 Update consists of three charts:

- **Chart 1.** Black and Hispanic Student Representation at the Top Ranked 50 NYC-DOE High Schools;
- **Chart 2.** Students Residing in Poverty Households at the Top Ranked 50 NYC-DOE High Schools
- **Chart 3.** Racial and Ethnic Representation at the Top Ranked 50 NYC-DOE High Schools

**Chart 1. Black and Hispanic Student Representation at the Top Ranked 50 NYC-DOE High Schools**

**2016-17 School Year**

School Name	Total Enrollment	# Black	% Black	# Hispanic	% Hispanic	Combined %
<b>Manhattan</b>						
Bard High School Early College	548	88	16.1%	97	17.7%	<b>34%</b>
Baruch College Campus High School	440	20	4.5%	63	14.3%	<b>19%</b>
Beacon High School	1,304	177	13.6%	260	19.9%	<b>34%</b>
Columbia Secondary School	687	157	22.9%	290	42.2%	<b>65%</b>
Eleanor Roosevelt High School	543	22	4.1%	59	10.9%	<b>15%</b>
Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts	2,697	297	11.0%	468	17.4%	<b>28%</b>
High School for Mathematics, Science and Engineering at City College	463	41	8.9%	80	17.3%	<b>26%</b>
Manhattan / Hunter Science High School	451	74	16.4%	164	36.4%	<b>53%</b>
Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics	1,604	321	20%	868	54	<b>74%</b>
Millennium High School	659	43	6.5%	100	15.2%	<b>22%</b>
N.Y.C. Lab School for Collaborative Studies	531	29	5.5%	78	14.7%	<b>20%</b>
N.Y.C. Museum School	454	59	13.0%	166	36.6%	<b>50%</b>
New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math	1,745	140	8.0%	193	11.1%	<b>19%</b>
NYC iSchool	449	83	18.5%	131	29.2%	<b>48%</b>
Professional Performing Arts High School	544	105	19.3%	108	19.9%	<b>39%</b>
School of the Future High School	763	87	11.4%	213	27.9%	<b>39%</b>
Special Music School	314	43	13.7%	42	13.4%	<b>27%</b>
Stuyvesant High School	3,365	21	0.6%	82	2.4%	<b>3%</b>
Talent Unlimited High School	495	163	32.9%	202	40.8%	<b>74%</b>
<b>Bronx</b>						
Bronx High School of Science	2,979	62	2.1%	164	5.5%	<b>8%</b>
High School of American Studies at Lehman College	377	14	3.7%	49	13%	<b>16%</b>
<b>Brooklyn</b>						
Benjamin Banneker Academy	896	746	83.3%	88	9.8%	<b>93%</b>
Brooklyn College Academy	618	422	68.3%	67	10.8%	<b>79%</b>
Brooklyn Latin School, The	724	106	14.6%	96	13.3%	<b>28%</b>
Fort Hamilton High School	4,551	196	4.3%	1,432	31.5%	<b>36%</b>
Brooklyn Technical High School	5,682	391	6.9%	409	7.2%	<b>14%</b>
James Madison High School	3,418	619	18.1%	602	17.6%	<b>36%</b>

School Name	Total Enrollment	# Black	% Black	# Hispanic	% Hispanic	Combined %
Leon M. Goldstein High School for the Sciences	1,029	101	9.8%	97	9.4%	19%
Medgar Evers College Preparatory School	1,252	1,104	88.2%	61	4.9%	93%
Midwood High School	4,017	1,121	27.9%	484	12.0%	40%
Millennium Brooklyn HS	654	153	23.4%	163	24.9%	48%
New Utrecht High School	3,661	127	3.5%	1,095	29.9%	33%
<b>Queens</b>						
Academy of American Studies	999	64	6.4%	325	32.5%	39%
Baccalaureate School for Global Education	518	14	2.7%	87	16.8%	19%
Bard High School Early College Queens	597	70	11.7%	104	17.4%	29%
Bayside High School	3,181	418	13.1%	831	26.1%	39%
Benjamin N. Cardozo High School	3,744	764	20.4%	734	19.6%	40%
Forest Hills High School	3,903	326	8.4%	1,347	34.5%	43%
Francis Lewis High School	4,463	268	6.0%	933	20.9%	27%
Frank Sinatra School of the Arts High School	849	113	13.3%	288	33.9%	47%
Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School	704	221	31.4%	65	9.2%	41%
Queens High School for the Sciences at York College	462	25	5.4%	32	6.9%	12%
Queens School of Inquiry, The	575	92	16.0%	140	24.3%	40%
Scholars' Academy	1,351	246	18.2%	251	18.6%	37%
Townsend Harris High School	1,110	60	5.4%	127	11.4%	17%
York Early College Academy	620	293	47.3%	64	10.3%	58%
<b>Staten Island</b>						
New Dorp High School	2,974	337	11.3%	830	27.9%	39%
Staten Island Technical High School	1,312	13	1.0%	49	3.7%	5%
Susan E. Wagner High School	3,301	356	10.8%	893	27.1%	38%
Tottenville High School	3,911	73	1.9%	464	11.9%	14%

**Source and notes:** All data is taken directly from the [NYC-DOE Demographic Snapshot – Citywide, Borough, District, and School for School Year 2016-17](#). The 31 screened and 8 SHSAT exam schools come from a ranking based on incoming ELA test scores found on page 13 and 14 in a 2015 report by the author: [Equity Discussion Paper: Should the New York City Department of Education Increase the Number of Screened High Schools for Outer-Borough Academically Strong Students](#). 11 high schools are hybrid schools. These schools have both neighborhood zoned and highly competitive screened programs: Bayside, Cardozo, Francis Lewis, Forest Hills, Fort Hamilton, Madison, Midwood, New Utrecht, Susan Wagner, Tottenville and New Dorp. The data for these 11 schools is for the total student enrollment not just the screened programs. The NYC-DOE data is broken down by the following racial and ethnic groups: black, Hispanic, Asian, White and “multiple race categories not represented”. Chart 1 only shows black and Hispanic students. Chart 3 shows all racial and ethnic groups including “multiple race categories not represented”. Because the NYC-DOE data offers two possible groupings for black and Hispanic students, all 50 schools have more integration than cited above in the findings. A school by school breakdown can be found in **Chart 3**. Five of the high schools also have middle schools. The data is for all grades 6 to 12. These five schools are: Professional Performing Arts, Special Music School, Medgar Evers College Preparatory, Queens School of Inquiry, and Scholar’s Academy. New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math (NEST) includes grades K to 12.

**Chart 2. Students Residing in Poverty Households at the Top Ranked 50 NYC-DOE High Schools**

**2016-17 School Year**

DBN	School Name	Total Enrollment	# Poverty	% Poverty
	<b>Manhattan</b>			
01M696	Bard High School Early College	548	242	44.2%
01M539	New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math	1,745	436	25.0%
02M376	NYC iSchool	449	168	37.4%
02M408	Professional Performing Arts High School	544	155	28.5%
02M411	Baruch College Campus High School	440	188	42.7%
02M412	N.Y.C. Lab School for Collaborative Studies	531	147	27.7%
02M413	School of the Future High School	763	252	33.0%
02M414	N.Y.C. Museum School	454	323	71.1%
02M416	Eleanor Roosevelt High School	543	114	21.0%
02M418	Millennium High School	659	288	43.7%
02M475	Stuyvesant High School	3,365	1,517	45.1%
02M519	Talent Unlimited High School	495	240	48.5%
03M479	Beacon High School	1,304	318	24.4%
03M485	Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts	2,697	770	28.6%
03M541	Manhattan / Hunter Science High School	451	279	61.9%
03M859	Special Music School	314	57	18.2%
04M435	Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics	1,604	1,361	84.9%
05M362	Columbia Secondary School	687	373	54.3%
05M692	High School for Mathematics, Science and Engineering at City College	463	205	44.3%
	<b>Bronx</b>			
10X445	Bronx High School of Science	2,979	1,266	42.5%
10X696	High School of American Studies at Lehman College	377	89	23.6%
	<b>Brooklyn</b>			
20K445	New Utrecht High School	3,661	2,619	71.5%
13K430	Brooklyn Technical High School	5,682	3,381	59.5%
13K670	Benjamin Banneker Academy	896	609	68.0%
14K449	Brooklyn Latin School, The	724	404	55.8%
15K684	Millennium Brooklyn HS	654	275	42.0%
17K590	Medgar Evers College Preparatory School	1,252	888	70.9%
20K490	Fort Hamilton High School	4,551	3,100	68.1%
22K405	Midwood High School	4,017	2,857	71.1%
22K425	James Madison High School	3,418	2,622	76.7%
22K535	Leon M. Goldstein High School for the Sciences	1,029	475	46.2%
22K555	Brooklyn College Academy	618	428	69.3%



DBN	School Name	Total Enrollment	# Poverty	% Poverty
<b>Queens</b>				
25Q252	Queens School of Inquiry, The	575	355	61.7%
28Q680	Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School	704	425	60.4%
28Q284	York Early College Academy	620	471	76.0%
28Q687	Queens High School for the Sciences at York College	462	276	59.7%
24Q299	Bard High School Early College Queens	597	249	41.7%
25Q525	Townsend Harris High School	1,110	594	53.5%
26Q415	Benjamin N. Cardozo High School	3,744	1,750	46.7%
26Q430	Francis Lewis High School	4,463	3,313	74.2%
26Q495	Bayside High School	3,181	2,385	75.0%
27Q323	Scholars' Academy	1,351	639	47.3%
28Q440	Forest Hills High School	3,903	2,567	65.8%
30Q501	Frank Sinatra School of the Arts High School	849	346	40.8%
30Q575	Academy of American Studies	999	692	69.3%
30Q580	Baccalaureate School for Global Education	518	218	42.1%
<b>Staten Island</b>				
31R455	Tottenville High School	3,911	1,190	30.4%
31R460	Susan E. Wagner High School	3,301	1,900	57.6%
31R605	Staten Island Technical High School	1,312	490	37.3%
31R440	New Dorp High School	2,974	1,701	57.2%
<b>Total</b>		<b>82,488</b>	<b>46,007</b>	<b>56%</b>

**Source and notes:**

- All data is taken directly from the [NYC-DOE Demographic Snapshot – Citywide, Borough, District, and School for School Year 2016-17](#). The 31 screened and eight SHSAT exam schools come from a ranking based on incoming ELA test scores found on page 13. 11 high schools are hybrid schools. These schools have both neighborhood zoned and screened programs: Bayside, Cardozo, Francis Lewis, Forest Hills, Fort Hamilton, Madison, Midwood, New Utrecht, Susan Wagner, Tottenville and New Dorp. Six of the high schools also have middle schools. The data is for all grades 6 to 12. These six schools are: New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math (NEST), Professional Performing Arts, Special Music School, Medgar Evers College Preparatory, Queens School of Inquiry, and Scholar’s Academy.
- “NYC DOE “Poverty” counts are based on the number of students with families who have qualified for free or reduced price lunch, or are eligible for Human Resources Administration (HRA) benefits. The poverty indicator also includes students enrolled in a Universal Meal School (USM), where all students automatically qualify, with the exception of middle schools, D75 schools and Pre-K centers. Beginning in the 2014-15 school year, all students in standalone middle schools became eligible for free lunch under the USM program. Additionally, since 2012-13, all students in District 75 are eligible for free lunch, as well as all students in Pre-K centers, which first opened in 2015-16. In order to better reflect free and reduced price lunch status, the poverty indicator does not automatically qualify all students enrolled in middle schools, D75 schools and Pre-K centers based on their USM status. **Please note that this is different from previous years of the demographic snapshot where 100% of students in standalone middle schools, District 75 and Pre-K centers were considered eligible for free lunch.**”

**Chart 3. Racial and Ethnic Representation at the Top Ranked 50 NYC-DOE High Schools**

**2016-17 School Year**

School Name	Total Enrollment	# Asian	% Asian	# Black	% Black	# Hispanic	% Hispanic	# Multiple Race Categories Not Represented	% Multiple Race Categories Not Represented	# White	% White
<b>Manhattan</b>											
Bard High School Early College	548	141	25.7%	88	16.1%	97	17.7%	9	1.6%	213	38.9%
New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math	1,745	579	33.2%	140	8.0%	193	11.1%	113	6.5%	720	41.3%
NYC iSchool	449	35	7.8%	83	18.5%	131	29.2%	36	8.0%	164	36.5%
Professional Performing Arts High School	544	35	6.4%	105	19.3%	108	19.9%	73	13.4%	223	41.0%
Baruch College Campus High School	440	198	45.0%	20	4.5%	63	14.3%	10	2.3%	149	33.9%
N.Y.C. Lab School for Collaborative Studies	531	113	21.3%	29	5.5%	78	14.7%	40	7.5%	271	51.0%
School of the Future High School	763	119	15.6%	87	11.4%	213	27.9%	61	8.0%	283	37.1%
N.Y.C. Museum School	454	135	29.7%	59	13.0%	166	36.6%	21	4.6%	73	16.1%
Eleanor Roosevelt High School	543	111	20.4%	22	4.1%	59	10.9%	7	1.3%	344	63.4%
Millennium High School	659	275	41.7%	43	6.5%	100	15.2%	23	3.5%	218	33.1%
Stuyvesant High School	3,365	2,507	74.5%	21	0.6%	82	2.4%	153	4.5%	602	17.9%
Talent Unlimited High School	495	20	4.0%	163	32.9%	202	40.8%	32	6.5%	78	15.8%
Beacon High School	1,304	105	8.1%	177	13.6%	260	19.9%	92	7.1%	670	51.4%
Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts	2,697	525	19.5%	297	11.0%	468	17.4%	227	8.4%	1,180	43.8%
Manhattan / Hunter Science High School	451	113	25.1%	74	16.4%	164	36.4%	23	5.1%	77	17.1%
Special Music School	314	50	15.9%	43	13.7%	42	13.4%	46	14.6%	133	42.4%
Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics	1,604	305	19.0%	321	20.0%	868	54.1%	38	2.4%	72	4.5%
Columbia Secondary School	687	79	11.5%	157	22.9%	290	42.2%	20	2.9%	141	20.5%
High School for Mathematics, Science and Engineering at City College	463	174	37.6%	41	8.9%	80	17.3%	42	9.1%	126	27.2%
<b>Bronx</b>											
Bronx High School of Science	2,979	1,839	61.7%	62	2.1%	164	5.5%	278	9.3%	636	21.3%
High School of American Studies at Lehman College	377	82	21.8%	14	3.7%	49	13.0%	21	5.6%	211	56.0%
<b>Brooklyn</b>											
New Utrecht High School	3,661	1,459	39.9%	127	3.5%	1,095	29.9%	36	1.0%	944	25.8%
Brooklyn Technical High School	5,682	3,483	61.3%	391	6.9%	409	7.2%	156	2.7%	1,243	21.9%
Benjamin Banneker Academy	896	32	3.6%	746	83.3%	88	9.8%	24	2.7%	6	0.7%

School Name	Total Enrollment	# Asian	% Asian	# Black	% Black	# Hispanic	% Hispanic	# Multiple Race Categories Not Represented	% Multiple Race Categories Not Represented	# White	% White
Brooklyn Latin School, The	724	331	45.7%	106	14.6%	96	13.3%	93	12.8%	98	13.5%
Millennium Brooklyn HS	654	57	8.7%	153	23.4%	163	24.9%	59	9.0%	222	33.9%
Medgar Evers College Preparatory School	1,252	35	2.8%	1,104	88.2%	61	4.9%	44	3.5%	8	0.6%
Fort Hamilton High School	4,551	1,243	27.3%	196	4.3%	1,432	31.5%	116	2.5%	1,564	34.4%
Midwood High School	4,017	1,426	35.5%	1,121	27.9%	484	12.0%	72	1.8%	914	22.8%
James Madison High School	3,418	664	19.4%	619	18.1%	602	17.6%	33	1.0%	1,500	43.9%
Leon M. Goldstein High School for the Sciences	1,029	243	23.6%	101	9.8%	97	9.4%	12	1.2%	576	56.0%
Brooklyn College Academy	618	51	8.3%	422	68.3%	67	10.8%	41	6.6%	37	6.0%
<b>Queens</b>											
Queens School of Inquiry, The	575	231	40.2%	92	16.0%	140	24.3%	14	2.4%	98	17.0%
Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School	704	348	49.4%	221	31.4%	65	9.2%	43	6.1%	27	3.8%
York Early College Academy	620	189	30.5%	293	47.3%	64	10.3%	66	10.6%	8	1.3%
Queens High School for the Sciences at York College	462	364	78.8%	25	5.4%	32	6.9%	14	3.0%	27	5.8%
Bard High School Early College Queens	597	211	35.3%	70	11.7%	104	17.4%	16	2.7%	196	32.8%
Townsend Harris High School	1,110	644	58.0%	60	5.4%	127	11.4%	45	4.1%	234	21.1%
Benjamin N. Cardozo High School	3,744	1,626	43.4%	764	20.4%	734	19.6%	85	2.3%	535	14.3%
Francis Lewis High School	4,463	2,513	56.3%	268	6.0%	933	20.9%	73	1.6%	676	15.1%
Bayside High School	3,181	1,354	42.6%	418	13.1%	831	26.1%	31	1.0%	547	17.2%
Scholars' Academy	1,351	278	20.6%	246	18.2%	251	18.6%	19	1.4%	557	41.2%
Forest Hills High School	3,903	957	24.5%	326	8.4%	1,347	34.5%	141	3.6%	1,132	29.0%
Frank Sinatra School of the Arts High School	849	94	11.1%	113	13.3%	288	33.9%	59	6.9%	295	34.7%
Academy of American Studies	999	294	29.4%	64	6.4%	325	32.5%	4	0.4%	312	31.2%
Baccalaureate School for Global Education	518	236	45.6%	14	2.7%	87	16.8%	21	4.1%	160	30.9%
<b>Staten Island</b>											
Tottenville High School	3,911	208	5.3%	73	1.9%	464	11.9%	62	1.6%	3,104	79.4%
Susan E. Wagner High School	3,301	468	14.2%	356	10.8%	893	27.1%	43	1.3%	1,541	46.7%
Staten Island Technical High School	1,312	612	46.6%	13	1.0%	49	3.7%	5	0.4%	633	48.2%
New Dorp High School	2,974	224	7.5%	337	11.3%	830	27.9%	73	2.5%	1,510	50.8%

Source: NYC-DOE Demographic Snapshot – Citywide, Borough, District, and School for School Year 2016-17.

<http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/data/default.htm>

**Source and notes:** the third chart is also a cut and paste from the NYC-DOE Demographic Profiles. The third chart shows all racial and ethnic groups.

### 3. What happens when a borough is grossly underserved by top ranked screened high schools?

When New Yorkers think of the most competitive screened high schools, a few schools will come to mind including Townsend Harris, Bard and Beacon. However, a high school in the Bronx has a higher ratio of applicants per seat than all of the better known screened schools. This should come as no surprise since the Bronx doesn't have a single high school in the top 50 screened high schools group.

School	Borough	2017 Applicants	Seats Available 2017	Applicants per seat
<b>Bronx Center for Science and Mathematics</b>	<b>Bronx</b>	<b>2865</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>33</b>
NYC Lab School for Collaborative Education	Manhattan	3035	96	32
Bard High School Early College	Manhattan	4046	143	28
Columbia Secondary School	Manhattan	2211	80	28
Baccalaureate School for Global Education	Queens	2070	76	27
Cardozo High School-DaVinci Math Science Research Institute	Queens	3199	118	27
Bard High School Early College Queens	Queens	3479	136	26
Millennium High School	Manhattan	4047	160	25
Townsend Harris High School	Queens	5899	259	23
NEST	Manhattan	3002	133	23
Leon M. Goldstein High School for the Sciences	Brooklyn	4603	209	22
Midwood Humanities	Brooklyn	4542	202	22
Beacon High School	Manhattan	4743	292	16
Millennium Brooklyn High School	Brooklyn	2105	142	15
Midwood High School Med Science	Brooklyn	5089	340	15

Source: <http://schoolfinder.nyc.gov/>

### 4. Methodology for selection/ranking the high schools:

The top ranked 50 NYC-DOE high schools are divided into two admissions policy groups: eight schools are SHSAT exam based and 31 schools are screened/audition only (grades, NYS test scores, attendance, interview and for some schools an audition). 11 more are hybrid schools with both screened and neighborhood zoned programs (for these 11 schools, the NYC-DOE data is not broken down internally between the screened and neighborhood zone programs instead the data covers the total number of students enrolled). The same ranking methodology from the 2015 report is being used here. The top ranked schools are based on NYC-DOE data "Peer Group" data. The Peer Group shows the school average score for the NYS ELA exam. The ranking is based on 50 schools with the highest average for the NYS-ELA exam. The methodology is thoroughly discussed in the 2015 Discussion Paper. It is important to mention that other equally important criteria, grades and math scores are used by screened high schools for accepting students.

## Appendix 1.

## 31 NYC Top Ranked Screened High Schools Black and Hispanic Students 2016-17

DBN	School Name	Total Enrollment	# Black	% Black	# Hispanic	% Hispanic	Total Black and Hispanic Students	Total % Black and Hispanic Students
01M539	New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math	1,745	140	8.0%	193	11.1%	333	19.1%
01M696	Bard High School Early College	548	88	16.1%	97	17.7%	185	33.8%
02M376	NYC iSchool	449	83	18.5%	131	29.2%	214	47.7%
02M408	Professional Performing Arts High School	544	105	19.3%	108	19.9%	213	39.2%
02M411	Baruch College Campus High School	440	20	4.5%	63	14.3%	83	18.9%
02M412	N.Y.C. Lab School for Collaborative Studies	531	29	5.5%	78	14.7%	107	20.2%
02M413	School of the Future High School	763	87	11.4%	213	27.9%	300	39.3%
02M414	N.Y.C. Museum School	454	59	13.0%	166	36.6%	225	49.6%
02M416	Eleanor Roosevelt High School	543	22	4.1%	59	10.9%	81	14.9%
02M418	Millennium High School	659	43	6.5%	100	15.2%	143	21.7%
02M519	Talent Unlimited High School	495	163	32.9%	202	40.8%	365	73.7%
03M479	Beacon High School	1,304	177	13.6%	260	19.9%	437	33.5%
03M485	Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts	2,697	297	11.0%	468	17.4%	765	28.4%
03M541	Manhattan / Hunter Science High School	451	74	16.4%	164	36.4%	238	52.8%
03M859	Special Music School	314	43	13.7%	42	13.4%	85	27.1%
05M362	Columbia Secondary School	687	157	22.9%	290	42.2%	447	65.1%
04M435	Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics	1,604	321	20.0%	868	54.1%	1,189	74.1%
13K670	Benjamin Banneker Academy	896	746	83.3%	88	9.8%	834	93.1%
15K684	Millennium Brooklyn HS	654	153	23.4%	163	24.9%	316	48.3%
17K590	Medgar Evers College Preparatory School	1,252	1,104	88.2%	61	4.9%	1,165	93.1%
22K535	Leon M. Goldstein High School for the Sciences	1,029	101	9.8%	97	9.4%	198	19.2%
22K555	Brooklyn College Academy	618	422	68.3%	67	10.8%	489	79.1%
24Q299	Bard High School Early College Queens	597	70	11.7%	104	17.4%	174	29.1%
24Q299	Queens School of Inquiry, The	575	92	16.0%	140	24.3%	232	40.3%
25Q252	Townsend Harris High School	1,110	60	5.4%	127	11.4%	187	16.8%
26Q495	Scholars' Academy	1,351	246	18.2%	251	18.6%	497	36.8%
27Q323	York Early College Academy	620	293	47.3%	64	10.3%	357	57.6%
28Q440	Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School	704	221	31.4%	65	9.2%	286	40.6%
28Q687	Frank Sinatra School of the Arts High School	849	113	13.3%	288	33.9%	401	47.2%
30Q501	Academy of American Studies	999	64	6.4%	325	32.5%	389	38.9%
30Q575	Baccalaureate School for Global Education	518	14	2.7%	87	16.8%	101	19.5%
<b>Total</b>		<b>26,000</b>	<b>5,607</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>5429</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>11,036</b>	<b>42.4%</b>

source: All data is taken directly from the [NYC-DOE Demographic Snapshot – Citywide, Borough, District, and School for School Year 2016-17](#). The 31 screened schools come from a ranking based on incoming ELA test scores found on page 14.

## Appendix 2.

## 31 NYC Top Ranked Screened High Schools for Poverty Index 2016-17

DBN	School Name	Total Enrollment	# Poverty	% Poverty
01M539	New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math	1,745	436	25.0%
01M696	Bard High School Early College	548	242	44.2%
02M376	NYC iSchool	449	168	37.4%
02M408	Professional Performing Arts High School	544	155	28.5%
02M411	Baruch College Campus High School	440	188	42.7%
02M412	N.Y.C. Lab School for Collaborative Studies	531	147	27.7%
02M413	School of the Future High School	763	252	33.0%
02M414	N.Y.C. Museum School	454	323	71.1%
02M416	Eleanor Roosevelt High School	543	114	21.0%
02M418	Millennium High School	659	288	43.7%
02M519	Talent Unlimited High School	495	240	48.5%
03M479	Beacon High School	1,304	318	24.4%
03M485	Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts	2,697	770	28.6%
03M541	Manhattan / Hunter Science High School	451	279	61.9%
03M859	Special Music School	314	57	18.2%
05M362	Columbia Secondary School	687	373	54.3%
04M435	Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics	1,604	1,361	84.9%
13K670	Benjamin Banneker Academy	896	5	0.6%
15K684	Millennium Brooklyn HS	654	275	42.0%
17K590	Medgar Evers College Preparatory School	1,252	888	70.9%
22K535	Leon M. Goldstein High School for the Sciences	1,029	475	46.2%
22K555	Brooklyn College Academy	618	428	69.3%
24Q299	Bard High School Early College Queens	597	249	41.7%
24Q299	Queens School of Inquiry, The	575	355	61.7%
25Q252	Townsend Harris High School	1,110	594	53.5%
26Q495	Scholars' Academy	1,351	639	47.3%
27Q323	York Early College Academy	620	471	76.0%
28Q440	Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School	704	425	60.4%
28Q687	Frank Sinatra School of the Arts High School	849	346	40.8%
30Q501	Academy of American Studies	999	692	69.3%
30Q575	Baccalaureate School for Global Education	518	218	42.1%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>26,000</b>	<b>11,771</b>	<b>45.2%</b>

Source and NYC-DOE notes: All data is taken directly from the [NYC-DOE Demographic Snapshot – Citywide, Borough, District, and School for School Year 2016-17](#). The 31 screened schools come from a ranking based on incoming ELA test scores found on page 14. NYC DOE “Poverty” counts are based on the number of students with families who have qualified for free or reduced price lunch, or are eligible for Human Resources Administration (HRA) benefits. The poverty indicator also includes students enrolled in a Universal Meal School (USM), where all students automatically qualify, with the exception of middle schools, D75 schools and Pre-K centers. There is discrepancy in the NYC-DOE Demographic Snapshot data for Benjamin Banneker Academy in which there is much lower student poverty number than found on the NYC-DOE Title I Report 2016-17 (442 students residing in poverty households).

### Appendix 3.

NYC-DOE data for how the top ranked schools were selected. The chart below is a cut and paste from the NYC-DOE Peer Ranking Index found in every individual school profile.

**School Year 2013-14 8th Grade ELA and Math Test Scores**

	DBN	School	Average English Proficiency	Average Math Proficiency
<u>1</u>	02M475	Stuyvesant High School	3.99	4.14
2	25Q525	Townsend Harris High School	3.99	4.05
3	10X445	Bronx High School of Science	3.84	3.95
4	31R605	Staten Island Technical High School	3.83	3.91
5	10X696	High School of American Studies at Lehman College	3.78	3.71
6	28Q687	Queens High School for the Sciences at York College	3.74	3.96
7	01M696	Bard High School Early College	3.70	3.64
8	24Q299	Bard High School Early College Queens	3.70	3.78
9	13K430	Brooklyn Technical High School	3.69	3.86
10	30Q580	Baccalaureate School for Global Education	3.68	3.47
11	05M692	High School for Mathematics, Science and Engineering at City	3.67	3.75
12	27Q323	Scholars' Academy	3.66	3.44
13	02M416	Eleanor Roosevelt High School	3.64	3.59
14	03M485	Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Perform	3.56	3.34
15	14K449	Brooklyn Latin School, The	3.53	3.56
16	03M479	Beacon High School	3.50	3.24
17	01M539	New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math High School	3.48	3.49
18	05M362	Columbia Secondary School	3.39	3.05
19	30Q501	Frank Sinatra School of the Arts High School	3.39	3.10
20	28Q680	Queens Gateway to Health Sciences Secondary School	3.36	3.01
21	02M418	Millennium High School	3.35	3.16
22	22K535	Leon M. Goldstein High School for the Sciences	3.32	3.31
23	02M412	N.Y.C. Lab School for Collaborative Studies	3.29	3.15
24	15K684	Millennium Brooklyn HS	3.26	2.98
25	02M411	Baruch College Campus High School	3.23	3.24
26	02M414	N.Y.C. Museum School	3.18	3.11
27	03M541	Manhattan / Hunter Science High School	3.17	3.17
28	22K555	Brooklyn College Academy	3.13	2.89
29	17K590	Medgar Evers College Preparatory School	3.07	2.97
30	22K405	Midwood High School	3.06	3.05
31	04M435	Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics	3.03	3.17
32	M	NYC I School	3.08	2.81
33	B	Benjamin Banneker	3.08	2.82
34	M	Professional Performing Arts High School	3.15	2.77
35	M	Special Music School	3.07	2.91
36	M	School of the Future	3.03	2.72
37	Q	Queens School of Inquiry	3.02	2.89
38	M	Talent Unlimited High School	3.00	2.68
39	Q	Academy of American Studies	2.95	2.91
40	Q	York Early College Academy	2.92	2.76

Ranking 41 to 50 includes the 10 hybrid schools: Bayside, Cardozo, Francis Lewis, Forest Hills, Fort Hamilton, Madison, New Utrecht, Susan Wagner, Tottenville and New Dorp. These schools have both neighborhood zoned and screened programs. For more information on criteria for including these schools, refer to original 2015 publication.

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