



Every child has one shot at an excellent education. It's up to us to make sure they get it. Let's shape the next generation of New York's voices and minds. Let's transform dreamers to doers. Let's empower students in every neighborhood on their path to success. Because we believe in every child's future.

# EQUITY & EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

**T**hrough our Equity and Excellence for All agenda, the New York City Department of Education (DOE) aims to provide all students with a world-class education. Thanks to the hard work of our students, families, and educators, the City's public schools are the strongest they have ever been. Here are examples of the progress our students and schools have made:

- Highest-ever graduation rate: 72.6%.
- Lowest-ever dropout rate: 8.5%.
- Highest-ever number of NYC students taking and passing Advanced Placement (AP) exams in 2016, with an 8.4% jump in students taking at least one AP and an 8.2% jump in students passing at least one AP over the previous year.
- Highest-ever postsecondary enrollment rate: 55% of the Class of 2015.
- Steady increase in test scores; for the first time, NYC's English test scores are better than the rest of New York State.
- Highest-ever college readiness rate: 37% of all students and 51% of graduates in the Class of 2016 graduated high school on time and met CUNY's standards for college readiness in English and math.
- Highest-ever percentage of high school juniors taking the SAT: 52%.
- Nearly 70,000 four year olds enrolled in free, full-day, high quality pre-K—more than triple the number enrolled before 2014.

The City's Equity and Excellence for All agenda will build on this progress and put all students on their path to success. Announced by Mayor Bill de Blasio and Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña in

fall 2015, the initiatives that make up Equity and Excellence for All address our students' academic, social, and emotional needs—from the first book they read by themselves until their high school diploma and college acceptance letters are in hand. The 2016–17 school year marked the first full year of implementation of Equity and Excellence for All, which will be rolled out to schools citywide over the next several years. Over 800 schools have at least one Equity and Excellence initiative already.

Here are key initiatives that will prepare the City's 1.1 million students to thrive in the 21st century:

## UNIVERSAL LITERACY

Elementary schools are receiving support from a reading coach, who will ensure all students are reading on grade level by the end of second grade. **In the 2016–17 school year**, 103 Universal Literacy reading coaches are supporting all 107 elementary schools in Districts 9 and 10 in the Bronx and Districts 17 and 32 in Brooklyn. These coaches are supporting teachers who serve 29,000 K–2 students. Next school year, we will expand the Universal Literacy initiative to a total of 306 elementary schools, including all elementary schools in the Bronx.

## ALGEBRA FOR ALL

Every student will complete algebra no later than ninth grade, enabling them to reach more advanced math courses in high school and better preparing them for college and careers. **In the 2016–17 school year**, over 400 elementary, middle, and high school teachers are receiving professional development to improve their math instruction.

**AP FOR ALL** Every high school student will have access to a range of Advanced Placement courses. **In the 2016–17 school year**, 63 high schools are offering new AP courses, including 31 that offered no AP courses last year. Over 26,000 students have access to these courses. By fall 2018, 75% of high school students will have access to at least five AP classes and by fall 2021, all high school students will, increasing college- and career-readiness for all students.

**COLLEGE ACCESS FOR ALL** By the 2018–19 school year, all students will have the opportunity to visit a college campus at least once in middle school, exposing them to college earlier in their academic careers. Every high school student will have the resources and support at their school to graduate with an individual college and career plan, and every high school will have resources to create a college-going culture. **In the 2016–17 school year**, 171 middle schools across 10 districts are bringing over 20,000 students to college campuses, and offering new workshops and resources for students and families around high school, college, and career success. On April 5, 2017, we held the first-ever citywide **SAT School Day**, enabling all high school juniors to take the SAT during the school day free of charge. We have also eliminated the CUNY application fee for low-income students.

**Community Schools.** Since 2014, the DOE has launched 150 community schools to better serve children and families. In September 2017, 69 additional schools will transform their buildings into neighborhood hubs, providing after-school programs, connections to social services, social-emotional supports, family engagement, and mentoring. In total, we will have 215 Community Schools reaching 108,000 students across the City.

**Parent Engagement.** Parents are integral to providing equity and excellence for all students. Our increased emphasis on parent engagement has resulted in significantly more parents attending parent-teacher conferences, participating in parent groups, and running for their Community or Citywide Education Council. We launched initiatives, including programs on STEM and those for grandparents and families with limited English proficiency. We also have started native language family conferences in Spanish, Bengali, Arabic, and Mandarin, and professional development for parent coordinators on college access and summer learning.

**English Language Learners.** We are committed to ensuring that English Language Learners have access to rigorous instruction and the full range of educational opportunities. We currently have 434 bilingual programs across every borough, and are adding 68 more this September, including the first-ever bilingual program in Urdu and expanding Bengali bilingual programs at elementary and high schools.

**Other Investments.** The current \$15.5 billion Capital Plan (FY 2015–19) reflects the Administration’s priorities. It funds the creation of over 8,300 additional high-quality, full-day pre-K seats, the removal of all remaining Transportable Classroom Units (trailers), and creates over 44,000 new seats in dozens of school additions, new schools, and new school buildings. The City has also dedicated \$28.75 million to purchase and install air conditioning units in all classrooms that don’t have one by 2022.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE FOR ALL** By 2025, every student will receive computer science education in elementary, middle, and high school. Over the next 10 years, the DOE will train nearly 5,000 teachers in computer science. **In the 2016–17 school year**, across 298 schools, over 526 teachers are receiving rigorous, ongoing professional development and support to implement computer science instruction in their schools.

**SINGLE SHEPHERD** Every middle and high school student in Districts 7 (South Bronx) and 23 (Brownsville) will be paired with a dedicated guidance counselor or social worker who will support them on the path to graduation and college enrollment. **In the 2016–17 school year**, Single Shepherds are serving all 16,000 grade 6–12 students at a ratio of about one shepherd per 100 students at all 50 middle and high schools in Districts 7 and 23.

**DISTRICT-CHARTER PARTNERSHIPS** District and charter schools are working together to foster strong relationships among schools and share resources and best practices. **In the 2016–17 school year**, over 130 district and charter schools have partnered in a variety of ways, including school-to-school partnerships in specific topic areas, campus-wide partnerships to strengthen relationships between co-located schools, and district-wide partnerships bringing charter and district schools together.

