

Democracy Prep Charter School

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Submitted to the SUNY Charter Schools Institute on:

August 27, 2021

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DEMOCRACY PREP
CHARTER HIGH



DEMOCRACY PREP
CHARTER MIDDLE



2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Chrissann Campbell (Data Support Associate) and Claire Chaney (Director of Grants Management and Student Information Systems) prepared this 2020-21 Accountability Progress Report on behalf of the school's board of trustees:

Trustee's Name	Board Position	
	Office (e.g. chair, treasurer, secretary)	Committees (e.g. finance, executive)
Robert North	Board Chair	Executive Committee
Roger Berg	Secretary	Executive Committee and Academic Accountability Committee
Brian Berger	Treasurer	Executive Committee, Finance and Audit Committee, and Community and Family Communications Committee
Brittany Mullings	Trustee	Community and Family Communications Committee
Jake Foley	Trustee	Not assigned to any committees as of July 28th, 2021
Sean Windsor	Trustee	Finance and Audit Committee
Alastair Wood	Trustee	Academic Accountability Committee and Governance Committee
Josh Pristaw	Vice Chair	Executive Committee and Real Estate Committee
Doug Snyder	Vice Chair	Executive Committee
Kenneth J. Weiller	Trustee	Academic Accountability Committee and Development Committee
Greg Weston	Trustee	Real Estate Committee
Khary Barnes	Vice Chair	Executive Committee and Governance Committee
Stephanie King	Trustee	Governance Committee
Farida Ilboudo	Trustee	Development Committee
Ross Frommer	Trustee	Development Committee

Nakita Green has served as the Middle School Principal since the 2018-19 school year.

Philicia Davis will serve as the High School Principal in the 2021-2022 school year. In the 2020-2021 school year, she was an Assistant Principal at Democracy Prep Harlem High School, another high school within the Democracy Prep Public Schools network.

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

The mission of Democracy Prep Charter School (DPCS) is to educate responsible citizen-scholars for success in the college of their choice and a life of active citizenship. Democracy Prep Charter School joined the Democracy Prep Public Schools network at the outset of the 2014-15 school year. Based on early evidence of the school's improvement under new management and on the Democracy Prep network's track record of successfully turning around underperforming schools, DPCS earned a full five-year renewal term from the SUNY Charter Schools Institute in March 2015 and again in 2020. The 2020 renewal included authorization to expand to operate an elementary school during the current charter term.

Data from several norm-referenced tests or state exams are not available due to COVID-19 related school building closures and cancellations of state exams. Privately and internally developed formative and summative assessments were used to measure students' progress towards the accountability plan goals. Robust assessment data will continue to be gathered into the 2021-22 school year.

ENROLLMENT SUMMARY

School Enrollment by Grade Level and School Year														
School Year	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2016-17							99	114	113	123	90	88	78	705
2017-18							105	107	105	125	96	73	80	691
2018-19							111	123	116	122	96	71	65	704
2019-20							114	113	119	121	106	66	64	703
2020-21							68	119	123	121	122	97	66	716

HIGH SCHOOL COHORTS

ACCOUNTABILITY COHORT

The state's Accountability Cohort consists specifically of students who are in their fourth year of high school after entering the 9th grade. For example, the 2017 state Accountability Cohort consists of students who entered the 9th grade anywhere sometime during the 2017-18 school year, were enrolled in the school on the state's annual enrollment-determination day (i.e., BEDS day) in the 2020-21 school year, and either remained in the school for the rest of the year or left for an

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acceptable reason. (See New York State Education Department's SIRS Manual for more details about cohort eligibility and acceptable exit reasons: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/irs/sirs/ht>)

The following table indicates the number of students in the Accountability Cohorts who are in their fourth year of high school and were enrolled at the school on BEDS Day in October and remained in the school until June 30th of that year.

Fourth-Year High School Accountability Cohorts

Fourth Year Cohort	Year Entered 9 th Grade Anywhere	Cohort Designation	Number of Students Enrolled on BEDS Day in October of the Cohort's Fourth Year	Number Leaving During the School Year	Number in Accountability Cohort as of June 30 th
2018-19	2015-16	2015	69	1	68
2019-20	2016-17	2016	65	2	68
2020-21	2017-18	2017	82	2	80

TOTAL COHORT FOR GRADUATION

Students are also included in the Total Cohort for Graduation (referred to as the Graduation Cohort, Total Graduation Cohort, or Total Cohort interchangeably throughout this report) based on the year they first enter the 9th grade. Students enrolled for at least one day in the school after entering the 9th grade are part of the school's Graduation Cohort. The school may remove students from the Graduation Cohort if the school has discharged those students for an acceptable reason listed in the SIRS manual, including the following: if they transfer to another public or private diploma-granting program with documentation, transfer to home schooling by a parent or guardian, transfer to another district or school, transfer by court order, leave the U.S., or are deceased.

Fourth Year Total Cohort for Graduation

Fourth Year Cohort	Year Entered 9 th Grade Anywhere	Cohort Designation	Number of Students Graduated or Enrolled on June 30 th of the Cohort's Fourth Year (a)	Number of Students No Longer at the School Who Had Been Enrolled for at Least One Day Prior to Leaving the School and Who Were <u>Not</u> Discharged for an Acceptable Reason (b)	Total Graduation Cohort (a) + (b)
2018-19	2015-16	2015	67	1	68
2019-20	2016-17	2016	65	3	68
2020-21	2017-18	2017	80	2	82

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Fifth Year Total Cohort for Graduation

Fifth Year Cohort	Year Entered 9 th Grade Anywhere	Cohort Designation	Number of Students Graduated or Enrolled on June 30 th of the Cohort's Fifth Year (a)	Number of Students No Longer at the School Who Had Been Enrolled for at Least One Day Prior to Leaving the School and Who Were <u>Not</u> Discharged for an Acceptable Reason (b)	Total Graduation Cohort (a) + (b)
2018-19	2014-15	2014	79	1	80
2019-20	2015-16	2015	63	1	64
2020-21	2016-17	2016	67	1	68

PROMOTION POLICY

High school scholars are held to three different promotional criteria: Attendance, coursework, and assessments.

Excessive absences may jeopardize on-time promotion.

High School Grade Weighting

Grades in high school courses are based on classwork and class participation; homework; and tests, projects, and quizzes.

	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Classwork & Class Participation	30%	30%	20%	20%
Homework	20%	20%	20%	10%
Test, Projects & Quizzes	50%	50%	60%	70%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

The only exception is science classes at all grade levels.

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- For 9th and 10th in science classes, the 30% for Class Work is split: 20% Class Work and 10% labs.
- For 11th and 12th grade science classes, the 20% for Class Work is split: 10% Class Work and 10% labs.

Overall Grade Weighting

Category	Percentage of Total EOY Grade
T1 Coursework	21.3%
T1 Exam	5.4%
T2 Coursework	21.3%
T2 Exam	5.4%
T3 Coursework	26.6%
T3 Final Exam/Regents	20%
TOTAL	100%

Graduation Requirements. In 12th grade, all Democracy Prep Charter High School seniors will submit and present their Senior Civics Culminating Portfolio. This portfolio will consist of:

- Advanced Regents Diploma (with Korean LOTE for all students entering DPCS in the ninth grade or earlier).
- Satisfactory transcript, earning minimum of 70% in each class.
- Satisfactory PSAT, SAT, SAT II, and ACT scores.
- Demonstrated mastery in the Senior Civics Seminar.
- Successful completion of Civic Skills and Dispositions.
- 83% or above on the U.S. Citizenship Exam.
- Satisfactory discipline record.
- Minimum two college acceptance letters.
- Senior Change the World Project and Research Paper.

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Course Requirements:

Content	Credits	NYS Requirement	Regents Exams
English	4	4	English
History	4	4	Global and US
Math	4	3	One Math (Second exam for diploma w/ distinction)
Science	4	3	One Science (Second exam for diploma w/distinction)
Foreign Language	3	1	N/A (One foreign language exam for diploma w/ distinction)
The Arts	1.5	1	N/A
Phys. Ed.	2	2	N/A
College Access	1	0	N/A
Health	.5	.5	N/A
Electives	1	3.5	N/A
Total Credits for Graduation	25	22	

GOAL 1: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

GOAL 1: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School students will meet requirements for high school graduation.

Goal 1: Leading Indicator

Each year, 75 percent of students in first and second year high school Total Graduation Cohorts will earn at least ten credits (if 44 needed for graduation) or five credits (if 22 needed for graduation) each year.

METHOD

This measure serves as a leading indicator of the performance of the high school cohort and examines students' progress toward graduation based on annual credit accumulation. The measure requires that, based on the school's promotion requirements, 75 percent of the first and second year high school Total Graduation Cohorts will earn the required number of credits.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School has met this goal for one out of the two cohorts, falling just short of meeting the goal in the 2019 cohort. We saw lower than expected percentages of scholars meeting requirements largely due to the challenges that scholars faced in the context of remote instruction. In order to ensure that scholars are on track to meet their goals during this upcoming year, we plan to provide targeted support to scholars who did not earn the required number of credits last year. This support will come both in the form of specific instructional interventions and through increasing the frequency of communication to these scholars' family members in order to ensure that there are strong partnerships between the school and families to comprehensively support scholars in their academic progress.

Percent of Students in First and Second Year Cohorts
Earning the Required Number of Credits in 2020-21

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort during 2020-21	Percent promoted
2019	112	73
2020	115	78

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Democracy Prep has historically met this goal, with both cohorts within their first and second year of high school last year surpassing this goal by significant margins. Last year, within the 2018 and 2019 cohorts, the percentages of scholars who were promoted were 94% and 96% respectively. The lower rates seen this year are likely the result of circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, including the larger share of the school year that was spent in remote instruction last year.

Goal 1: Leading Indicator

Each year, 75 percent of students in the second year high school Total Graduation Cohort will score at or above proficient on at least three different New York State Regents exams required for graduation.

METHOD

This measure serves as a leading indicator of the performance of high school cohorts and examines their progress towards graduation based on Regents exam passage. The measure requires that 75 percent of students in each Graduation Cohort have passed at least three Regents exams by their second year in the cohort.

As a result of the Board of Regents' guidance regarding the cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, for the most recent second year cohort schools should report the percentage of students who either passed or were exempted from at least three exams. In August of 2021, the 2019 cohort will have completed its second year.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

The school met the goal, with 76 percent of scholars in the second year cohort passing at least three Regents exams required for graduation.

Percent of Students in their Second Year Passing Three Regents Exams by Cohort

Cohort Designation	School Year	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing at Least Three Regents (including exemptions)
2017	2018-19	92	78
2018	2019-20	84	87
2019	2020-21	112	76

Goal 1: Absolute Measures

Each year, 75 percent of students in the fourth year high school Total Graduation Cohort and 95 percent of students in the fifth year high school Total Graduation Cohort will graduate.

METHOD

This measure examines students in two high school Graduation Cohorts: those who entered the 9th grade as members of the 2017 cohort and graduated four years later and those who entered as members of the 2016 cohort and graduated five years later. These data reflect August graduation rates. At a minimum, these students have passed or been exempted from five Regents exams required for high school graduation in ELA, mathematics, science, U.S. History, and Global History or met the requirements for the 4+1 pathway to graduation.¹

The school's graduation requirements appear in this document above the graduation goal.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

This year, the school did not meet this goal, as 62.5% of the 2017 cohort graduated after four years. Within the previous two cohorts (2015 and 2016), the school surpassed this goal. The lower 4-year graduation rate that was seen this year was likely caused by the challenges that scholars faced throughout participating in remote instruction.

The school also did not meet the 5-year graduation goal this year, as only 90% of scholars in the 2016 graduation cohort have graduated after 5 years. Within the previous two cohorts (2014 and 2015), the school surpassed this goal. The lower 5-year graduation rate that was seen this year was likely caused by the challenges that scholars faced throughout participating in remote instruction.

Percent of Students in the Total Graduation Cohort who have Graduated After Four Years

Cohort Designation	School Year	Number in Cohort	Percent Graduating
2015	2018-19	68	84
2016	2019-20	68	84
2017	2020-21	80	62.5

¹ The state's guidance for the 4+1 graduation pathway can be found here:

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/>.

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Percent of Students in Total Graduation Cohort Who Have Graduated After Five Years

Cohort Designation	School Year	Number in Cohort	Percent Graduating
2014	2018-19	80	96
2015	2019-20	64	98
2016	2020-21	67	90

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

In addition to the impacts of remote instruction, the rigorous coursework that we provide to students creates a higher bar for passing than is seen in many schools. All scholars, including those with at-risk designations, are exposed to rigorous coursework. In addition, scholars across the Democracy Prep network are required to demonstrate mastery of 13 civics skills and dispositions in addition to New York State requirements in order to graduate. In order to ensure scholars have mastered content across subject areas and are prepared for success in college, 70 percent is a passing grade at Democracy Prep network schools (this pass rate was adjusted to a 60% during the pandemic). Setting this high bar for a passing grade ensures a meaningful level of subject mastery.

In order to ensure that we meet these graduation rate goals in the upcoming academic year, we intend to provide targeted interventions for scholars who are not on track to graduate. We will ensure that scholars have the academic support that they need in order to succeed in their coursework, and we will regularly check in with scholars' family members if scholars are not on track to graduate. This will enable us to create lines of communication that will allow schools and families to form strong partnerships in support of scholars' academic outcomes.

Goal 1: Comparative Measure

Each year, the percent of students in the high school Total Graduation Cohort graduating after the completion of their fourth year will exceed that of the Total Graduation Cohort from the school district of comparison.

METHOD

The school compares the graduation rate of students completing their fourth year in the charter school's Total Graduation Cohort to that of the respective cohort of students in the school district of comparison. Given that district results for the current year are generally not available at this time, for purposes of this report schools should include the district's 2019-20 results as a temporary placeholder for the district's 2020-21 results.

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RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Within the 2017 cohort, 62.5% of scholars graduated in the 2020-2021 school year, which was lower than the graduation rate seen in the school district of comparison in the 2019-2020 school year. Therefore, the school did not meet this goal.

Percent of Students in the Total Graduation Cohort who
Graduate in Four Years Compared to the District

Cohort Designation	School Year	Charter School		School District	
		Number in Cohort	Percent Graduating	Number in Cohort	Percent Graduating
2015	2018-19	67	82.6	901	61
2016	2019-20	68	83.8	974	74.1
2017	2020-21	80	62.5	n/a	n/a

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

The lower graduation rate seen in the 2020-2021 school year was likely due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic. In previous years, cohorts at Democracy Prep Charter School have graduated at higher rates than those seen in the comparable school district. In the 2015 cohort, Democracy Prep Charter School's graduation rate was 21.6 percentage points higher than that of the comparable school district, and in the 2016 cohort, the graduation rate was 9.7 percentage points higher than the rate seen in the comparable school district.

Goal 1: Absolute Measure

Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Total Cohort pursuing an alternative graduation pathway (commonly referred to as the 4+1 pathway) will achieve a Regents equivalency score and pass an approved pathway assessment required for graduation by the end of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The New York State Board of Regents approved regulations establishing alternative pathways to graduation for all students. Students may replace one of the required Social Studies Regents exams with an approved alternative assessment. For more information about requirements and approved assessments refer to the NYSED resource online: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/>. The school will document the names of the alternative assessments administered and success rate for students in the templates bellow.

As a result of the Board of Regents' guidance regarding the cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, students planning to take a pathway examination during those cancelled dates would be exempted from the requirement. For purposes of this measure, only report results for students with valid scores for any pathway exam.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School did not have any scholars pursuing an alternative graduation pathway in the 2020-21 school year.

SUMMARY OF THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION GOAL

The school fully achieved one out of the measures that were applicable to the 2020-2021 school year. In significant part, the decrease seen in the percentage of goals met at Democracy Prep Charter School was due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the transition to remote instruction, in which many schools, including Democracy Prep Charter School, saw a decrease in instructional outcomes. Our Network Academics Team has created a comprehensive plan to address learning loss across all Democracy Prep Public Schools, including Democracy Prep Charter School, which will support our ability to ensure that scholars graduate at rates that allow us to meet our goals in the upcoming year.

Type	Measure	Outcome
Leading Indicator	Each year, 75 percent of students in first and second year high school Total Graduation Cohorts will earn at least ten credits (if 44 needed for graduation) or five credits (if 22 needed for graduation) each year.	Achieved for 1 out of 2 cohorts
Leading Indicator	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Total Graduation Cohort will score at least 65 on at least three different New York State Regents exams required for graduation by the completion of their second year in the cohort.	Achieved
Absolute	Each year, 75 percent of students in the fourth year high school Total Graduation Cohort will graduate.	Did not meet
Absolute	Each year, 95 percent of students in the fifth year high school Total Graduation Cohort will graduate.	Did not meet
Comparative	Each year, the percent of students in the high school Total Graduation Cohort graduating after the completion of their fourth year will exceed that of the Total Graduation Cohort from the school district of comparison.	Did not meet
Absolute	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Total Cohort pursuing an alternative graduation pathway will achieve a Regents	N/A

	equivalency score and pass an approved pathway assessment required for graduation by the end of their fourth year.	
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ACTION PLAN

There are several actions that Democracy Prep Charter School will be taking in the upcoming year in order to ensure that we meet our accountability goals next year. In the 2021-2022 school year, Democracy Prep Charter School will be focusing on the instructional strategy of learning acceleration to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. We have added additional time to our tutoring blocks each day to make this learning acceleration as effective as possible. It will also be paired with intersession dates to support scholars who need it the most. The learning acceleration approach focuses on strategic, targeted instruction of the most important skills from previous grade levels, rather than a generalized response to shifting to lower rigor material when scholars have some unfinished learning. Leading the way in this work will be Learning Intervention Coaches at each of Democracy Prep Charter School's campuses. These campuses will work with the Democracy Prep Public Schools Academics team to support and train school-based staff members in strong execution of learning acceleration, including just-in-time supports and data analysis. This will allow us to respond urgently to the learning loss that has occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, we will continue to regularly communicate with families in order to create strong partnerships that support scholar graduation rates. The COVID-19 pandemic taught us the importance of ensuring strong partnerships between parents and families in support of scholar outcomes. By keeping families informed about academic progress, we will be able to create comprehensive supports for scholars that enable all stakeholders to work together to ensure that scholars are on track.

Finally, Democracy Prep Charter School and the Democracy Prep Public Schools charter management organization are continuing to refine remote instructional practices and materials in the event that we need to transition to remote learning in the future. The network and the school have made significant investments in technology, including hardware as well as ed tech software, to ensure rigorous, grade-level instruction, the engagement of all scholars, and on-time promotion and graduation.

GOAL 2: COLLEGE PREPARATION

GOAL 2: COLLEGE PREPARATION

Democracy Prep Charter School will prepare students for success in college.

Using an iterative process inspired by experiences of Democracy Prep Public Schools alumni who have transitioned into college each year and the lessons we learn by supporting them, the College Access and Success Team develops a comprehensive 12th grade curriculum to cover essential elements of being a successful college student.

During the final trimester of senior year, members of the Alumni Relations team conduct 10 seminars with seniors in network schools, including DPCS, covering topics such as Decision Making, Budgeting and Understanding the College Classroom. Through the delivery of this curriculum, we have critical conversations about how to navigate the challenges DPPS alumni typically encounter as they transition to college.

Goal 2: Absolute Measure

Each year, 75 percent of graduating students will demonstrate their preparation for college by at least one or some combination of the following indicators:

- Passing an Advanced Placement (“AP”) exam with a score of 3 or higher;
- Earning a score of 4 or higher on an International Baccalaureate (“IB”) exam;
- Passing a College Level Examination Program (“CLEP”) exam;
- Passing a college level course offered at a college or university or through a school partnership with a college or university;
- Achieving the college and career readiness benchmark on the SAT;
- Earning a Regents diploma with advanced designation; or,
- A different school-created indicator approved by the Institute.

METHOD

Schools use any method listed here, or any combination thereof, to demonstrate that at least 75 percent of graduates are prepared to engage in rigorous college level coursework. The school should select only those methods listed here that it uses to demonstrate the college readiness of its students and eliminate those that it will not. For instance, high schools that do not deliver an IB Program as part of their high school design do not report on the IB option. The school reports on the number of students who attempted to achieve each indicator, the number who succeeded, and the corresponding percentage. Additionally, the school should report on the overall number of students who graduated after four years, the number of those graduates who achieved any of the relevant indicators, and the overall percentage achieving any indicator.

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RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School did not meet this goal, with only 50% of graduates achieving this indicator of college preparation.

Percentage of the 2017 Total Cohort Graduates Demonstrating College Preparation by Indicator

Indicator	Number of Graduates who Attempted the Indicator	Number who Achieved Indicator	Percentage of Graduates who Achieved Indicator
Earning a Regents diploma with advanced designation	80	40	50
Overall	80	40	50

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Democracy Prep Charter School has historically met this metric. Last year, the percentage of graduates who achieved this measure was 89%, allowing Democracy Prep Charter School to exceed the goal by 14 percentage points. The decrease in the percentage of scholars who achieved this indicator was likely due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the significant portion of the year that scholars spent in remote instruction.

Goal 2: Absolute Measure

Each year, the College, Career, and Civic Readiness Index (“CCCRI”) for the school’s Total Cohort will exceed the Measure of Interim Progress (“MIP”) set forth in the state’s ESSA accountability system.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 2: Comparative Measure

Each year, the school’s CCCRI for the Total Cohort will exceed that of the district of comparison’s Total Cohort.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 2: Absolute Measure

Each year, 75 percent of graduating students will matriculate into a college or university in the year after graduation.

METHOD

The ultimate measure of whether a college prep high school has lived up to its mission is whether students actually enroll and succeed in college. Schools track and report the percentage of fourth-year Total Cohort graduates who matriculate into a two or four-year college program in the school year following graduation. Schools should update and confirm data for Cohorts prior to 2020-21 and provide preliminary matriculation data for 2017 Cohort. It may be necessary for schools to provide updated data to the Institute when National Student Clearinghouse or other data sources become available later in the school year.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Data validated by the National Student Clearinghouse will not be available until Fall of 2021. Therefore, the data that has been collected thus far is based both on scholar interviews and information that is available through Common App.

Matriculation Rate of Graduates by Year

Cohort	Graduation Year	Number of Graduates (a)	Number Enrolled in 2 or 4-year Program in Following Year (b)	Matriculation Rate $=[(b)/(a)]*100$
2015	2018-19	56	55	98
2016	2019-20	57	53	93
2017	2020-21	50	TBD	TBD

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Prior to the pandemic (in the 2018-2019 school year), almost 100% of scholars matriculated into a college or university in the year after graduation. In the 2019-2020 school year, while there was a slight decrease in the percentage of scholars who matriculated into a college or university from the 2018-2019 school year, the percentage of scholars who matriculated still exceeded the goal by 18 percentage points.

SUMMARY OF THE COLLEGE PREPARATION GOAL

Democracy Prep Charter School did not meet the college readiness goal for which data is available. However, historically, Democracy Prep Charter School has seen levels of college matriculation that surpass the goal by significant margins.

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Type	Measure	Outcome
Absolute	Each year, 75 percent of graduating students will demonstrate their preparation for college by one or more possible indicators of college readiness.	Did not meet
Absolute	Each year, the CCCRI for the school's Total Cohort will exceed that year's state MIP set forth in the state's ESSA accountability system.	N/A
Comparative	Each year, the school's CCCRI for the Total Cohort will exceed that of the district's Total Cohort.	N/A
Absolute	Each year, 75 percent of graduating students will matriculate into a college or university in the year after graduation.	Data not yet available for the 2020-2021 school year (Democracy Prep Charter School has historically achieved this goal)

ACTION PLAN

In order to ensure that we are able to meet our college preparation goals, we will continue to leverage our research-based college prep curriculum. This will allow us to ensure that throughout scholars' experiences at Democracy Prep Charter Schools, they are mastering the academic skills that are necessary in order to succeed in college and beyond. Additionally, we will continue to consistently provide scholars with the targeted academic supports that they need in order to ensure that we are able to reach high levels of college matriculation for all of our students, including subgroups of students that have historically been underserved, such as scholars with IEPs and scholars who are English Language Learners. Our mission, which is to educate responsible citizen-scholars for success in the college of their choice and a lifetime of active citizenship, applies to all of our scholars. To ensure that we succeed in this mission on behalf of all of our scholars, we will continue to leverage our Academic Collaboration Team to provide tools, strategies, services and supports to any scholar at any Democracy Prep school with at risk, IEP, 504 or ELL status in order to ensure that these scholars are achieving at high levels.

Support from the College Access and Success Team and the Democracy Prep Public Schools charter management organization is being provided to Democracy Prep Charter School's 2021 graduates, particularly in the form of robust communication regarding student wellness and college matriculation and financial aid options. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the network increased the number of microgrants given to scholars due to widespread economic hardship experienced in the communities served by Democracy Prep Public Schools.

GOAL 3: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Goal 3: English Language Arts

Democracy Prep Charter School students will demonstrate proficiency in English Language Arts.

BACKGROUND

Literacy is the key academic skill on which all future skill and knowledge acquisition is based. To truly build reading comprehension, scholars need to have a deep knowledge base so that they can apply reading skills, such as inferring and drawing conclusions, in a variety of contexts. ELA curriculum at Democracy Prep Charter School provides explicit instruction around the state standards in both Reading and Writing at all grade levels. Scholars participate in a combination of courses designed to provide direct instruction, opportunities for application and expression, and exposure to many genres and texts. Teachers are provided lesson materials provided by the DPPS Network Academic Team and then are encouraged to modify these lesson materials based on the needs of their scholars, relevant data collected, and professional development at the campus level. Scholars at DPCS are assessed at multiple points throughout the year in order to track growth in skills, standards, and content knowledge over time. All scholars in elementary, middle, and high school participate in assessments throughout the year in order to gauge academic progress.

Prior to COVID-19 related school building closures, Democracy Prep Public Schools selected a new ELA curriculum in order to ensure the most effective available curricular materials are being used in network schools, including Democracy Prep Charter School. During remote instruction, many scholars completed more reading and writing assignments independently than in a typical year. However, consistent individual support provided by the Scholar Support and Academic Collaboration Team was provided to scholars that might normally participate in small group in-person instruction.

METHOD

Democracy Prep Charter School used internally and privately-developed assessments aligned with the New York State Standards to evaluate student achievement during the 2020-2021 school year. Final course grades were also used to evaluate achievement, as grades incorporate all formative and summative assessments administered during the year, including assessments that are part of various evidence-based education technology platforms. As every scholar did not take every end of year exam, end of year grades will be reported for this measure. The rate of 70 percent was used as the benchmark for proficiency and mastery of standards (while a grade of 60 indicated a passing grade due to the COVID-19 pandemic context).

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At the beginning of each year, Democracy Prep Charter School, like all Democracy Prep Public Schools, administers diagnostic assessments in order to develop a baseline understanding of scholars' levels of academic mastery. The results of these diagnostic assessments inform subsequent academic strategies. Throughout the year, formative and summative assessment results are used to evaluate scholars' academic progress and understand the levels of growth and achievement that scholars are demonstrating.

During 2020-21, the school(s) primarily used the following exam to assess student growth and achievement in ELA: Percentage of scholars meeting 70% mastery in ELA (while a rate of 70% was used as the benchmark for proficiency and mastery of standards, a grade of 60 indicated a passing grade due to the COVID-19 pandemic context)

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

As seen in the table below, the percentage of students meeting 70% in overall grades within each grade level ranged from 50% to 76%.

Grades	Percentage of Students Meeting 70% in Overall Grades	Percent of ELL Scholars Meeting 70%	Percent of IEP Scholars Meeting 70%
3			
4			
5			
6	74%	60%	86%
7	49%	40%	35%
8	50%	0%	38%
9	66%	70%	48%
10	68%	80%	20%
11	76%	80%	67%
12	69%	0%	67%

ADDITIONAL CONTEXT AND EVIDENCE

Within 10th and 11th grade, the percentage of ELL scholars who met the 70% proficiency benchmark was 80%.

SUMMARY OF THE ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS GOAL

Proficiency rates for elementary and middle school grades can be seen below:

- 6th Grade - 74%
- 7th Grade - 49%
- 8th Grade - 50%

ACTION PLAN

Democracy Prep Charter School will collect baseline data during the fall of the 2021-2022 school year in order to ensure that the school maintains a high level of performance as measured by the next administration of state examinations. The Democracy Prep Public Schools network adopted a new ELA curriculum during the school year 2019-20 in order to ensure the most effective available materials are being used. In addition, professional development offered by KIPP Wheatley was added to the professional development program in 2020-21.

HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Goal 3: Absolute Measure

Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will exceed Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 4 on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core)) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The school administered the Regents English exam that students must pass to graduate. The State Education Department currently defines the college and career readiness standard as scoring at or above Performance Level 4 (meeting Common Core expectations) on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core). This measure examines the percent of the Accountability Cohort that achieved at least Performance Level 4 by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

Due to the state's cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, some students in the 2017 Cohort who had not previously sat for the exam but were scheduled to sit for this exam during a cancellation would be exempted from the graduation requirement. As such, the school should report both the number of students who were exempted from the exam as well as the percentage of students achieving at least Level 4 among the students who sat for the exam.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School surpassed this goal by 7 percentage points, with 72% of students within the high school Accountability Cohort exceeding Common Core expectations (by scoring at or above Performance Level 4 on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts Common Core Exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

Percent Scoring at Least Level 4 on Regents English Common Core Exam
by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort²

Cohort	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort (a)	Number exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Scoring at Least Level 4 (c)	Percent Scoring at Least Level 4 Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	67	0	57	85
2016	2019-20	68	0	43	63
2017	2020-21	80	16	46	72

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Scholars in the 2018 cohort have already reached a percentage of 92% of scholars either passing or being exempted from the exam.

Percent Achieving at Least Level 4 by Cohort and Year

Cohort Designation	2018-19		2019-20			2020-21		
	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted
2017	92	52	81	15	78	80	16	78
2018	N/A	N/A	84	73	87	77	71	92
2019			N/A	N/A	N/A	112	15	50
2020						N/A	N/A	N/A

² Based on the highest score for each student on the English Regents exam

Goal 3: Absolute Measure

Each year, 80 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will at least partially meet Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 3 on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core)) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The school administered the Regents English exam that students must pass to graduate. The school scores Regents on a scale from 0 to 100. The State Education Department currently defines the cut off for passing and meeting the requirement for graduation as scoring at or above Performance Level 3 (partially meeting Common Core expectations) on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core). This measure examines the percent of the Accountability Cohort that achieved at least Performance Level 3 by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

Due to the state's cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, some students in the 2017 Cohort who had not previously sat for the exam but were scheduled to sit for this exam during a cancellation would be exempted from the graduation requirement. As such, the school should report both the number of students who were exempted from the exam as well as the percentage of students achieving at least Level 3 among the students who sat for the exam.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School met the goal of at least 80 percent of scholars in the fourth year cohort who have taken the exam scoring a 3. In fact, 100% of scholars with a valid score are at least partially proficient. This goal was met even though those scholars did not have four full years in which to earn a valid exam score.

Percent Scoring at Least Level 3 on Regents English Common Core Exam
by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Scoring at Least Level 3 (c)	Percent Scoring at Least Level 3 Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	67	0	66	99
2016	2019-20	68	0	65	96
2017	2020-21	80	16	64	100

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

97% of the 2018 cohort has already passed or been exempted from the exam, even though scholars in their third year have only had 2.5 years in which to earn a valid exam score.

Percent Achieving at Least Level 3 by Cohort and Year

Cohort Designation	2018-19		2019-20			2020-21		
	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted
2017	92	73	81	15	99	80	16	80
2018	N/A	N/A	84	73	87	77	75	97
2019			N/A	N/A	N/A	112	15	76
2020						N/A	N/A	N/A

Goal 3: Absolute Measure

Each year, the Performance Index ("PI") on the Regents English exam of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the state's Measure of Interim Progress ("MIP") set forth in the state's ESSA accountability system.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 3: Comparative Measure

Each year, the percent of students in the high school Total Cohort meeting or exceeding Common Core expectations on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core) will exceed the percentage of comparable students in the district meeting or exceeding Common Core expectations.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 3: Comparative Measure

Each year, the percent of students in the high school Total Cohort at least partially meeting Common Core expectations on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core) will exceed the percentage of comparable students in the district at least partially meeting Common Core expectations.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Goal 3: Comparative Measure

Each year, the Performance Index ("PI") in Regents English of students in the fourth year of their high school Accountability Cohort will exceed that of comparable students from the school district of comparison.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 3: Growth Measure

Each year, 50 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8th grade English language arts exam will meet the college and career readiness standard (currently scoring at Performance Level 4 and fully meeting Common Core expectations on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core)) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The school demonstrates the effectiveness of its English language arts program by enabling students who were not meeting proficiency standards in the eighth grade to meet the English requirement for the college and career readiness standard.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School met this goal, with 71% of students with a valid score scoring at least Level 4.

Percent Achieving at Least Performance Level 4 on Common Core exam among Students Who Were Not Proficient in the 8th Grade by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort not Proficient in 8 th Grade (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Scoring at Least Level 4 (c)	Percent Scoring at Least Level 4 Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	21	0	14	52
2016	2019-20	27	0	12	44
2017	2020-21	28	11	12	71

Goal 3: Growth Measure

Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8th grade English language arts exam will at least partially meet Common Core expectations (currently scoring at Performance Level 3 on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core)) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The school demonstrates the effectiveness of its English language arts program by enabling students who were not meeting proficiency standards in the eighth grade to meet the English requirement for graduation.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

The school achieved the measure of 75 percent of scholars who were not proficient in ELA in 8th grade scoring at least a 3 on the English Regents exam by their fourth year (among students with a valid score).

Percent Achieving at Least Performance Level 3 on Common Core exam among Students Who Were Not Proficient in the 8th Grade by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort not Proficient in 8 th Grade (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Scoring at Least Level 3 (c)	Percent Scoring at Least Level 3 Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	21	0	21	100
2016	2019-20	27	0	27	100
2017	2020-21	28	11	17	100

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

In previous years, Democracy Prep Charter School was able to ensure that 100% of scholars scored at least a 3 among students with a valid score. In both of these years, no scholars were exempted; all scholars who were not proficient in 8th grade took the exam, and 100% scored at least partially proficient.

SUMMARY OF THE HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS GOAL

Democracy Prep Charter School achieved all High School English Language Arts goals that were applicable to the 2020-2021 school year, including fourth year measures that were met in fewer than four full years.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Type	Measure	Outcome
Absolute	Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will meet or exceed Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 4 on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core)) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved
Absolute	Each year, 80 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will at least partially meet Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 3 on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core)) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved
Absolute	Each year, the Performance Index (PI) on the Regents English exam of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the state Measure of Interim Progress (MIP) set forth in the state's ESSA accountability system.	N/A
Comparative	Each year, the percentage of students in the Total Cohort meeting or exceeding Common Core expectations on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core) will exceed the percentage of comparable students from the district meeting or exceeding Common Core expectations.	N/A
Comparative	Each year, the percentage of students in the Total Cohort partially meeting Common Core expectations on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core) will exceed the percentage of comparable students in the district at least partially meeting Common Core expectations.	N/A
Comparative	Each year, the Performance Index (PI) in Regents English of students in the fourth year of their high school Accountability Cohort will exceed that of comparable students from the school district of comparison.	N/A
Growth	Each year, 50 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8 th grade English language arts exam will meet or exceed Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 4 on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core)) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved
Growth	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8 th grade English language arts exam will at least partially meet Common Core expectations (currently scoring at least Performance Level 3 on the Regents Exam in English Language Arts (Common Core)) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved

ACTION PLAN

The Democracy Prep Public Schools network will be continuing to use the new English Language Arts curriculum that we implemented in 2020-2021 as well as continuing to incorporate professional development provided by KIPP Wheatley into the PD program. In addition, baseline student proficiency data will continue to be measured and analyzed in fall 2021 in order to ensure

that instruction is data driven and effectively addresses any detrimental impacts of 2021 school building closures on student achievement.

GOAL 4: MATHEMATICS

ELEMENTARY MATHEMATICS

Goal 4: Mathematics

BACKGROUND

The Math curriculum at Democracy Prep Charter School is designed to ensure that students master the Common Core State Standards, including the standards for Mathematical Practice. Scholars receive a CCSS-aligned curriculum that is developed internally and provides a combination of factual and procedural instruction with real-world application and extension activities. Scholars are assessed at the unit level and at the trimester level to track growth over the year.

METHOD

Democracy Prep Charter School used internally and privately developed assessments aligned with the New York State Standards to evaluate student achievement during the 2020-21 school year. Final course grades were also used to evaluate achievement, as grades incorporate all formative and summative assessments administered during the year, including assessments that are part of various evidence-based education technology platforms. As every scholar did not take every end of year exam, end of year grades will be reported for this measure. While a passing rate of 70 is typically used as the benchmark for proficiency, a score of 60 indicated a passing grade in the 2020-2021 school year due to the transition to remote instruction and the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic.

During 2020-21, the school(s) primarily used the following exam to assess student growth and achievement in mathematics: Proficiency score of 70% was used to indicate mastery (while a score of 60% indicated a passing grade)

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

As seen in the table below, the percentage of students who met 70% in overall grades within each grade level ranged from 42% to 79%.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Grades	Percentage of Students Meeting 70% in Overall Grades	Percent of ELL Scholars Meeting 70%	Percent of IEP Scholars Meeting 70%
3			
4			
5			
6	72%	40%	86%
7	42%	40%	18%
8	44%	0%	32%
9	60%	70%	57%
10	49%	77%	5%
11	49%	25%	33%
12	79%	100%	100%

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

The school must continue to address lower rates of proficiency seen in subgroups, including both scholars with IEPs and scholars who are English language learners.

SUMMARY OF THE ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE MATHEMATICS GOAL

Proficiency rates by grade level within middle school grades can be seen below:

- 6th Grade - 72%
- 7th Grade - 42%
- 8th Grade - 44%

ACTION PLAN

The Democracy Prep Public Schools network selected a new mathematics curriculum in 2020-21 which we will continue to leverage in the upcoming school year. Additionally, we will be continuing to provide professional development provided by KIPP Wheatley into the PD program. Finally, baseline student

proficiency data will continue to be measured and analyzed in fall 2021 in order to ensure that instruction is data driven and effectively addresses any detrimental impacts on student achievement due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the transition to remote instruction.

HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

Goal 4: Absolute Measure

Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will exceed Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 4 on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The school administered the Regents mathematics exam(s) that students must pass to graduate. The State Education Department currently defines the college and career readiness standard as scoring at or above Performance Level 4 (meeting Common Core expectations) on any Regents Common Core mathematics exams. This measure examines the percent of the Accountability Cohort that achieved at least Performance Level 4 by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

Due to the state's cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, some students in the 2017 Cohort who had not previously sat for any mathematics exam but were scheduled to sit for one during a cancellation would be exempted from the graduation requirement. As such, the school should report both the number of students who were exempted from the exam requirement as well as the percentage of students achieving at least Level 4 among the students who sat for any exam.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

The school did not meet the goal of 65% of scholars in the high school Accountability Cohort exceeding Common Core expectations (as measured by scoring at or above Performance Level 4 on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Percent Scoring at Least Level 4 on a Regents Mathematics Common Core Exam by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort

Cohort	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort (a)	Number exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Scoring at Least Level 4 (c)	Percent Scoring at Least Level 4 Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	67	0	55	82
2016	2019-20	68	1	52	78
2017	2020-21	80	3	33	43

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Within the 2015 and 2016 cohorts, Democracy Prep Charter School surpassed this goal. Lower rates of scholars scoring at least a Level 4 on a Regents Mathematics Common Core Exam are likely due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the fact that a larger share of the school year was spent in remote learning.

Within the 2019 cohort, 87% of scholars have already passed or been exempted from this assessment.

Percent Achieving at Least Level 4 by Cohort and Year

Cohort Designation	2018-19		2019-20			2020-21		
	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted
2017	92	37	81	2	44	80	3	45
2018	85	52	84	6	58	77	6	57
2019			100	66	89	112	73	87
2020						115	58	52

Goal 4: Absolute Measure

Each year, 80 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will at least partially meet Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 3 on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The school administered the Regents mathematics exam(s) that students must pass to graduate. The State Education Department currently defines the cut off for passing and meeting the requirement for graduation as scoring at or above Performance Level 3 (partially meeting Common Core expectations) on the Regents mathematics exams. This measure examines the percent of the Accountability Cohort that achieved at least Performance Level 3 by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

Due to the state's cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, some students in the 2017 Cohort who had not previously sat for any mathematics exam but were scheduled to sit for one during a cancellation would be exempted from the graduation requirement. As such, the school should report both the number of students who were exempted from the exam requirement as well as the percentage of students achieving at least Level 3 among the students who sat for any exam.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School met the goal of at least 80 percent of scholars in the fourth year cohort who have taken the exam scoring a 3. This goal was met even though those scholars did not have four full years in which to earn a valid exam score. In fact, 100% of students who earned a valid score are at least partially proficient, with only 3 scholars exempted from taking the assessment.

Percent Scoring at Least Level 3 on a Regents Mathematics Common Core Exam
by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Scoring at Least Level 3 (c)	Percent Scoring at Least Level 3 Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	67	0	66	99
2016	2019-20	68	1	65	97
2017	2020-21	80	3	77	100

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Democracy Prep Charter School has historically seen significant success with meeting this metric. Within the 2015 cohort, 99% of scholars who received a valid score scored at least Level 3 (with no scholars being exempted from the exam), and within the 2016 cohort, 97% of scholars who received a valid score scored at least a Level 3 (with only one scholar exempted).

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Within the 2018 cohort, 99% of scholars have either passed or been exempted from the exam.
Within the 2019 cohort, 92% of scholars have either passed or been exempted from the exam.

Percent Achieving at Least Level 3 by Cohort and Year

Cohort Designation	2018-19		2019-20			2020-21		
	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted
2017	92	97	81	2	100	80	3	100
2018	85	95	84	6	99	77	6	99
2019			100	66	94	112	73	92
2020						115	58	75

Goal 4: Absolute Measure

Each year, the Performance Index (“PI”) on the Regents mathematics exam of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the state’s Measure of Interim Progress (“MIP”) set forth in the state’s ESSA accountability system.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 4: Comparative Measure

Each year, the percent of students in the high school Total Cohort meeting or exceeding Common Core expectations on a Regents mathematics exams will exceed the percentage of comparable students in the district meeting or exceeding Common Core expectations.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 4: Comparative Measure

Each year, the percent of students in the high school Total Cohort at least partially meeting Common Core expectations on a Regents mathematics exams will exceed the percentage of comparable students in the district at least partially meeting Common Core expectations.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Goal 4: Comparative Measure

Each year, the Performance Index ("PI") in Regents mathematics of students in the fourth year of their high school Accountability Cohort will exceed that of comparable students from the school district of comparison.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 4: Growth Measure

Each year, 50 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8th grade mathematics exam will meet the college and career readiness standard (currently scoring at Performance Level 4 and fully meeting Common Core expectations on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The school demonstrates the effectiveness of its mathematics program by enabling students who were not meeting proficiency standards in the eighth grade to grow to meeting the mathematics requirement for the college and career readiness standard.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

The school has not met this goal.

Percent Achieving at Least Performance Level 4 on a Mathematics Regents Exam among Students Who Were Not Proficient in the 8th Grade by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort not Proficient in 8 th Grade (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Scoring at Least Level 4 (c)	Percent Scoring at Least Level 4 Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	12	0	8	67
2016	2019-20	13	1	4	33
2017	2020-21	28	10	3	17

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (in the 2018-2019 school year), the 2015 cohort surpassed this goal. The lower percentage of scholars who met the goal this year and last year likely is due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the larger share of the school year that was spent in remote learning.

Goal 4: Growth Measure

Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8th grade mathematics exam will at least partially meet Common Core expectations (currently scoring at Performance Level 3 on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

The school demonstrates the effectiveness of its mathematics program by enabling students who were not meeting proficiency standards in the eighth grade to move to meeting the English requirement for graduation.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

The school achieved the measure of 75 percent of scholars who were not proficient in ELA in 8th grade scoring at least a 3 on the English Regents exam by their fourth year. 100% of scholars who had a valid score scored at a Level 3, indicating at least partial proficiency.

Percent Achieving at Least Performance Level 3 on a Mathematics Regents Exam among Students Who Were Not Proficient in the 8th Grade by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort ³

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort not Proficient in 8 th Grade (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Scoring at Least Level 3 (c)	Percent Scoring at Least Level 3 Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	12	0	12	100
2016	2019-20	13	1	13	100
2017	2020-21	28	10	18	100

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Democracy Prep Charter School has historically seen great success with this metric. Within the 2015 cohort, 100% of scholars who earned a valid score scored at least a Level 3, with all scholars sitting for the test. Within the 2016 cohort, 100% of scholars who earned a valid score scored at least a Level 3, with only one scholar who was exempted.

SUMMARY OF THE HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS GOAL

Democracy Prep Charter School achieved two out of the four outcomes that were applicable to the 2020-2021 school year, achieving multiple fourth year measures in fewer than four full years.

³ Based on the highest score for each student on the mathematics Regents exam

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Type	Measure	Outcome
Absolute	Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will meet or exceed Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 4 on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Did not meet
Absolute	Each year, 80 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will at least partially meet Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 3 on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved
Absolute	Each year, the Performance Index (PI) in mathematics of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the state Measure of Interim Progress (MIP) set forth in the state's ESSA accountability system.	N/A
Comparative	Each year, the percentage of students in the Total Cohort meeting or exceeding Common Core expectations on a Regents mathematics exam will exceed the percentage of comparable students from the district meeting or exceeding Common Core expectations.	N/A
Comparative	Each year, the percentage of students in the Total Cohort partially meeting Common Core expectations on a Regents mathematics exam will exceed the percentage of comparable students in the district at least partially meeting Common Core expectations.	N/A
Comparative	Each year, the Performance Index (PI) in Regents mathematics of students in the fourth year of their high school Accountability Cohort will exceed that of comparable students from the school district of comparison.	N/A
Growth	Each year, 50 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8 th grade mathematics exam will meet or exceed Common Core expectations (currently scoring at or above Performance Level 4 on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Did not meet
Growth	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8 th grade mathematics exam will at least partially meet Common Core expectations (currently scoring at least Performance Level 3 on a Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved

ACTION PLAN

The Democracy Prep Public Schools network has selected a new mathematics curriculum in 2020-21 and has incorporated professional development provided by KIPP Wheatley into the PD program. In addition, baseline student proficiency data will continue to be measured and analyzed in fall 2021 in order to ensure that instruction is data driven and effectively addresses any detrimental impacts the school building closures that occurred in the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years on student achievement.

GOAL 5: SCIENCE

ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCIENCE

Goal 5: Science

Democracy Prep Charter School students will demonstrate proficiency in science.

BACKGROUND

The Science curriculum at Democracy Prep Charter School is based on the Next Generation Science Standards and is designed to give scholars hands-on experience with scientific content. Each unit includes at least one lab to ensure that scholars get to apply the content they've learned and explore scientific concepts for themselves. Teachers at DPCS put a heavy emphasis on ensuring that scholars see how scientific content relates to the real world. Science instruction also includes a heavy emphasis on the CCSS Reading Informational text standards to ensure that scholars are able to access content through text as well as through experimentation. Scholars are assessed at the unit level and at the trimester level to track growth over the year. Teachers receive professional development from network Curriculum Specialists throughout the year to both build their content knowledge and create a professional community of teachers.

METHOD

Democracy Prep Charter Schools used internally and privately developed assessments aligned with the New York State Standards to evaluate student achievement during the 2020-21 school year. Final course grades were also used to evaluate achievement, as grades incorporate all formative and summative assessments administered during the year, including assessments that are part of various evidence-based education technology platforms. As every scholar did not take every end of year exam, end of year grades will be reported for this measure. The rate of 70 percent was used as the benchmark for proficiency and mastery of standards (while a rate of 60 indicated a passing grade due to the COVID-19 pandemic context).

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

As seen in the table below, the percentage of students within each grade level who met proficiency benchmarks ranged from 48% to 77%.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Grades	Percentage of Students Meeting 70% in Overall Grades	Percent of ELL Scholars Meeting 70%	Percent of IEP Scholars Meeting 70%
3			
4			
5			
6	71%	60%	86%
7	48%	40%	24%
8	58%	25%	33%
9	54%	50%	30%
10	66%	80%	30%
11	61%	67%	47%
12	77%	100%	33%

ADDITIONAL CONTEXT AND EVIDENCE

Within the 12th grade, 100% of scholars who are English Language Learners met the 70% benchmark for proficiency based on their overall grades.

SUMMARY OF THE ELEMENTARY SCIENCE GOAL

Proficiency rates for middle school grades can be seen below:

- 6th Grade - 71%
- 7th Grade - 48%
- 8th Grade - 58%

ACTION PLAN

Professional development in the 2021-22 school year will focus on supporting at-risk scholars in order to address gaps in proficiency between the general population and scholars with an ELL designation and gaps between the general population and scholars with individualized education plans.

HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE

Goal 5: Absolute Measure

Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will score at least 65 on a New York State Regents science exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

New York State schools administer multiple high school science assessments; current Regent exams are Living Environment, Earth Science, Chemistry and Physics. The school administered Living Environment, Chemistry and Physics. It scores Regents on a scale from 0 to 100; students must score at least 65 to pass. This measure requires students in each Accountability Cohort to pass any one of the Regents science exams by their fourth year in the cohort. Students may have taken a particular Regents science exam multiple times or have taken multiple science exams. Students have until the summer of their fourth year to pass a science exam.

Due to the state's cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, some students in the 2017 Cohort who had not previously sat for the exam but were scheduled to sit for this exam during a cancellation would be exempted from the graduation requirement. As such, the school should report both the number of students who were exempted from the exam as well as the percentage of students passing among the students who sat for the exam.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

The school met the goal of over 75 percent of scholars passing a Science Regents exam by their fourth year. In fact, among students with a valid score, 100 percent of scholars in the fourth year cohort passed a Science exam, even though they did not have four full years in which to earn a valid score.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Science Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort⁴

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Passing with at Least a 65 (c)	Percent Passing Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	67	0	66	99
2016	2019-20	68	0	64	94
2017	2020-21	80	3	77	100

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Within the 2018 cohort, 100% of scholars have already passed or been exempted from the exam.
Within the 2019 cohort, 93% of scholars have already passed or been exempted from the exam.

Science Regents Passing Rate with a score of 65 by Cohort and Year

Cohort Designation	2018-19		2019-20			2020-21		
	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted
2017	92	96	81	2	100	80	3	100
2018	85	94	84	9	100	77	9	100
2019			100	93	96	112	94	93
2020						115	19	60

Goal 5: Comparative Measure

Each year, the percent of students in the high school Total Cohort passing a Regents science exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the high school Total Cohort from the school district of comparison.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

⁴ Based on the highest score for each student on any science Regents exam

GOAL 6: SOCIAL STUDIES

Goal 6: Social Studies

Democracy Prep Charter School students will demonstrate proficiency in social studies and civics.

Goal 6: Absolute Measure

Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will score at least 65 on the New York State Regents U.S. History exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

New York State administers two high school social studies assessments: U.S. History and Global History. In order to graduate, students must pass both of these Regents exams with a score of 65 or higher. This measure requires students in each Accountability Cohort to pass the two exams by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort. Students may have taken the exams multiple times and have until the summer of their fourth year to pass it. Once students pass it, performance on subsequent administrations of the same exam do not affect their status as passing.

Due to the state's cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, some students in the 2017 Cohort who had not previously sat for the exam but were scheduled to sit for this exam during a cancellation would be exempted from the graduation requirement. As such, the school should report both the number of students who were exempted from the exam as well as the percentage of students passing among the students who sat for the exam.

RESULTS

Due to the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic and the cancellation of assessments, Democracy Prep Charter School does not have sufficient data to determine whether or not this goal was met.

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

U.S. History Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Passing with at Least a 65 (c)	Percent Passing Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	67	0	66	99
2016	2019-20	68	8	56	93
2017	2020-21	80	53	N/A	N/A

EVALUATION

Due to the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic and the cancellation of assessments, Democracy Prep Charter School does not have sufficient data to determine whether or not this goal was met.

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Historically, the school has surpassed this goal. Within the 2015 cohort, 99% of scholars with a valid score passed the exam, with only one scholar exemption. Within the 2016 cohort, 93% of scholars with a valid score passed the exam, with 8 scholar exemptions.

U.S. History Regents Passing Rate with a score of 65 by Cohort and Year

Cohort Designation	2018-19		2019-20			2020-21		
	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted
2017	N/A	N/A	81	51	65	80	53	69
2018	N/A	N/A	84	N/A	N/A	77	N/A	N/A
2019			100	N/A	N/A	112	N/A	N/A
2020						115	N/A	N/A

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Goal 6: Comparative Measure

Each year, the percent to students in the high school Total Cohort passing the Regents U.S. History exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the high school Total Cohort from the school district of comparison.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

Goal 6: Absolute Measure

Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will score at least 65 on the New York State Regents Global History exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

METHOD

This measure requires students in each Accountability Cohort to pass the Global History exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort. Students may have taken the exam multiple times, and had until the summer of their fourth year to pass it. Once students pass it, performance on subsequent administrations of the same exam do not affect their status as passing.

Due to the state's cancellation of multiple administrations of the Regents exams in 2019-20 and 2020-21, some students in the 2017 Cohort who had not previously sat for the exam but were scheduled to sit for this exam during a cancellation would be exempted from the graduation requirement. As such, the school should report both the number of students who were exempted from the exam as well as the percentage of students passing among the students who sat for the exam.

RESULTS

The school met the goal of at least 75 percent of scholars who had taken the Global History Regents exam by their fourth year earning a score of 65.

Global History Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65
by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Fourth Year	Number in Cohort (a)	Number Exempted with No Valid Score (b)	Number Passing with at Least a 65 (c)	Percent Passing Among Students with Valid Score (c)/(a-b)
2015	2018-19	67	0	66	99
2016	2019-20	68	1	63	94
2017	2020-21	80	15	64	90

2020-21 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

EVALUATION

90% of scholars within the 2017 cohort who earned a valid score passed the exam. This percentage surpasses the goal by 15 percentage points.

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Historically, Democracy Prep Charter School has seen significant success with this goal. Within the 2015 cohort, 99% of scholars with a valid score passed the exam, with zero student exemptions. Within the 2016 cohort, 94% of scholars with a valid score passed the exam, with only one scholar exemption.

Global History Regents Passing Rate with a score of 65 by Cohort and Year

Cohort Designation	2018-19		2019-20			2020-21		
	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted	Number in Cohort	Exempted	Percent Passing including Exempted
2017	92	68	81	15	97	80	15	99
2018	N/A	N/A	84	72	87	77	70	92
2019			N/A	N/A	N/A	112	N/A	N/A
2020						115	N/A	N/A

Goal 6: Comparative Measure

Each year, the percent of students in the high school Total Cohort passing the Regents Global History exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the high school Total Cohort from the school district of comparison.

The calculation of this measure is not required for 2020-21.

GOAL 7: ESSA

Due to COVID-19 and the subsequent changes to the state's testing, accountability, and federal reporting requirements, the 2020-21 school accountability statuses are the same as those assigned for the 2019-20 school year. The 2019-20 accountability statuses were based on 2018-19 exam results. Assigned accountability designations and further context can be found [here](#).

Goal 7: Absolute Measure

Under the state's ESSA accountability system, the school is in good standing: the state has not identified the school for comprehensive or targeted improvement.

METHOD

Because *all* students are expected to meet the state's performance standards, the federal statute stipulates that various sub-populations and demographic categories of students among all tested students must meet the state standard in and of themselves aside from the overall school results. As New York State, like all states, is required to establish a specific system for making these determinations for its public schools, charter schools do not have latitude in establishing their own performance levels or criteria of success for meeting the ESSA accountability requirements. Each year, the state issues School Report Cards that indicate a school's status under the state accountability system.

RESULTS AND EVALUATION

Democracy Prep Charter School achieved "Good Standing" status for the 2018-19 school year. The accountability status remained unchanged for the 2019-20 school year and the 2020-2021 school years.

Accountability Status by Year

Year	Status
2018-19	Good Standing
2019-20	Good Standing
2020-21	Good Standing

