

## NEW VISIONS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED MATH AND SCIENCE (AMS)

# 2015-16 ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

Submitted to the SUNY Charter Schools Institute on:

September 15, 2016

By Lori Mei & Robert Hiller

New Visions Charter Managing Director of Operations and School Development

Principal

99 Terrace View Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463 718-817-7683

## **INTRODUCTION**

Robert Hiller, Principal, Allison Cohen, Deputy Director, Data Analytics, Alec Barrett, Data Visualization Analyst, and Lori Mei, Managing Director of Charter Operations and School Development, New Visions for Public Schools prepared this 2015-16 Accountability Progress Report on behalf of the school's board of trustees:

Trustee's Name	Board Position
Jindra Zitek	Chair
Stacy Martin	Treasurer
Ronald Chaluisan	Secretary
John Alderman	Board Member
Peter Cantillo	Board Member
Nancy Grossman	Board Member
Lili Lynton	Board Member
Selina Urbina	Board Member
Edna Vega	Board Member

Robert Hiller has served as the principal since August 1, 2015.

#### Mission

The New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science (AMS) is a small school that opened in 2011 and served approximately 463 students in grades 9-12 in 2015-2016. AMS is academically rigorous, committed to parent and community outreach, and dedicated to serving highneed students. The school is part of the New Visions Charter High Schools' (NVCHS) network which is a network of secondary schools dedicated to supporting all students in meeting the highest academic standards. We shift classroom dynamics from one where students receive information to one where students find solutions to community-defined problems by using their imagination coupled with a mastery of content and skills. We challenge our students to present and defend their learning as part of preparing and supporting them to graduate ready for college, careers and a 21<sup>st</sup> century economy. Teaching and learning in AMS, as in all New Visions Charter High Schools, is built upon the Lincoln Center Education Capacities for Imaginative Thinking<sup>1</sup>, informed by challenge-based curricula that are aligned to the Common Core standards, applied to improving local communities and driven by student performance data.

#### **Student Population**

Located in the Marble Hill community of the Bronx, AMS serves students from predominately low-income families. With enrollment based on a random lottery, 91% of students that applied to AMS live in the Bronx with about one-fourth of the students coming from Community School District 10 in which the school is located. In the 2015-2016 school year, 463 students were enrolled in AMS. Of these students:

- 78% are eligible for free or reduced price lunch
- 91% are Black or Latino
- 17% are students with disabilities
- 8% are English Language Learners

#### **Key Design Elements**

Key design elements of the model include:

- An instructional model that requires students to reflect and assess constantly. As students
  employ the Capacities of Imaginative Thinking, they practice applying their knowledge to realworld issues through challenge-based learning.
- On-going system of assessment and data tools to support academic achievement, literacy interventions and monitor special education and English language learner compliance.
- A small school that offers a trimester schedule as well as an extended day and extended year
  that provides students with more time and opportunities for remediation and acceleration as
  well as afterschool and Saturday clubs and classes to engage students and support their
  academic and socio-emotional needs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Capacities of Imaginative Thinking are habits of mind that foster creativity, analysis and action.

## **INTRODUCTION**

- A Summer Bridge Program in August for all 9th and 10 grade students that sets academic and behavioral expectations and introduces them to challenge-based learning.
- A Lower House that provides students with a solid academic and socio-emotional foundation to get them to grade level, and to accelerate their learning so that they may take full advantage of Upper House which engages students in an array of experiences with a post-secondary focus.
- Community engagement as a distinguishing element of the model. This model aspires to honor who our students are and where they come from by creating opportunities for them to engage in and become members of and resources for their communities.
- Family engagement that emphasizes families as partners in education through a model that
  includes establishing Family School Alliances<sup>2</sup>; offering events for networking and celebration;
  providing information about graduation requirements and students' academic progress; and
  creating a culture that emphasizes college and career readiness.
- Student support services that address students' socio-emotional needs from college counseling to crisis management.
- Systematic development of each school's operational infrastructure to achieve efficiency and effectiveness.
- Leadership and adult learning model that emphasizes modeling of best practices, teaming, feedback and role clarity to ensure that staff are focused on continuous improvement and invested in excelling.

	School Enrollment by Grade Level and School Year													
School Year	К	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2011-12										118	0	0	0	118
2012-13										118	118	0	0	236
2013-14										105	122	108	0	335
2014-15										157	104	98	108	467
2015-16										151	134	84	87	456

New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science (AMS) Charter School 2015-16 Accountability Plan Progress Report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Family School Alliances are the NVCHS version of Parent Associations and are deliberately named to emphasize the partnership between the school and families.

#### HIGH SCHOOL COHORTS

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY COHORT**

The state's Accountability Cohort consists specifically of students who are in their fourth year of high school after the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. For example, the 2012 state Accountability Cohort consists of students who entered the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the 2012-13 school year, were enrolled in the school on the state's annual enrollment-determination day (BEDS day) in the 2015-16 school year, and either remained in the school for the rest of the year or left for an acceptable reason. (See New York State Education Department's website for its accountability rules and cohort definitions: www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/)

The following table indicates the number of students in the Accountability Cohorts who are in their fourth year of high school and were enrolled on BEDS Day in October and on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

	Fourth-Year High School Accountability Cohorts											
Fourth Year Cohort	Year Entered 9 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup>							
2013-14			N/A	N/A	N/A							
2014-15			15 2011-12 2011 115 0		0	115						
2015-16	2012-13	2012	107	7	100							

#### TOTAL COHORT FOR GRADUATION

Students are included in the Total Cohort for Graduation also based on the year they first enter the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Prior to 2012-13, students who have enrolled <u>at least five months in the school</u> after entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade are part of the Total Cohort for Graduation; as of 2011-12 (the 2008 cohort), students who have enrolled <u>at least one day in the school</u> after entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade are part of the school's Graduation Cohort. If the school has discharged students for one of the following acceptable reasons, it may remove them from the graduation cohort: if they transfer to another public or private diplomagranting 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 die.

## **INTRODUCTION**

	Fourth Year Total Cohort for Graduation										
	Fourth Year Cohort	Year Entered 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Anywhere	Cohort Designation	Number of Students Enrolled on June 30 <sup>th</sup> of the Cohort's Fourth Year (a)	Additional Students Still in Cohort <sup>3</sup> (b)	Graduation Cohort (a) + (b)					
	2013-14	2010-11	2010	N/A	N/A	N/A					
	2014-15	2011-12	2011	114	2	116					
ſ	2015-16	2013-14	2012	98	4	102					

	Fifth Year Total Cohort for Graduation										
	Fifth Year Cohort School Pifth Year Entered 9th Grade Anywhere Cohort Designatio		Cohort Designation	Number of Students Enrolled on June 30 <sup>th</sup> of the Cohort's Fifth Year (a)	Additional Students Still in Cohort <sup>4</sup> (b)	Graduation Cohort (a) + (b)					
Ī	2013-14	2009-10	2009	N/A	N/A	N/A					
Ī	2014-15	2010-11	2010	N/A	N/A	N/A					
	2015-16	2011-12	2011	3	0	3					

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Number of students 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Number of students 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.

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS**

## Goal 1: English Language Arts

AMS students will become proficient readers and writers of the English Language.

#### **BACKGROUND**

At AMS, our English Language Arts Curriculum is common core aligned and focused on challenge- based learning, where students take ownership over the thinking and doing in the classroom. There is a strong emphasis on critical reading and writing within the curriculum. We use assessments for multiple purposes at AMS; we use them for understanding what students understand and don't understand with respect to the curriculum (discussions, on demand writing), we use them to allow students to apply their understanding (end of trimester challenges), and we use them to help students prepare for the end of the year Regents exam (trimester final exams). The professional development model at AMS is a parallel to what we strive for in our classroom practice; a model that asks teachers to take ownership of their practice. Specifically, we use a coaching model to support teachers in further developing their practice; we use our weekly department structure to do lesson studies, assessment analysis, and a book study; we use our monthly school-wide professional learning cycle to focus on discussion based teaching; and finally, we ask each one of our teachers to conduct action research, which they present at the end of the school year to the whole staff.

#### **Goal 1: 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 English exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

(§) Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will meet the college and career readiness standard (currently scoring 75 on the New York State Regents English exam OR 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 administered the Regents Comprehensive Exam in English that students must pass to graduate. The school scores Regents on a scale from 0 to 100. The State Education Department defines the following pass levels: scoring 65 to meet the graduation requirement for a Regents diploma / 75 to meet the college and career readiness standard.<sup>5</sup> This measure examines the percent of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The statewide adaptation of new State Standards includes incorporating college and career readiness performance standards for the English language arts exam. The state has benchmarked student ELA test performance to the likely need for remedial course work when students enter college by comparing student 3-8 test results and Regents results to their post-secondary

Accountability Cohort that passed the exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort. Students have until the summer of their fourth year to do so.

#### **RESULTS**

The students in the first two accountability cohorts (2011 and 2012 cohorts) far surpassed the English Regents goal, achieving a 93% and 92% pass rate at 65 respectively with 57% of both cohorts meeting the college readiness benchmark of a score of 75, approaching the goal.

## English Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort<sup>6</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 65
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	115	93%
2012	100	92%

## English Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 75 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort<sup>7</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 75
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	115	57%
2012	100	57%

#### **EVALUATION**

The students in the first two accountability cohorts far surpassed the English Regents goal, achieving a pass rate over 90% at 65. Well over one-half of the students in both cohorts (57%) met the college readiness benchmark of a score of 75, approaching the college readiness goal. AMS' focus on reading and writing across the content areas has supported students in being successful on the ELA Regents exam.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

The 2013 cohort has already met the goal after only three years and the 2014 cohort's pass rate is similar to that of the 2013 cohort at the same point in time suggesting that they too will surpass the goal of a 75% pass rate at a score of 65. Over one-half of the students in the 2013 cohort (52%) have already achieved the higher college readiness score of 75 with several more opportunities for additional students to meet the higher college readiness goal.

experience at SUNY and CUNY. Besides raising the cut scores for proficiency in the 3-8 testing program, the state has begun to set college and career readiness standards for passing Regents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Based on the highest score for each student on the English Regents exam

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Based on the highest score for each student on the English Regents exam

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

Cohort	2013	3-14	2014	4-15	2015-16		
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
Designation	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing	
2012	120	60%	111	86%	100	92%	
2013	101	1%	106	54%	94	85%	
2014			111	0%	116	60%	
2015					144	0%	

English Regents Passing Rate with a score of 75 by Cohort and Year

Cobort	2013	3-14	2014	4-15	2015-16		
Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	
2012	120	120 33%		53%	100	57%	
2013	101	0% 106		35%	94	52%	
2014			111 0%		116	36%	
2015					144	0%	

#### **Goal 1: Absolute Measure**

Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on the New York State 8<sup>th</sup> grade English language arts exam will score at least 65 on the New York State Regents English exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

(§) Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8<sup>th</sup> grade English language arts exam will meet the college and career readiness standard (currently scoring 75 on the New York State Regents English exam OR 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 graduation with a Regents diploma / the college and career readiness standard.

#### **RESULTS**

At least 90% of the students in both the 2011 and 2012 cohorts who entered AMS not proficient in 8<sup>th</sup> grade passed the English Regents with a score of 65—far higher than the goal. In addition, 48% of the 2011 cohort and 39% of the 2012 achieved the college readiness benchmark.

English Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 among Students

Who Were Not Proficient in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort <sup>8</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 65
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	79	92%
2012	59	90%

English Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 75 among Students

Who Were Not Proficient in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort <sup>9</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 75
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	79	48%
2012	59	39%

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS' first two accountability cohorts far exceeded this measure with over 90% of the students in both cohorts that were not proficient when they entered the school meeting the benchmark at the end of four years; close to one-half of these students met the college readiness benchmark in the 2011 cohort with 39% meeting the college readiness goal in the 2012 cohort. AMS' focus on reading and writing across the content areas and the supplemental support classes have been reasons why our students have been successful on the ELA Regents exam.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### Goal 1: Absolute Measure

Each year, the Accountability Performance Level ("APL") on the Regents English exam of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the Annual Measurable Objective ("AMO") set forth in the state's NCLB accountability system.

#### METHOD

In receiving a waiver for its federal No Child Left Behind accountability system, the New York State Education Department now holds high schools accountable for making annual yearly progress towards meeting college and career readiness standards. See page 72 of SED's ESEA waiver application for the high school AMOs:

www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/documents/NYSESEAFlexibilityWaiver REVISED.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Based on the highest score for each student on the English Regents exam

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Based on the highest score for each student on the English Regents exam

The AMO continues to be SED's basis for determining if schools are making satisfactory progress toward the annual goal. To achieve this measure, all tested students in the Accountability Cohort must have an Accountability Performance Level (APL) that equals or exceeds the 2015-16 English language arts AMO of **174**.

The APL is calculated by adding the sum of the percent of students in the Accountability Cohort at Levels 2 through 4 to the sum of the percent of students at Level 3 and 4. Thus, the highest possible APL is 200. The Regents exam in Comprehensive English is scored on a scale from 0 to 100; 0 to 64 is Level 1, 65 to 74 is Level 2, 75 to 89 is Level 3, and 90 to 100 is Level 4. The Regents Common Core Examination in English is scored on a scale from 0 to 100; 0 to 64 is level 1, 65 to 78 is level 2; 79 to 84 is level 3, and 85 to 100 is level 4.

#### **RESULTS**

AMS's 2012 cohort achieved an APL of 149, slightly under the required 174 for all students in the 2012 cohort. In addition, AMS did not meet the targets for the three subgroups in the 2012 cohort that had at least 30 students, specifically for economically disadvantaged, Black and Hispanic students.

Number in	Percent of Students at Each Performance Level								
Cohort	Level 1	Level 1 Level 2 Level 3 Leve							
100	7		35		55		2		
	PI	=	35	+	55	+	2	=	92
					55	+	2	=	<u>57</u>
							APL	=	149

Subgroup	Total	N in	% of St	% of Students at Each		APL	Subgroup AMO	Achieved
	N	Subgroup	Perfo	rmance	Level			AMO?
	Cohort		Level	Level	Level			
			2	3	4			
Economically	100	69	39	52	1	144	162	No
Disadvantaged								
Black	100	47	36	51	4	146	158	No
Hispanic	100	43	35	58	0	151	160	No

#### **EVALUATION**

The school's APL of 149 was 25 points lower than the required 174 for all students in the 2012 cohort. The school also did not meet the required AMO in all three of the cohort's subgroups. Specifically, economically disadvantaged students, Black students and Hispanic students' performance at AMS came close but did not meet the AMO required for the number of students in those groups. If AMS focused on increasing the number of students achieving Level 4, they will meet the overall the goal in future years. AMS has mostly teachers with experience between 2 and 4 years and we believe that through our continued teacher development and teacher retention that we will move towards supporting more students in achieving level 3 and level 4.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### **GOAL 1: COMPARATIVE MEASURE**

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

(§) Each year, the Accountability Performance Level ("APL") in Regents English of students in the fourth year of their high school Accountability Cohort will exceed the APL of comparable students from the local school district.

#### **METHOD**

The school compares the performance of students in their fourth year in the charter school Accountability Cohort to that of the respective cohort of students in the local school district. Given that students may take Regents exam up through the summer of their fourth year, the school presents most recently available school district results.<sup>10</sup>

#### **RESULTS**

AMS' 92% pass rate far exceeded that of the local district with its 72% pass rate, the goal for which the school is held accountable. In addition, AMS 's 149 ALP exceeded that of the district as well.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The New York State Report Card provides the district results for students scoring at or above 65.

English Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 of Fourth-Year Accountability Cohorts by Charter School and School District

	Charter School		School District		
Cohort	Percent	Cohort	Percent	Cohort	
	Passing	Size	Passing	Size	
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
2011	92%	115	67%	4,468	
2012	92%	100	72%	4,178	

English Regents Accountability Performance Level (APL)<sup>11</sup>
of Fourth-Year Accountability Cohorts by Charter School and School District

	Charter	School	School District	
Cohort	APL	Cohort Size	APL	Cohort Size
2010				
2011	142	115	172	4,468
2012	149	100	140	4,178

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS far exceeded the performance of the local district by achieving a 92% pass rate—20 percentage points higher than that of Community School District 10, the goal to which the school is held accountable. In addition, AMS met the APL goal by achieving a 149 as compared to the district's APL of 140.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### **Goal 1: Optional Measure**

Each year, the group of students who have taken the grade 10 to 12 ACT\* assessments [PLAN in grade 10, (and later Aspire), (ACT in grades 11 and 12 (and later Aspire)] will reduce the gap between their average score in the previous year (including EXPLORE in grade 9), and the College Readiness Benchmark score in English by 50%. Students who achieve the College Readiness Benchmark in English on subsequent tests and in subsequent grades.

#### **METHOD**

The EXPLORE, PLAN and ACT are scored along a common scale. Because they are reported on the same score scale, the results from the different assessments inform students, parents, teachers and counselors about individual student strengths and weaknesses while there is still time to address them. AMS administered the EXPLORE (and later Aspire) (grade 9), the PLAN (and later Aspire) (grade 10) and

<sup>\*</sup>ACT has replaced EXPLORE and PLAN with Aspire and has created a cross walk between the scores so that comparisons may be made.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> For an explanation of the procedure to calculate the school's APL, see page 31.

was expected to administer the ACT (grade 11) assessments to students as a pretest in the spring. Students take the next assessment for their grade level the following spring which serves as a posttest including ACT in grade 12. Students' performance on the pretest is compared to their performance on the posttest to determine whether they have achieved the College Readiness Benchmark or made progress toward achieving the College Readiness Benchmark in English.

### **RESULTS**

The data necessary to measure this goal was not available at the time the report was written.

English Growth in College Readiness by High School Accountability Cohort

Cohort	Number in Cohort with	Percent Meeting College Readiness
Designation	Matched	Benchmarks or
	Scores	Showing Growth
2012		
2013		
2014		
2015		
Total		

#### **EVALUATION**

The lack of results suggests a need to improve test administration processes and procedures at the school to ensure that the data provide an accurate assessment of all students' performance.

#### SUMMARY OF THE HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS GOAL

AMS met three of the four goals to which it is held accountable (prior to 2012-2013). The school met two out of four of the post 2012-2013 goals.

Туре	Measure (Accountability Plan Prior to 2012-13)	Outcome
Absolute	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will score at least 65 on the New York State Regents English exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved
Absolute	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will did not score proficient on the New York State 8th grade English language arts exam will score at least 65 on the New York State Regents English exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved
Absolute	Each year, the Accountability Performance Level (APL) on the Regents English exam of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) set forth in the state's NCLB accountability system.	Did Not Achieve
Comparative	Each year, the percent to students in the high school Accountability Cohort passing the Regents English exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the high school Accountability Cohort from the local school district. (Using 2013-14 school district results.)	Achieved

Туре	Measure (Accountability Plan from 2012-13 or later)	Outcome
Absolute	(§) Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will meet the college and career ready standard (currently scoring 75 on the New York State Regents English exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Did Not Achieve
Absolute	(§) Each year, 65 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 ready standard (currently scoring 75 on the New York State Regents English exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Did Not Achieve
Absolute	Each year, the Accountability Performance Level (APL) on the Regents English exam of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) set forth in the state's NCLB accountability system.	Did Not Achieve
Comparative	(§) Each year, the Accountability Performance Level (APL) in Regents English of students in the fourth year of their high school Accountability Cohort will exceed the APL of comparable students from the local school district. (Using 2013-14 school district results.)	Achieved

#### **ACTION PLAN**

At AMS, we will work on increasing the number of students reaching the college readiness benchmark in English Language Arts. We will do this by utilizing our challenge-based learning curriculum and our existing school team structures. Specifically, we will use our weekly department meeting structure to focus on implementation of our units and lesson plans by using a process called lesson study. This process will allow us to take thoughtful risks and support the whole team in moving towards more effective implementation of our ambitious plans. We will also use our department meeting structure to do monthly assessment analysis so we can tailor our instruction to the specific needs of our students. At AMS we will be increasing the amount of time we meet as a grade team from once a month to twice a month. We believe this additional meeting each month will allow us to best support our students academically, socially and emotionally. As a grade team we will look closely at data in the areas of academics, behavior, and attendance and, based on the data, we will create supports for the students in the different areas. For academic support, we will use our office hour structure and our Saturday Regents prep structure to best support the individual needs of our students. Finally, at AMS we will be working hard at retaining our best teachers, as we believe that in order to increase our students' level of achievement from passing to college ready we need the majority of our teachers to return year after year.

### **GOAL 2: MATHEMATICS**

#### Goal 2: Mathematics

AMS students will become proficient in the application of mathematical skills and concepts.

#### **BACKGROUND**

At AMS, our Mathematics Curriculum is common core aligned and focused on challenge-based learning, where students take ownership over the thinking and doing in the classroom. There is a strong emphasis on problem solving, conceptual understanding, and procedural fluency. We use assessments for multiple purposes at AMS; we use them for understanding what students understand and don't understand with respect to the curriculum (discussions, kick-off tasks at start of unit), we use them to allow students to apply their understanding (end of unit applications and trimester challenges), and we use them to help students prepare for the end of the year Regents exam (unit assessments and trimester final exams). The professional development model at AMS is a parallel to what we strive for in our classroom practice; a model that asks teachers to take ownership of their practice. Specifically, we use a coaching model to support teachers in further developing their practice; we use our weekly department structure to do lesson studies, assessment analysis, and a book study; we use our monthly school-wide professional learning cycle to focus on discussion based teaching; and finally, we ask each one of our teachers to conduct action research, which they present at the end of the school year to the whole staff.

#### **Goal 2: 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 mathematics exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

(§) Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will meet the college and career readiness standard (currently scoring 80 on a New York State Regents math exam OR fully meeting Common Core expectations on the Regents Algebra I (Common Core) exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

#### **METHOD**

The school administered the New York State Regents Algebra I (Common Core), Geometry, Geometry (Common Core), Algebra 2/Trigonometry, and/or Algebra II (Common Core) exams. The school scores Regents on a scale from 0 to 100. The State Education Department defines the following pass levels: scoring 65 to meet the graduation requirement for a Regents diploma / scoring 80 or fully meeting Common Core expectations to meet the college and career readiness standard. <sup>12</sup> This measure requires

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The statewide adaptation of the revised State Standards includes incorporating college and career readiness performance standards for the English language arts exam. The state has benchmarked student mathematics test performance to the likely need for remedial course work when students enter college by comparing student 3-8 test results and Regents results to their

students in each Accountability Cohort to achieve the requisite score on any one of the Regents mathematics exams by their fourth year in the cohort. Students may have taken a particular Regents mathematics exam multiple times or have taken multiple mathematics exams. Students have until the summer of their fourth year to pass a mathematics exam.

#### **RESULTS**

AMS's 2012 cohort far exceeded the mathematics goal by achieving a 96% pass rate. However, only 28% of the cohort hit the college readiness benchmark.

## Mathematics Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort<sup>13</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 65
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	115	97%
2012	100	96%

## Mathematics Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 80 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort<sup>14</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 80
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	115	33%
2012	100	28%

#### **EVALUATION**

Nearly AMS' entire 2012 cohort met the mathematics goal with a pass rate of 96% at 65; of whom 28% met the college readiness benchmark. This level of performance is impressive in accountability cohorts early in the school's development. However twice as many students will have to perform at the college readiness level if AMS is to achieve this goal with future cohorts. We attribute this initial success to our focus on problem-based teaching, our math support classes, and our Saturday Regents prep opportunities that many of our students have taken advantage of over the course of the last four years.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Both cohorts 2013 and 2014 currently have similar pass rates to those of the 2012 cohort at the end of three years. This trend, particularly for the 2014 cohort that has two more years before graduation,

post-secondary experience at SUNY and CUNY. Besides raising the cut scores for proficiency in the 3-8 testing program, the state has begun to set college and career readiness standards for passing Regents.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Based on the highest score for each student on the Mathematics Regents exam

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Based on the highest score for each student on the Mathematics Regents exam

suggests that the school will be successful in continuing to meet the measure's target. The focus of the work must be on teaching and learning that will bring students to the college readiness benchmark.

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

Cohort	2013-		3-14 2014		2015-16	
Designation	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Designation	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing
2012	120	83%	111	94%	100	96%
2013	101	54%	106	82%	94	86%
2014			111	49%	116	74%
2015					144	49%

#### Mathematics Regents Passing Rate with a score of 80 by Cohort and Year

Cohort	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Designation	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing
2012	120	23%	111	27%	100	28%
2013	101	10%	106	11%	94	14%
2014			111	4%	116	4%
2015					144	6%

#### **Goal 2: Absolute Measure**

Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on the New York State 8<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics exam will score at least 65 on a New York State Regents mathematics exam by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.

**(§)** Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort who did not score proficient on their New York State 8<sup>th</sup> grade math exam will meet the college and career ready standard (currently scoring 80 on a New York State Regents math 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 meet the mathematics requirement for graduation with a Regents diploma/the college and career readiness standard.

#### **RESULTS**

AMS' 94% pass rate for the 2012 cohort far exceeded the mathematics goal and was identical to the performance of its first cohort. However, few of these students (2011 cohort=4%, 2012 cohort=3%) met the college readiness mark.

Mathematics Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 among Students
Who Were Not Proficient in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort 15

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 65
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	46	94%
2012	32	94%

Mathematics Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 80 among Students
Who Were Not Proficient in the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort <sup>16</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 80
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	46	4%
2012	32	3%

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS cohort 2012 students exceeded the mathematics pass rate goal by 19 percentage points indicating that a considerable number of students that entered AMS not proficient in math, demonstrated success at the end of their four years in the school. However, few students were able to achieve the college readiness benchmark. We attribute our success to helping students move from below proficient to proficient to our approach to teaching mathematics, our support classes, and our Regents prep opportunities. We need to continue to work on moving our students from proficient to college readiness and we believe that through our teacher development model and through teacher retention we will be able to support students in achieving college readiness.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### **Goal 2: Absolute Measure**

Each year, the Accountability Performance Level ("APL") on a Regents mathematics exam of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) set forth in the state's NCLB accountability system.

#### **METHOD**

In receiving a waiver for its federal No Child Left Behind accountability system, the State Education Department now law holds high schools accountable for making annual yearly progress towards meeting college and career readiness standards. See page 72 of SED's ESEA waiver application for the high school AMOs:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Based on the highest score for each student on the Mathematics Regents exam

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Based on the highest score for each student on the Mathematics Regents exam

#### http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/documents/NYSESEAFlexibilityWaiver REVISED.pdf

The AMO continues to be SED's basis for determining if schools are making satisfactory progress toward the annual goal. To achieve this measure, all tested students in the Accountability Cohort must have an Accountability Performance Level (APL) that equals or exceeds 2015-16 mathematics AMO of <u>159</u>.

The APL is calculated by adding the sum of the percent of students in the Accountability Cohort at Levels 2 through 4 to the sum of the percent of students at Level 3 and 4. Thus, the highest possible APL is 200. The Regents exams are scored on a scale from 0 to 100; 0 to 64 is Level 1, 65 to 79 is Level 2, 80 to 89 is Level 3, and 90 to 100 is Level 4. The Regents Common Core exams in mathematics are scored on a scale from 0 to 100; 0 to 64 is level 1; 65 to 73 is level 2, 74 to 84 is level 3, and 85 to 100 is level 4.

#### **RESULTS**

AMS's 2012 accountability cohort achieved an APL of 124 as compared to the required 159 for all students. The three subgroups did not achieve the AMO for the number of students in the cohort.

## Mathematics Accountability Performance Level (APL) For the 2012 High School Accountability Cohort

Number in	Percent of Students at Each Performance Level							
Cohort	Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Level 4	
100	3		68		22		6	
	PI	=	68	+	22	+	6	_
	FI	_	08	Т	22	+	6	=
							APL	=

#### Mathematics Accountability Performance Level (APL) by Subgroup For the 2012 High School Accountability Cohort

Subgroup	Total	N in	% of St	udents	at Each	APL	Subgroup AMO	Achieved
	N	Subgroup	Perfo	rmance	Level			AMO?
	Cohort		Level	Level	Level			
			2	3	4			
Economically		69	70	20	6	122	146	No
Disadvantaged								
Black		47	70	21	6	124	138	No
Hispanic		43	70	21	2	116	142	No

#### **EVALUATION**

The school's 2012 cohort achieved an APL of 124—35 points lower than the required 159 for all students in the cohort. The 2012 cohort also had three subgroups with more than 30 students: economically disadvantaged, Black students and Hispanic students. In every case, AMS students in these subgroups came close but did not meet the required target for the number of students in the group. Examining the results indicates that AMS must focus on increasing

96 <u>28</u> 124

students' math skills and knowledge so that students are able to demonstrate mastery at Level 4. AMS has mostly teachers with experience between 2 and 4 years and we believe that through our continued teacher development and teacher retention that we will move towards supporting more students in achieving level 3 and level 4. We also need to still work on better supporting our students procedural fluency as this has been an areas where we have seen our students struggle.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### **Goal 2: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the percent to students in the high school Accountability Cohort passing a Regents mathematics exam with a score of 65 or above will exceed that of the high school Accountability Cohort from the local school district.

(§) Each year, the Accountability Performance Level (APL) in mathematics of students in the fourth year of their high school Accountability Cohort will exceed the APL of comparable students from the local school district.

#### **METHOD**

The school compares the performance of students in their fourth year in the charter school Accountability Cohort to that of the respective cohort of students in the local school district. Given that students may take Regents exam up through the summer of their fourth year, the school presents most recently available school district results.<sup>17</sup>

#### **RESULTS**

Virtually all (96%) of AMS students in the 2012 cohort achieved a passing score of 65 at the end of four years as compared with only 75% of students in Community School District 10. This is the goal to which AMS is held accountable in its accountability plan. In addition, the school came close but did not meet the post 2012-2013 measure.

of Fourth-Year Accountability Cohorts by Charter School and School District

	Charter School		School	District
Cohort	Percent	Cohort	Percent	Cohort
	Passing	Size	Passing	Size
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011	97%	115	72%	4,468
2012	96%	100	75%	4,178

 $<sup>^{17}</sup>$  The New York State Report Card provides the district results for students scoring at or above 65.

Mathematics Accountability Performance Level (APL) of Fourth-Year Accountability Cohorts by Charter School and School District<sup>18</sup>

	Charter School		School District	
Cohort	APL	Cohort	APL	Cohort
	APL	Size	APL	Size
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011	126	115	177	4,468
2012	124	100	127	4,178

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS students in the 2012 cohort far surpassed the goal of achieving a higher a passing score of 65 at the end of four years as compared with students in Community School District 10. This is the goal to which AMS is held accountable in its accountability plan. Specifically, 96% of AMS students in the cohort met this goal in comparison to 75% of students in the local district—a 21 percentage point difference. In addition, the local district's APL of 127 (for cohort 2011) was slightly higher than that of AMS. However, to continue to improve, the school must focus on mastery of the material at the higher end of the performance range.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### **Goal 1: Optional Measure**

Each year, the group of students who have taken the grade 10 to 12 ACT\* assessments [PLAN in grade 10 (and later Aspire), ACT in grades 11 and 12 (and later Aspire)] will reduce the gap between their average score in the previous year (including EXPLORE in grade 9), and the College Readiness Benchmark score in Math by 50%. Students who achieve the College Readiness Benchmark in Math on subsequent tests and in subsequent grades.

\*ACT has replaced EXPLORE and PLAN with Aspire and has created a cross walk between the scores so that comparisons may be made.

#### **METHOD**

The EXPLORE, PLAN and ACT are scored along a common scale. Because they are reported on the same score scale, the results from the different assessments inform students, parents, teachers and counselors about individual student strengths and weaknesses while there is still time to address them. AMS administered the EXPLORE (and later Aspire) (grade 9), the PLAN (and later Aspire) (grade 10) and the ACT (grade 11) assessments to students as a pretest in the spring. Students take the next assessment for their grade level the following spring which serves as a posttest including the ACT in grade 12. Students' performance on the pretest is compared to their performance on the posttest to determine whether they have achieved the College Readiness Benchmark or made progress toward achieving the College Readiness Benchmark in Math.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 18}$  See page 39 above for an explanation of the APL.

#### **RESULTS**

The data necessary to measure this goal was not available at the time the report was written.

Mathematics Growth in College Readiness by High School Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort with Matched Scores	Percent Meeting College Readiness Benchmarks or Showing Growth
2012	300103	Showing Growth
2013		
2014		
2015		
Total		

#### **EVALUATION**

The lack of results suggests a need to improve test administration processes and procedures at the school to ensure that the data provide an accurate assessment of all students' performance.

## SUMMARY OF THE HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICS GOAL <sup>19</sup>

AMS' 2012 cohort attained three out of the four goals to which they were held accountable (prior to 2012-2013) and came close to meeting the fourth goal. The school fared less well in meeting the post 2012-2013 benchmarks.

Type	Measure (Accountability Plan Prior to 2012-13)	Outcome
	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort	
Absolute	will score at least 65 on a New York State Regents mathematics exam by the	Achieved
	completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	
	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort	
Absolute	will did not score proficient on the New York State 8th grade mathematics	Achieved
Absolute	exam will score at least 65 on a New York State Regents mathematics exam	Acmeveu
	by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	
	Each year, the Accountability Performance Level (APL) on the Regents	
Absolute	mathematics exam of students completing their fourth year in the	Did Not Achieve
Absolute	Accountability Cohort will meet the Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) set	Did Not Achieve
	forth in the state's NCLB accountability system.	
	Each year, the percent to students in the high school Accountability Cohort	
Comparative	passing a New York State Regents mathematics exam with a score of 65 or	Achieved
	above will exceed that of the high school Accountability Cohort from the	Acilieved
	local school district. (Using 2013-14 school district results.)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> If the school includes a middle school component, add these measures to the subject area goal for the younger grades.

Туре	Measure (Accountability Plan from 2012-13 or later)	Outcome
Absolute	(§) Each year, 65 percent of students in the high school Accountability Cohort will meet the college and career ready standard (currently scoring 80 on a New York State Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Did Not Achieve
Absolute	(§) Each year, 65 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 ready standard (currently scoring 80 on a New York State Regents mathematics exam) by the completion of their fourth year in the cohort.	Achieved
Absolute	Each year, the Accountability Performance Level (APL) on the Regents English exam of students completing their fourth year in the Accountability Cohort will meet the Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) set forth in the state's NCLB accountability system.	Did Not Achieve
Comparative	(§) Each year, the Accountability Performance Level (APL) on a New York State Regents mathematics exam of students in the fourth year of their high school Accountability Cohort will exceed the APL of comparable students from the local school district. (Using 2013-14 school district results.)	Achieved

#### **ACTION PLAN**

At AMS, we will work on increasing the number of students reaching the college readiness benchmark in Mathematics. We will do this by utilizing our challenge-based learning curriculum and our existing school team structures. Specifically, we will use our weekly department meeting structure to focus on implementation of our units and lesson plans by using a process called lesson study. This process will allow us to take thoughtful risks and support the whole team in moving towards more effective implementation of our ambitious plans. We will also use our department meeting structure to do monthly assessment analysis so we can tailor our instruction to the specific needs of our students. At AMS we will be increasing the amount of time we meet as a grade team from once a month to twice a month. We believe this additional meeting each month will allow us to best support our students academically, socially and emotionally. As a grade team we will look closely at data in the areas of academics, behavior, and attendance and, based on the data, we will create supports for the students in the different areas. For academic support, we will use our office hour structure and our Saturday Regents prep structure to best support the individual needs of our students. Finally, at AMS we will be working hard at retaining our best teachers, as we believe that in order to increase our students' level of achievement from passing to college ready we need the majority of our teachers to return year after year.

## **GOAL 3: SCIENCE**

#### Goal 3: Science

Students will meet and exceed state standards for mastery of skills and content knowledge in the area of science.

#### **BACKGROUND**

At AMS, our Science Curriculum is common core aligned and focused on challenge-based learning, where students take ownership over the thinking and doing in the classroom. There is a strong emphasis on problem solving, conceptual understanding, and reading and writing. We use assessments for multiple purposes at AMS; we use them for understanding what students understand and don't understand with respect to the curriculum (discussions, kick-off tasks at start of unit), we use them to allow students to apply their understanding (end of unit applications and trimester challenges), and we use them to help students prepare for the end of the year Regents exam (unit assessments and trimester final exams). The professional development model at AMS is a parallel to what we strive for in our classroom practice; a model that asks teachers to take ownership of their practice. Specifically, we use a coaching model to support teachers in further developing their practice; we use our weekly department structure to do lesson studies, assessment analysis, and a book study; we use our monthly school-wide professional learning cycle to focus on discussion based teaching; and finally, we ask each one of our teachers to conduct action research, which they present at the end of the school year to the whole staff.

#### **Goal 3: 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, Earth Science, 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.

#### **RESULTS**

Fully 89% of the first accountability cohort and 88% of the second met the science goal by achieving a pass rate of 65 or above.

## HIGH SCHOOL GOALS: SCIENCE

### Science Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort<sup>20</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 65
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	115	89%
2012	100	88%

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS' 2011 and 2012 cohorts' pass rates of 89% and 88% exceeded the science goal by 14 and 13 percentage points respectively. AMS uses a pullout Living Environment Lab model that allows students to take Living Environment everyday plus an additional lab course every other day. This has allowed students more time to focus on both the content and the skills.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

With one and two years of high school left respectively, cohorts 2013 and 2014 have already met the science goal by achieving at least a 75% pass rate and the 2015 cohort is within 10 percentage points of meeting this goal as well.

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

Cohort	2013	3-14	2014	4-15	2015	5-16
Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing
2012	120	79%	111	83%	100	88%
2013	101	63%	106	75%	94	83%
2014			111	66%	116	80%
2015					144	65%

#### **Goal 3: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the percent to 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 local school district.

#### **METHOD**

The school compares the performance of students in their fourth year in the charter school high school Total Cohort to that of the respective cohort of students in the local school district. Given that students may take Regents exam up through the summer of their fourth year, the school presents most recently available district results.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 20}$  Based on the highest score for each student on any science Regents exam

## HIGH SCHOOL GOALS: SCIENCE

#### **RESULTS**

AMS's 2011 and 2012 cohort pass rates of 89% and 88% far exceed that of students in the local district.

Science Regents Passing Rate
of the High School Total Cohort by Charter School and School District

	Charter School		School	District
Cohort	Percent	Cohort	Percent	Cohort
	Passing	Size	Passing	Size
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011	89%	115	69%	4,468
2012	88%	100	72%	4,178

#### **EVALUATION**

The 2011 cohort's 89% pass rate in science was 20 percentage points higher than that of the students in Community School District 10 while the 2012 cohort's similarly high pass rate of 88% is 16 percentage points higher than that of the district. AMS uses a pullout Living Environment Lab model that allows students to take Living Environment everyday plus an additional lab course every other day. This has allowed students more time to focus on both the content and the skills.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

#### **Goal 1: Optional Measure Growth**

Each year, the group of students who have taken the grade 10 to 12 ACT\* assessments [PLAN in grade 10 (and later Aspire), ACT in grades 11 and 12 (and later Aspire)] will reduce the gap between their average score in the previous year (including EXPLORE in grade 9), and the College Readiness Benchmark score in Science by 50%. Students who achieve the College Readiness Benchmark Scores for their grade will continue to achieve the College Readiness Benchmark in Science on subsequent tests and in subsequent grades.

#### **METHOD**

The EXPLORE, PLAN and ACT are scored along a common scale. Because they are reported on the same score scale, the results from the different assessments inform students, parents, teachers and counselors about individual student strengths and weaknesses while there is still time to address them. AMS administered the EXPLORE (and later Aspire) (grade 9), the PLAN (and later Aspire) (grade 10) and the ACT (grade 11) assessments to students as a pretest in the spring. Students take the next assessment for their grade level the following spring which serves as a posttest including the ACT in grade 12. Students' performance on the pretest is compared to their performance on the posttest to determine whether they have achieved the College Readiness Benchmark or made progress toward achieving the College Readiness Benchmark in Science.

<sup>\*</sup>ACT has replaced EXPLORE and PLAN with ASPIRE and has created a cross walk between the scores so that comparisons may be made.

## HIGH SCHOOL GOALS: SCIENCE

#### **RESULTS**

The data necessary to measure this goal was not available at the time the report was written.

Science Growth in College Readiness by High School Accountability Cohort

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort with Matched Scores	Percent Meeting College Readiness Benchmarks or Showing Growth
2012		
2013		
2014		
2015		
Total		

#### **EVALUATION**

This lack of results indicates a need to improve test administration processes and procedures at the school to ensure that the data provide an accurate assessment of all students' performance.

### **GOAL 4: SOCIAL STUDIES**

#### Goal 4: Social Studies

Students will meet and exceed state standards for mastery of skills and content knowledge in the area of social studies.

#### **BACKGROUND**

At AMS, our Social Studies Curriculum is common core aligned and focused on challenge-based learning, where students take ownership over the thinking and doing in the classroom. There is a strong emphasis on critical reading and writing within the curriculum. We use assessments for multiple purposes at AMS; we use them for understanding what students understand and don't understand with respect to the curriculum (discussions, on demand writing), we use them to allow students to apply their understanding (end of trimester challenges), and we use them to help students prepare for the end of the year Regents exam (trimester final exams). The professional development model at AMS is a parallel to what we strive for in our classroom practice; a model that asks teachers to take ownership of their practice. Specifically, we use a coaching model to support teachers in further developing their practice; we use our weekly department structure to do lesson studies, assessment analysis, and a book study; we use our monthly school-wide professional learning cycle to focus on discussion based teaching; and finally, we ask each one of our teachers to conduct action research, which they present at the end of the school year to the whole staff.

#### **Goal 4: Social Studies**

Students will meet and exceed state standards for mastery of skills and content knowledge in the area of social studies.

#### **Goal 4: 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.

#### **RESULTS**

Eighty-six percent of the 2011 cohort and 80% of the 2012 cohort have met the U.S. History goal of passing the exam with a score of at least 65.

U.S. History Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort<sup>21</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 65
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	115	86%
2012	100	80%

#### **EVALUATION**

With pass rates of 86% and 80% respectively, both the 2011 and 2012 cohorts exceeded the 75% goal. The focus of reading and writing across the content areas has shown to support students in being successful on the US History Regents exam.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

The 2013 cohort, with several more Regents exam administrations left before they graduate, is within 20 percentage points of meeting this goal. This level of performance is similar to that of previous cohorts at this stage in their academic careers.

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

Calaant	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
Cohort Designation	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Designation	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing
2012	120	5%	111	63%	100	80%
2013	101	3%	106	5%	94	55%
2014			111	3%	116	4%
2015					144	1%

#### **Goal 4: 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 local school district.

#### **METHOD**

The school compares the performance of students in their fourth year in the charter school high school Total Cohort to that of the respective cohort of students in the local school district. Given that

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 21}$  Based on the highest score for each student on a science Regents exam

students may take Regents exam up through the summer of their fourth year, school presents the most recently available district results.

#### **RESULTS**

AMS's first cohorts achieved an 86% and 80% pass rate in U.S. History—considerably higher than the 66% and 69% rates of students in the local district.

## U.S. History Passing Rate of the High School Total Cohort by Charter School and School District

	Charter	School	School District		
Cohort	Percent	Cohort	Percent	Cohort	
	Passing	Size	Passing	Size	
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
2011	86%	115	66%	4,468	
2012	80%	100	69%	4,178	

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS's first cohorts achieved an 86% and an 80% pass rate in U.S. History—20 and 11 percentage points higher than the rates of students in the local district. The focus of reading and writing across the content areas has shown to support students in being successful on the US History Regents exam.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### **Goal 4: 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.

#### **RESULTS**

Eighty-one percent of the school's first accountability cohort and 83% of the second cohort met the Global History goal by achieving a passing score of at least 65.

### Global History Regents Passing Rate with a Score of 65 by Fourth Year Accountability Cohort<sup>22</sup>

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing with a score of 65
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	115	81%
2012	100	83%

#### **EVALUATION**

With pass rates of 81% and 83% in the first two cohorts, AMS exceeded the 75% goal by six and eight percentage points respectively. The focus of reading and writing across the content areas has shown to support students in being successful on the Global History Regents exam.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

After only three years in high school, the 2013 cohort's pass rate is within four percentage points of meeting the target.

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

Cohort	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
Designation	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Designation	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	Passing
2012	120	49%	111	72%	100	83%
2013	101	0%	106	58%	94	71%
2014			111	0%	116	37%
2015					144	0%

#### **Goal 4: 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 local school district.

#### **METHOD**

The school compares the performance of students in their fourth year in the charter school high school Total Cohort to that of the respective cohort of students in the local school district. Given that students may take Regents exam up through the summer of their fourth year, the school presents most recently available district results.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 22}$  Based on the highest score for each student on a science Regents exam

### **RESULTS**

The school's first two accountability cohorts exceeded the Global History goal by achieving a pass rate of 81% and 83%, considerably higher than that of the local district.

## Global History Passing Rate of the High School Total Cohort by Charter School and School Distric

	Charter	· School	School District		
Cohort	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	
	Passing	in Cohort	Passing	in Cohort	
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
2011	81%	115	64%	4,468	
2012	83%	100	65%	4,178	

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS' 81% pass rate for the 2011 cohort and 83% pass rate for the 2012 cohort is 17 and 18 percentage points higher than the rate of the students in Community School District 10. We believe our focus of reading and writing across the curriculum has supported students in being successful on the Global Regents exam.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

### **NCLB**

#### Goal 4: NCLB

The school will make Adequate Yearly Progress.

#### **Goal 4: Absolute Measure**

Under the state's NCLB accountability system, the school's Accountability Status is in good standing: the state has not identified the school as a Focus School nor determined that it has met the criteria to be identified as school requiring a local assistance plan.

#### **METHOD**

Because *all* students are expected to meet the state's learning standards, the federal No Child Left Behind legislation stipulates that various sub-populations and demographic categories of students among all tested students must meet state proficiency standards. New York, like all states, established a system for making these determinations for its public schools. Each year the state issues School Report Cards. The report cards indicate each school's status under the state's No Child Left Behind ("NCLB") accountability system.

#### **RESULTS**

AMS is in good standing this year.

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS continues to be in good standing for the 2015-2016 school year.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### NCLB Status by Year

Year	Status
2013-14	Good Standing
2014-15	Good Standing
2015-16	Good Standing

### **GOAL 5: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION**

#### **GOAL 5: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION**

Students will meet all of New York State graduation requirements.

#### **Goal 5: Absolute Measure**

Each year, 75 percent of students in each cohort will pass their core academic subjects by the end of August and the school will promote them to the next grade.

(§) 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 high school cohorts and examines their progress toward graduation based on annual credit accumulation. The measure requires that, based on the school's promotion requirements, the school will promote 75 percent of its students in each cohort to the next grade by the end of August OR that 75 percent of the first and second year high school Total Graduation Cohorts will earn the requisite number of credits.

AMS course offerings are listed below. The school year is divided into trimesters and students have the opportunity to earn one credit in each core subject (English, math, science and social studies) three times a year. This allows flexibility in programming students to support their needs and to accelerate their progress. Within the New Visions Charter High School network, minimum promotion criteria are as follows: grade 9 to 10 requires a minimum of 12 credits, grade 10 to 11 requires a minimum of 24 credits, and grade 11 to 12 requires a minimum of 34 credits. High School graduation requires that students meet state requirements in terms of credit accumulation and distribution of credits and passing five required Regents Exams. Note that students at New Visions Charter High Schools, students will earn more credits than required for high school graduation. Upper House is designed to be a time for students to take college-level courses participate in internships and other activities designed to maximize their post-secondary success.

COURSE OFFERINGS		
	Algebra I, II, III	
	Algebra II and Trigonometry	
	Modeling with Algebra	
MATH	Geometry	
IVIATA	Math Lab	
	Statistics	
	AP Calculus	
	AP Statistics	

## HIGH SCHOOL GOALS: HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

HISTORY	Global History I, II, II, IV US History US History Survey AP US History Turning Points in Global History Modern World History Particular Topics in World History Foreign Policy Particular Topics: US Grass Roots Movements Legal System: Mock Trial & Moot Court
SCIENCE	Living Environment Living Environment Lab Anatomy and Physiology Chemistry Chemistry Lab Earth Science Earth Science Lab Physics Physics Design and Problem Solving AP Biology
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	English Reading Lab ESL Reading Lab Creative Writing AP English Literature Pre-AP English Advanced Psychology of Literature Wilson Reading
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	Spanish I, II, III, IV Native Language-Spanish I, II, III, IV
ART & MUSIC	Studio Art I, II Music I, II AP 2D Design
OTHER	Physical Education Yoga College & Career Readiness Seminar Health Independent Research Internships Leadership

## **RESULTS**

AMS students exceeded the 75% promotion rate goal for every cohort.

#### Percent of Students Promoted by Cohort in 2015-16

Cohort	Number in	Percent
Designation	Cohort	promoted
2012	100	97%
2013	94	82%
2014	116	87%
2015	144	83%

# Percent of Students in First and Second Year Cohorts Earning the Required Number of Credits in 2015-16

Cohort	Number in	Percent
Designation	Cohort	promoted
2014	116	84%
2015	144	74%

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS students in every cohort exceeded the 75% promotion rate goal with rates ranging from 22 percentage points higher in the 2012 cohort to eight percentage points higher in the 2015 cohort. The 2014 cohort exceeded the required number of credits while the 2015 cohort came within one percentage point of meeting the goal. At AMS, our grade team structure has supported students staying on track and being successful in both passing their courses and their exams each year.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### **Goal 5: Absolute Measure**

Each year, 75 percent of students in the second year high school Total Graduation Cohort will score 65 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 cohort have passed at least three Regents exams by their second year in the cohort. In August of 2015, the 2013 cohort will have completed its second year.

#### **RESULTS**

None of the cohorts exceeded the 75% goal of passing three Regents exams in the second year. The 2014 cohort fell short of the goal by 16 percentage points.

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

Cohort Designation	Number in Cohort	Percent Passing Three Regents
2012	120	63%
2013	106	63%
2014	116	59%

#### **EVALUATION**

None of the current three cohorts exceeded the 75% goal of passing three Regents exams in the second year. The 2012 and 2013 cohorts, with pass rates of 63%, both fell short of the goal by 12 percentage points while the 2014 cohort's pass rate was 16 percentage points below the goal. We believe that we need to create a more systematic approach to supporting students across the different cohorts so that each cohort reaches the 75% goal.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

#### **Goal 5: Absolute Measure**

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 9<sup>th</sup> grade as members of the 2011 cohort and graduated four years later and those who entered as members of the 2010 cohort and graduated five years later. At a minimum, these students have passed five Regents exams in English language arts, mathematics, science, U.S. History and Global History. Students have through the summer at the end of their fourth year to complete graduation requirements.

The school's graduation requirements appear above under the graduation goal's first measure pertaining to annual grade-by-grade promotion or credit accumulation.

#### **RESULTS**

Ninety-one percent of AMS students in the school's first cohort and 86% of the students in the second graduation cohort graduated from high school after four years. The 2011 cohort's graduation rate increased to 95% at the end of five years.

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

Cohort	Number in	Percent
Designation	Cohort	Graduating
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	116	91%
2012	100	86%

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

Cohort	Number in	Percent
Designation	Cohort	Graduating
2009	N/A	N/A
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	116	95%

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS's first two cohorts far exceeded the 75% four-year graduation goal with 91% and 86% of the cohorts meeting diploma requirements at the end of four years. The graduation rate for the 2011 cohort increased to 95% at the end of five years. A similar increase is expected for the 2012 cohort. AMS has focused on supporting teachers in developing their practice so they can implement ambitious instruction in their classrooms. Each year we move to better implementation of our plans as our teachers sharpen their pedagogical skills. We believe this focus on instruction and the various support opportunities for students over the course of the four years has allowed us to be successful with this first graduating class.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

## **Goal 5: 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 local school district.

#### **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 local school district<sup>23</sup>. Given that students may take Regents exams through the summer of their fourth year, district results for the current year are generally not available at this time.

#### **RESULTS**

AMS' 2012 cohort graduated at a rate of 86%, 22 percentage points higher than students in the local district.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Schools can retrieve district level graduation rates from the SED's Information and Reporting Services office. News releases and an Excel workbook containing these data are available from the <u>IRS Data Release webpage</u>.

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

Cohort	Charter School		School	District
Designa	Number in	Percent	Number in	Percent
tion	Cohort	Graduating	Cohort	Graduating
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2011	116	91%	4,485	60%
2012	100	86%	4,178	64%

#### **EVALUATION**

AMS's first two cohorts posted four-year graduation rates of 91% and 86% respectively, both rates considerably higher than those of the local district. AMS has focused on supporting teachers in developing their practice so they can implement ambitious instruction in their classrooms. Each year we move to better implementation of our plans as our teachers sharpen their pedagogical skills. We believe this focus on instruction and the various support opportunities for students over the course of the four years has allowed us to be successful with these first graduating classes.

## **ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE**

N/A

## SUMMARY OF THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION GOAL

AMS met three of the four graduation goals in its Accountability Plan and came very close to achieving the post 2012-2013 credit goal as well.

Туре	Measure (Accountability Plan Prior to 2012-13)	Outcome
Absolute	Each year, 75 percent of students in the high school Total Graduation Cohort will pass their core academic subjects by the end of August and be promoted to the next grade.	Achieved
Absolute	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.	Did Not Achieve
Absolute	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.	Achieved
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 local school district.	Achieved

Туре	Measure (Accountability Plan from 2012-13 or later)	Outcome
Absolute	(§) 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.	Did Not Achieve

## **ACTION PLAN**

At AMS, we need to build in a more systematic approach so that each cohort reaches the benchmark of 75% of the cohort passing at least three different Regents exams by the end of their second year. At AMS we have one AP and grade level counselor per cohort and we will be using a weekly AP/Counselor meeting to review student data and we will be utilizing our twice a month grade team meetings to support the individual needs of the cohort. These meeting structures will allow AMS to be proactive in supporting the students in reaching their academic success (in this case passing at least three of the four Regents exams by year two). We will continue to use our support class structure for those students who are struggling in their classes. We will also use the summer to better prepare those students who were not successful in passing their exams in June.

# **GOAL 6: COLLEGE PREPARATION**

#### **GOAL 6: COLLEGE PREPARATION**

All graduating students will be prepared for academic institutions of higher education.

#### **Goal 6: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the average performance of students in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade will exceed the state average on the PSAT test in Critical Reading and Mathematics.

#### **METHOD**

This measure tracks student performance one of the most commonly used early high school college prep assessment. Students receive a scale score in critical reading, writing and mathematics. Scale scores range from 200 to 800 on each subsection with 1600 as the highest possible score. As students may choose to take the test multiple times, the school reports only on a student's highest score on each subsection. Compare school averages to the New York State average for all 10<sup>th</sup> grade (sophomore) test takers in the given year.

#### **RESULTS**

On average, 10<sup>th</sup> grade students in AMS scored 399 in Critical Reading and 414 in Mathematics in 2015-2016. Statewide averages were not available at the time this report was prepared.

	10 <sup>11</sup> Grade PSAT Performance by School Year					
	Number of	Number of	Critical	Reading	Mathe	matics
School Year	Students in the 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Students Tested	School	New York State	School	New York State
2013-14	122	108	35	41	39	43
2014-15	97	83	36	41	39	42
2015-16*	142	118	399	TBD	414	TBD

<sup>\*</sup>The PSAT scale changed in 2015-2016 so that it aligns more to SAT scores which are also three digit numbers.

#### **EVALUATION**

Students' performance at AMS could not be compared to the performance of students statewide at the time this report was prepared as The College Board had not yet released statewide results. Some AMS students enter high school below grade level lacking the basic skills needed to demonstrate comprehension or reading fluency on an exam like the PSAT. This is true for both the math and Critical Reading sections. A focus on reading strategies in on-demand situations across all content areas has shown an increase on regular assessments in classes. We expect that student performance will improve on more formal assessments when students take them a second time.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

## **Goal 7: Comparative Measure**

Each year, the average performance of students in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade will exceed the state average on the SAT or ACT tests in reading and mathematics.

#### **METHOD**

This measure tracks student performance on one of the most commonly used high school college prep assessments.

The SAT is a national college admissions examination. Students receive a scale score in reading, writing and mathematics. Scale scores range from 200 to 800 on each subsection with 2400 as the highest possible score. As students may choose to take the test multiple times during the year, the school only reports a student's highest score. The school compares its averages the New York State average for all 12<sup>th</sup> grade test takers in the given year.

#### **RESULTS**

The results for 12<sup>th</sup> grade AMS students were not available at the time this report was written nor had The College Board released statewide comparison data for 2015-2015.

	12 Grade SAT Performance by School Year					
School	Number of	Number of	Rea	ding	Mathe	matics
Year	Students in	Students	School	New York	School	New York
rear	the 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Tested		State		State
2013-14	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2014-15	106	93	398	488	415	502
2015-16	88	5	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

12<sup>th</sup> Grade SAT Performance by School Year

#### **EVALUATION**

The results for 12<sup>th</sup> grade AMS students were not available at the time this report was written nor had The College Board released statewide comparison data for 2015-2015 precluding any meaningful evaluation of this measure.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

N/A

(§) The percent of graduating students that meets the state's aspirational performance measure ("APM"), currently defined as the percentage of students in a cohort who graduate with a score of 80 or better on a math Regents exam AND 75 or better on the English Regents exam, will exceed the statewide average.

## **METHOD**

Recognizing that remediation rates in New York's colleges are far too high, the Board of Regents has reviewed data showing the gap between high school expectations and college attainment. They reviewed data comparing the graduation rate for the 2005 cohort with the "college and career ready" graduation rate – defined as the percentage of students in the cohort who graduated with a score 80 or better on a math Regents exam and 75 or better on the English Regents exam. The Regents view these data as an important indicator of future student success. Students who graduate high school – but do so with a score below 80 on a math Regents exam and below 75 on the English exam – are likely to require remediation in college.

## **RESULTS**

Twenty-nine percent of the 2011 cohort and 28% of the 2012 cohort met the aspirational performance measure by meeting college readiness benchmarks in English and math as compared to 40% of students statewide in the 2011 cohort, the last cohort for which statewide data are currently available.

Percent of Graduates Meeting the Aspirational Performance Measure<sup>2</sup>

Cohort	Charter School	Statewide <sup>25</sup>
2010	N/A	38.1
2011	29%	40.0
2012	28%	TBD

#### **EVALUATION**

While the 2011 and 2012 cohorts' pass rates of 29% and 28% respectively, these rates are well the performance of students statewide.

(§) The percent of graduating students who graduate with a Regents diploma with Advanced Designation will exceed the local district.

### **METHOD**

In establishing measures to be used by schools, districts and parents to better inform them of the progress of their students, the Regents have also set as an additional aspirational measure of achievement the percent of graduating students who earned a Regents diploma with Advanced Designation (i.e., earned 22 units of course credit; passed seven-to-nine Regents exams with a score of 65 or above; and took advanced course sequences in Career and Technical Education, the arts, or a language other than English).

New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science (AMS) Charter School 2015-16 Accountability Plan Progress Report

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Schools can retrieve state level graduation rates from the SED's Information and Reporting Services office. News releases and an Excel workbook containing these data are available from the IRS Data Release webpage.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Statewide results for the 2011 cohort are not yet available.

## **RESULTS**

Three percent of the 2011 cohort and five percent of the 2012 cohort were awarded a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation as compared with 24% and 25% of students in Community School District 10 respectively.

Percent of Graduates with a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation 26

Cohort	Charter School	School District <sup>27</sup>
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	3%	24%
2012	5%	25%

#### **EVALUATION**

In the first graduation cohort, only three percent of AMS students were awarded an Advanced Regents Diploma with a slight increase to five percent in the second cohort—well below the rate in the local community school district. AMS will focus on teacher retention as many of our teachers are at the beginning of their careers. We believe through teacher retention we will be able to better build on our success each year and through this process we will be able to best support students in achieving the Advanced Regents diploma.

(§) Each year, 75 percent of graduating students will demonstrate their preparation for college by passing an Advanced Placement ("AP") exam, a College Level Examination Program ("CLEP") exam or a college level course.

### **METHOD**

This goal was measured using Advanced Placement courses that graduates took and passed at AMS.

#### **RESULTS**

Close to three-fourths of AMS students in both the 2011 and 2012 cohorts took and passed an Advanced Placement course during their four years of high school.

Graduates Passing a Course Demonstrating College Preparation

Cohort		Percent Passing
	Number of	the Equivalent OF
	Graduates	a College Level
		Course <sup>28</sup>
2010	N/A	N/A
2011	85	73%
2012	88	69%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Schools can retrieve information about diplomas conferred from the SED's Information and Reporting Services office. News releases and an Excel workbook containing these data are available from the IRS Data Release webpage.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> District results for the 2011 cohort are not yet available.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Advanced Placement (AP) exam, a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exam, or a college level course

## **EVALUATION**

AMS's first cohort came within two percentage points of achieving the college preparation goal by taking and passing an Advanced Placement course and/or exam during their four years of high school while the second cohort fell short of the goal by six percentage points. AMS has demonstrated initial success in college level courses because of our focus on deep learning and the various opportunities students have in upper house (AP courses, college level courses, internships, and college partnerships).

#### **Goal 7: College Attendance or Achievement Measure**

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

## **METHOD**

AMS will collect college data on the percentage of graduating seniors who register for college and the number of college credits they earn in their first year.

## **RESULTS**

Since the 2012 cohort just graduated in June and August, college registration and the number of credits students earn in their first year is not yet available.

#### **EVALUATION**

Since the 2012 cohort just graduated in June and August, college registration and the number of credits students earn in their first year is not yet available.

## SUMMARY OF THE COLLEGE PREPARATION GOAL

During the school's early development, AMS has not yet achieved the college preparation goals.

Type	Measure (Accountability Plan Prior to 2012-13)	Outcome
	Each year, the average performance of students in the 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	
Comparative	will exceed the state average on the PSAT test in Critical Reading	Did Not Achieve
	and Mathematics.	
	Each year, the average performance of students in the 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	
Comparative	will exceed the state average on the SAT or ACT tests in reading	N/A
	and mathematics.	
College	Each Year, at least 50 percent of students in the high school	
Preparation	Graduation Cohort will earn an Advanced Regents Diploma or	Did Not Achieve
	Diploma with Honors.	
College	Each Year, 90% of graduating seniors will register for college and	N/A
Attainment	complete 10 college credits in their first year.	N/A

Туре	Measure (Accountability Plan from 2012-13 or later)	Outcome
	(§) The percent of graduating students that meets the state's aspirational performance measure (APM), currently defined as the percentage of students in a cohort who graduate with a score of 80 or better on a math Regents exam AND 75 or better on the English Regents exam, will exceed the statewide average.	Did Not Achieve
	(§) Each year, 75 percent of graduating students will demonstrate their preparation for college by passing an Advanced Placement (AP) exam, a College Level Examination Program (CLEP) exam or a college level course.	Did Not Achieve
	(§) Each year, 75 percent of graduating students will matriculate in a college or university in the year after graduation.	N/A

#### **ACTION PLAN**

At AMS, our juniors have a college readiness/SAT-Prep class built into their program. This course is designed to help students understand the college process, and prepare them for both the SAT and ACT. We believe this course will help students raise their SAT and ACT scores by the end of their senior year as they will have an opportunity to better understand these exams and will learn important test strategies. We will also continue to offer our College Boot Camp in August for rising seniors. Finally, we will continue to move towards more effective implementation of our ambitious instruction of challenge based learning across all content areas. With a continued focus on cross content skills our students will increase their ability to think critically.

# APPENDIX B: OPTIONAL GOALS

#### **Goal S: Absolute Measure**

Each year, 90 percent of all students enrolled during the course of the year return the following September.

#### **METHOD**

The cohort consists of all students enrolled in school on BEDS day (the first Wednesday in October) in a given year. All of these students are tracked to determine whether they are still enrolled in the school on BEDS day in the following year. The retention rate excludes students that have graduated.

## **RESULTS**

A total of 90% of students returned in 2015-2016.

2015-16 Student Retention Rate				
	Number of Students	Number of Students	Retention Rate	
2014-15 Enrollment	Who Graduated in	Who Returned in	2015-16 Re-enrollment ÷	
	2014-15	2015-16	(2014-15 Enrollment – Graduates)	
467	105	322	90%	

#### **EVALUATION**

The 90% retention rate in 2015-2016 meets the target.

#### ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE

Year	Retention Rate	
2013-14	90%	
2014-15	87%	
2015-16	90%	

#### **Goal S: Absolute Measure**

Each year the school will have a daily attendance rate of at least 95 percent.

#### **METHOD**

Student attendance is taken daily and results input into an electronic system. Daily, period, weekly and monthly attendance reports are maintained and used by school leadership and staff to identify students who are not in school and to follow-up to ensure that they are in attendance. Daily calls are made to the parents of absent students and follow-up meetings are held with families to discuss attendance issues and determine appropriate interventions.

## **RESULTS**

The average daily attendance in 2015-2016 was 91% up from 89% the previous year.

# APPENDIX B: OPTIONAL GOALS

#### 2015-16 Attendance

	Average Daily	
Grade	Attendance Rate	
9	92%	
10	91%	
11	92%	
12	91%	
Overall	91%	

## **EVALUATION**

AMS exceeded the school target of 90% with an average daily attendance rate of 91% although this rate is less than the 95% goal. Attendance was a priority in 2015-2016 and the rate improved two percentage points from the previous year's rate.

## **ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE**

Year	Average Daily		
rear	Attendance Rate		
2013-14	89%		
2014-15	89%		
2015-16	91%		

# HIGH SCHOOLS: SUBJECT AREA MEASURES

#### Cohort Passing Rate by Regents Mathematics Exam

Exam	Cohort			
	2009	2010	2011	2012
Integrated Algebra	N/A	N/A	97%	96%
Geometry	N/A	N/A	47%	52%
Algebra 2	N/A	N/A	2%	10%

#### Cohort Passing Rate by Regents Science Exam

Exam	Cohort			
	2009	2010	2011	2012
Living Environment	N/A	N/A	88%	87%
Earth Science	N/A	N/A	4%	8%
Chemistry	N/A	N/A	5%	17%
Physics	N/A	N/A	0%	0%