

# THE SUNY CHARTER SCHOOLS INSTITUTE

*FIRST YEAR SCHOOL EVALUATION REPORT*  
**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER  
SCHOOLS - NYC:**

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER  
SCHOOL – NYC 5**

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER  
SCHOOL – NYC 6**

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER  
SCHOOL – NYC 7**

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER  
SCHOOL – NYC 12**

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER  
SCHOOL – NYC 14**

*VISIT DATE: MAY 21 – 22, 2025*  
*REPORT DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2025*

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**Charter Schools Institute**  
The State University of New York

# CONTENTS

**1**

Introduction and Report Format

**2**

Charter Background

**5**

Executive Summary

**6**

Benchmark Summary

## **Appendices**

A: School Overviews



## INTRODUCTION

### INTRODUCTION

This report outlines the SUNY Charter Schools Institute’s (the “Institute’s”) observations and findings from its May 21–22, 2025 first year school evaluation visits to Success Academy Charter School – NYC 5 (“Success NYC 5”), Success Academy Charter School – NYC 6 (“Success NYC 6”), Success Academy Charter School – NYC 7 (“Success NYC 7”), Success Academy Charter School – NYC 12 (“Success NYC 12”), and Success Academy Charter School – NYC 14 (“Success NYC 14”).

### REPORT FORMAT

Throughout the charter term the Institute may conduct a number of formal evaluative visits including in the first year of operation. Each formal evaluative visit produces a written report based on data gathered during these visits. These reports form the foundation of qualitative data on the charter’s effectiveness.

At the conclusion of the charter term, the Institute provides the State University of New York Board of Trustees (the “SUNY Trustees”) a renewal recommendation based on its evaluation of the academic, organizational, legal, and fiscal aspects of the charter’s program using the [SUNY Renewal Benchmarks](#), which incorporates the school’s attainment of its Accountability Plan goals and evidence of the quality of the charter’s educational program gathered in its formal evaluative visits. For first year evaluation visits, the Institute focuses on specific qualitative benchmarks that provide a fixed standard for determining the quality of the academic program as the charter progresses toward renewal.





## EDUCATION CORPORATION BACKGROUND

# SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS - NYC

### “ MISSION

*To provide students in New York City with an exceptionally high quality education that gives them the knowledge, skills, character, and disposition to meet and exceed New York State Common Core Learning Standards, and the resources to lead and succeed in school, college, and a competitive global economy. Success Academy Charter Schools – New York City seek to provide this exceptionally high quality education to all of their students, including English language learners and students with special education needs, irrespective of socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and/or other status.*

### CURRENT EDUCATION CORPORATION SNAPSHOT

First School Opened:  
2006

Total Number of Charters:  
41

Number of Students Served:  
24,073

### EDUCATION CORPORATION BACKGROUND

Success Academy Charter Schools- NYC (“SACS NYC” or the “education corporation”), a not-for-profit charter school education corporation, is currently authorized to operate 41 charter schools including Success NYC 5, Success NYC 6, Success NYC 7, Success NYC 12, and Success NYC 14. SACS NYC partners with the charter management organization Success Academy Charter Schools, Inc. (“Success Academy” or the “network”), a Delaware not-for-profit corporation based in New York City. By contract, the network provides the schools with academic, operational, finance, legal, and back office assistance.

# EDUCATION CORPORATION BACKGROUND

## Success Academy Charter School

– NYC 5



Opening Year: 2024

Current Enrollment/Grades: 50 | Kindergarten

Charter Expiration: July 31, 2029

Williamsbridge 1 | 760 East Gun Hill Road, Bronx NY | CSD 11 | Kindergarten

## Success Academy Charter School

– NYC 6



Opening Year: 2024

Current Enrollment/Grades: 50 | 1<sup>st</sup>

Charter Expiration: July 31, 2029

Williamsbridge 2 | 760 East Gun Hill Road, Bronx NY | CSD 11 | 1<sup>st</sup>

## Success Academy Charter School

– NYC 7



Opening Year: 2024

Current Enrollment/Grades: 85 | Kindergarten - 1<sup>st</sup>

Charter Expiration: July 31, 2029

Kingbridge Heights | 124 Eames Place, Bronx NY | CSD 10 | K-1<sup>st</sup>

## Success Academy Charter School

– NYC 12



Opening Year: 2024

Current Enrollment/Grades: 73 | 5<sup>th</sup>

Charter Expiration: July 31, 2029

Unionport Middle School | 2169 Blackrock Avenue, Bronx NY | CSD 8 | 5<sup>th</sup>

## Success Academy Charter School

– NYC 14



Opening Year: 2024

Current Enrollment/Grades: 176 | 5<sup>th</sup>

Charter Expiration: July 31, 2029

Success Academy - Howard Beach | 5820 101<sup>st</sup> St, Howard Beach, Queens NY | CSD 27 | 5<sup>th</sup>



## EDUCATION CORPORATION BACKGROUND

### KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS

A focus on student achievement	+
Research-based, results driven curriculum	+
Frequent assessments produced and analyzed in real time	+
Extended school day	+
Charter school leaders with the power to lead	+
Highly qualified and highly trained staff	+
Strong school culture including reinforcement of ACTION principles (Agency, Curiosity, Try and Try, Integrity, Others, and No Shortcuts)	+

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In their first year of operation, each SACS NYC school establishes foundational systems that create safe, orderly, and engaging learning environments. Classrooms consistently demonstrate strong routines, effective behavior management, and an academic culture aligned with the education corporation’s standard expectations. Teachers establish instructional routines that integrate active student participation and blend direct teaching with hands-on exploration, which reflects the SACS NYC’s instructional philosophy. Assessment systems measure student progress and guide instruction with data informing small group and individualized supports. Leadership teams conduct frequent observations and provide immediate, in-class coaching that accelerates teacher development. Schools implement multi-tiered intervention systems for students who require additional academic or social emotional support. Each school’s robust operations team ensure effective systems, including daily routines, discipline policies, and family communication structures, are in place from the first day of instruction.

Pursuant to the Institute’s Prior Actions inspection of Success NYC 5, Success NYC 6, Success NYC 7, Success NYC 12, and Success NYC 14 on August 9, 2024, (and documentation provided to or inspected by the Institute at that visit and prior/post thereto), the Institute determined that SACS NYC had completed substantially all of the Prior Actions required of it as defined in the Charter Agreement between the education corporation and the SUNY Trustees (the “Charter Agreement”). Therefore, the Institute permitted the school to open for instruction in accordance with the plan provided in the Charter Agreement.

# BENCHMARK SUMMARY

## QUALITATIVE BENCHMARK ANALYSIS

The SUNY Renewal Benchmarks, grounded in the body of research from the Center for Urban Studies at Harvard University,<sup>1</sup> describe the elements in place at schools that are highly effective at providing students from low-income backgrounds the instruction, content, knowledge, and skills necessary to produce strong academic performance.

For first year visits, the Institute focuses on academic program benchmarks to establish a baseline measure of the quality of the school's systems and procedures, which heavily affect the progress that a school is able to demonstrate in meeting its Accountability Plan goals during the charter term. The Institute expects a school to have moved from the beginning of implementation and the promise of future growth to full and effective implementation of a quality program by the time the school comes to renewal.

### ASSESSMENT

Each SACS NYC school in its first year of operation has an assessment system that improves instructional effectiveness. The schools regularly administer valid and reliable assessments aligned to the network's curricular program. Success Academy provides schools with a suite of assessments to monitor student progress. These include interim assessments and literacy diagnostics. The network supports schools with processing results so that data are easily accessible to leaders and teachers. Teachers use assessment results to meet students' needs. For example, teachers determine student groupings to ensure they tailor instruction to meet targeted student needs. The schools communicate student progress and growth to families through regular progress reporting throughout the year.

### CURRICULUM

SACS NYC schools' curriculum supports teachers in instructional planning. Success Academy provides a curricular framework to each school that has clear student performance expectations and aligns to grade level standards. In addition to the framework, the network provides teachers with a wide variety of supporting tools. The network designs curricular programs with differentiation tools for teachers to meet specific needs of students. The network provides additional tools like unit plans, pacing guides, and sample lesson plans to ensure consistently high quality instruction across the schools. As a result, teachers plan purposeful and focused lessons. Leaders review teachers' plans weekly and provide feedback. Leaders also support teachers' planning through regular check in meetings that focus on continuous improvement of instructional delivery.

### PEDAGOGY

High quality instruction is evident across each SACS NYC school in its first year of operation. Teachers deliver purposeful lessons aligned with the network's curricular program. In lower elementary grades, teachers primarily teach in small group formats to meet the targeted needs of students. In upper elementary grades, teachers focus instruction in both whole group and small group settings. When two teachers are present in the classroom, both teachers have clear roles and responsibilities and support student learning effectively.

1. An extensive body of research, including a [report from Harvard](#) and a [report from the United States General Accounting Office](#), identifying and confirming the correlates of effective schools exists dating back four decades.

## BENCHMARK SUMMARY

Teachers regularly check for student understanding. Each lesson features exit tickets, and teachers immediately analyze student responses and determine specific next steps, often with the support of the grade team or an instructional leader. Teachers establish clear expectations, manage efficient transitions, and facilitate strong student engagement.

### INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

Each school in its first year has strong instructional leadership. Each principal, with support from Success Academy leaders, establishes an environment of high expectations for teacher performance. Leaders communicate these expectations consistently through whole school professional development, grade team meetings, and one on one coaching sessions. Each school's instructional leadership has the capacity to support the development of the teaching staff. The principal is the primary instructional leader, and as each school grows, they will add assistant principals to support managing grade levels. Leaders provide sustained and effective coaching. Meeting with individual teachers on a weekly basis, leaders provide regular feedback and support to ensure that teachers meet each school's expectations. Leaders implement a comprehensive professional development program aligned with instructional priorities and include actionable guidance.

### AT-RISK PROGRAM

Each SACS NYC school in its first year meets the educational needs of at-risk students. Each school uses legally compliant procedures for identifying students with disabilities and English language learners ("ELLs"). The schools also use Success Academy's tools and systems for identifying students struggling academically through its robust Response to Intervention ("RTI") system. Leaders use diagnostic and formative assessments to build specific supports for students who struggle including a clear design of small group focused lessons that target individual needs of students. With each SACS NYC program designed this way, tier 1 instruction meets the needs of the majority of students. Each school's RTI program identifies interventions at tier 2 and 3 to increase support for student learning. Each school has effective intervention programs to meet the needs of at-risk students. With a variety of resources at hand, teachers have clear tools to remediate learning for students struggling academically and effectively support students to reach grade level standards. For students with disabilities, schools primarily provide integrated co-teaching and contract with the district committees on special education to provide related services. For ELLs, the schools implement an English language immersion program.

### ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

With support from the network, the schools' organizations work effectively to deliver the educational program. Each school establishes a clear administrative structure with effective systems in place. Each school has a director of operations who works closely with network operations team members. With this support, schools in their first year have clear and streamlined systems to support student learning. With effective operational support at each school, principals are able to focus primarily on the academic program. The organizational structure establishes distinct lines of accountability with clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Each school has a clear discipline program in place, and teachers consistently implement those systems.

SACS NYC

# Ax

APPENDICES

PAGES Ax 1

**SO**<sup>A</sup>  
SCHOOL  
OVERVIEW  
PAGE Ax 1



**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOLS - NYC BOARD OF TRUSTEES<sup>1</sup>**

CHAIR	TRUSTEES
Lorenzo Smith III	Robin Pzena
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	Ripan Kadakia
	Aaron Kinnari

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 5 – SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS**

SCHOOL YEAR	CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL ENROLLMENT <sup>2</sup>	ACTUAL AS A PERCENTAGE OF CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	GRADES SERVED
2024-25	50	108	216%	K

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 6 – SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS**

SCHOOL YEAR	CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL ENROLLMENT <sup>2</sup>	ACTUAL AS A PERCENTAGE OF CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	GRADES SERVED
2024-25	50	48	96%	1

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 7 – SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS**

SCHOOL YEAR	CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL ENROLLMENT <sup>2</sup>	ACTUAL AS A PERCENTAGE OF CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	GRADES SERVED
2024-25	85	63	74%	K-1

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 12 – SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS**

SCHOOL YEAR	CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL ENROLLMENT <sup>2</sup>	ACTUAL AS A PERCENTAGE OF CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	GRADES SERVED
2024-25	73	87	119%	5

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 14 – SCHOOL CHARACTERISTICS**

SCHOOL YEAR	CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	ACTUAL ENROLLMENT <sup>2</sup>	ACTUAL AS A PERCENTAGE OF CHARTERED ENROLLMENT	GRADES SERVED
2024-25	176	163	93%	5

1. Source: The Institute’s board records at the time of the visit.

2. Source: Institute’s Official Enrollment Binder. (Figures may differ slightly from New York State Report Cards, depending on date of data collection.)



**CHARTER SCHOOL VISIT HISTORY**

SCHOOL YEAR	VISIT TYPE	DATE
2024-25	First Year Visit- Success NYC 5 First Year Visit- Success NYC 6 First Year Visit- Success NYC 7 First Year Visit- Success NYC 12 First Year Visit- Success NYC 14	May 21 – 22, 2025

**CONDUCT OF THE VISIT**

DATE(S) OF REVIEW	EVALUATION TEAM MEMBERS	TITLE
May 21-22, 2025	Dr. Tanya Jones Lewis	Director for New Charters

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 5– CHARTER CYCLE CONTEXT**

CHARTER TERM	TERM YEAR	ANTICIPATED RENEWAL VISIT
Initial	First Year of a Five Year Charter Term	Fall 2028

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 6 – CHARTER CYCLE CONTEXT**

CHARTER TERM	TERM YEAR	ANTICIPATED RENEWAL VISIT
Initial	First Year of a Five Year Charter Term	Fall 2028

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 7– CHARTER CYCLE CONTEXT**

CHARTER TERM	TERM YEAR	ANTICIPATED RENEWAL VISIT
Initial	First Year of a Five Year Charter Term	Fall 2028

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 12 – CHARTER CYCLE CONTEXT**

CHARTER TERM	TERM YEAR	ANTICIPATED RENEWAL VISIT
Initial	First Year of a Five Year Charter Term	Fall 2028

**SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL – NYC 14 – CHARTER CYCLE CONTEXT**

CHARTER TERM	TERM YEAR	ANTICIPATED RENEWAL VISIT
Initial	First Year of a Five Year Charter Term	Fall 2028

