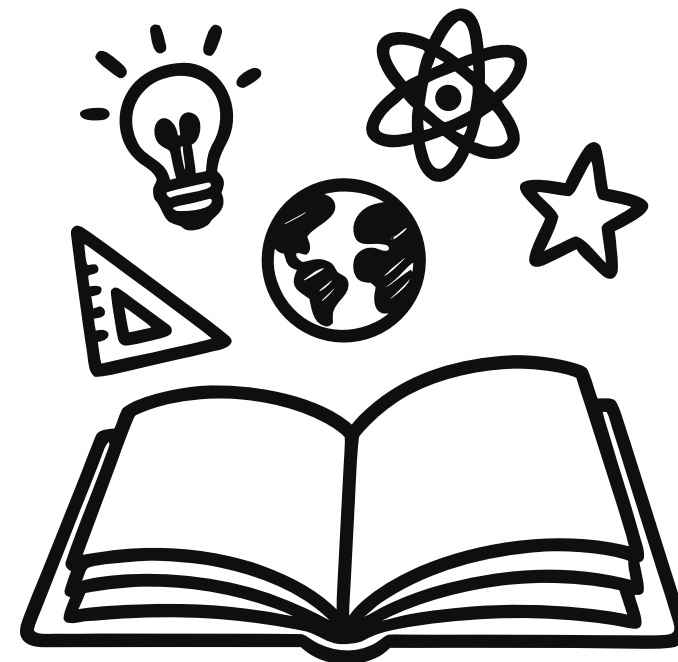


Aligned. Accelerating. Achieving

***GRADUATION PLUS BEGINS IN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL***



Stacey L. Brdey
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of Elementary Education
631-434-2496
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February 5, 2026



GRADUATION PLUS+ *Vision Statement*

Upon graduation, BUFSD students will be empowered to enter the workforce with appropriate skills, certification, or licensure, or be enrolled in a post-secondary program of study. Individual success pathways will be aligned to students' strengths, preferences, and interests, equipping them to lead productive, meaningful, and joyful lives.



SUCCESS Pathways

- + We believe that each child's PLUS will be reflective of his/her strengths, preferences and interests.
- + We believe that college, career and civic readiness are of equal value and importance.
- + We believe that providing CTE pathways and work-based learning experiences will create vast Graduation PLUS opportunities.
- + We believe in the utility of NYSED diploma seals (bi-literacy, civics) and students' ability to earn college credit while in high school.



Meaningful and Relevant Instruction and ASSESSMENT

- + We believe in nurturing the whole child (physical, emotional, academic, social, cultural).
- + We believe that a well-rounded education will include foundations of literacy (ABCs), numeracy (123s), physical education and the arts.
- + We believe in cultivating relevancy through Project and Problem-Based Learning and Assessment (PBLA) opportunities with real-world application.
- + We believe in leveraging our student's strengths, preferences and interests to revitalize the Brentwood community.



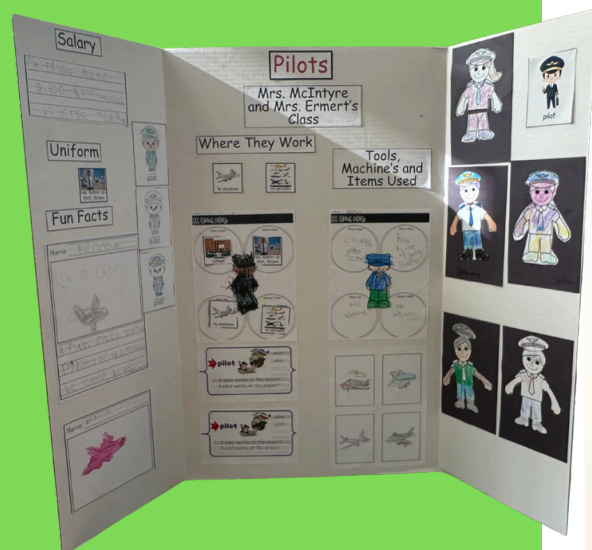
GROWTH Culture

- + We believe that having high expectations for ALL students is the key to unlocking their full potential.
- + We believe that critical thinking is an essential competency for 21st-century success.
- + We believe that cultivating intellectual openness will allow students to improve their school, community and the world.
- + We believe in curating an academic program with acceleration and enrichment as core design elements from inception.
- + We believe that all BUFSD stakeholders are lifelong learners.



EMPOWERED Stakeholders

- + We believe that attendance is vital to maximize student potential.
- + We believe that student success is proportional to the extent and quality of stakeholder engagement.
- + We believe that stakeholder collaboration and partnership have exponential value.
- + We believe in the power of BUFSD Pride!
- + We believe our students should have the freedom to pursue their diploma, career clusters, certifications and licensure while in high school.



BOARD BUDGET-ALIGNED AGENDA

Aligned. Accelerating. Achieving.

1. **Why Elementary Matters for Graduation Plus:** Building the foundation for long term success
2. **Aligned Systems in Elementary Education:** MTSS supporting academics, behavior, and attendance
3. **Accelerating Growth Through Targeted Supports:** Targeted academic and behavioral supports
4. **Belonging, Engagement, and Confidence:** Positive behavior supports, enrichment, and extended learning opportunities
5. **Starting Strong - UPK as the Foundation:** Early social-emotional development through the Pyramid Model
6. **Elementary Impact at Scale:** Student participation, progress, and outcomes
7. **Accountability from an Elementary Lens:** Early systems driving sustained improvement
8. **Looking Ahead: Sustaining What's Working**
Maintaining successful 2025-2026 investments through retiree replacement and enrollment stability



WHAT GRADUATION PLUS+ MEANS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Graduation Plus is a K–12 vision, not just a graduation outcome

In elementary school, Graduation Plus focuses on:

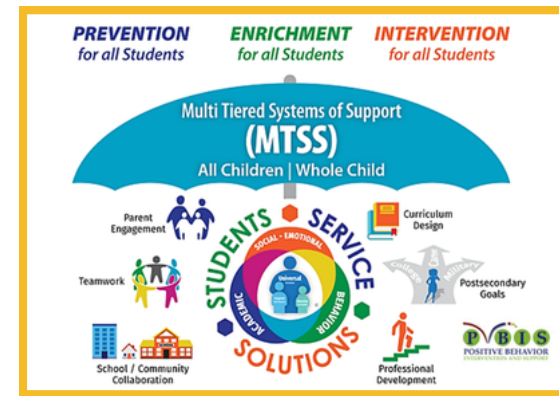
- Strong literacy and numeracy foundations
- Learning behaviors, self-regulation, and perseverance
- Early access to enrichment and opportunity
- Confidence, engagement, and belonging



Aligned Elementary Systems: MTSS

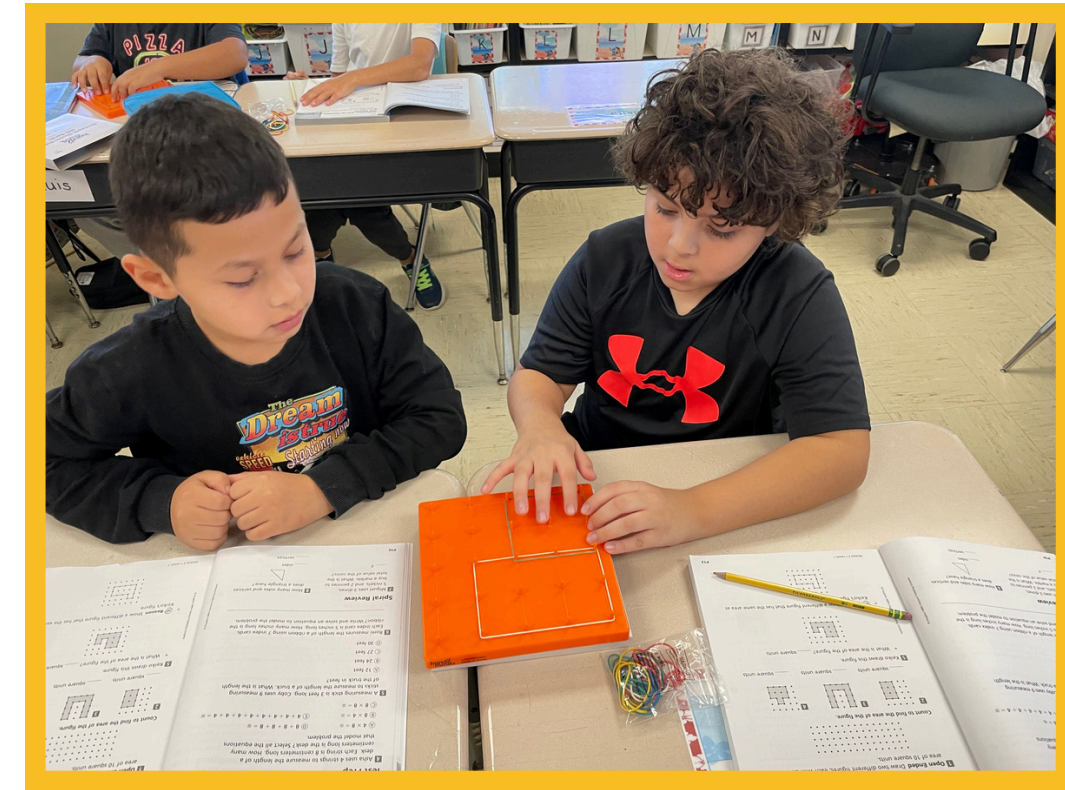
A cohesive approach that integrates:

- Academics
- Behavior
- Attendance
- Shared expectations across all elementary schools
- Emphasis on prevention, early identification, and timely support



Leverging Tier 1: High-Quality Core Instruction

- **HMH Into Reading/Arriba la Lectura! (In year three)**
- **Structured Literacy implementation in grades K-2 (In year two)**
- **HMH Into Math adoption (In year one)**
- **Standards-aligned instruction across all elementary schools**
- **Tier 1 as the primary driver of equity and access**



Next Generation Learning: PBLA

Student Agency through Experiential Learning

- **Experience Science-** Learning through investigation, experimentation, and evidence-based reasoning
- **Putnam BOCES Social Studies-** Engaging students in inquiry, civic understanding, and real world connections through primary sources and discussion
- **Computer Science and Digital Fluency-** Building problem-solving, computational thinking, and responsible technology use within core instruction.



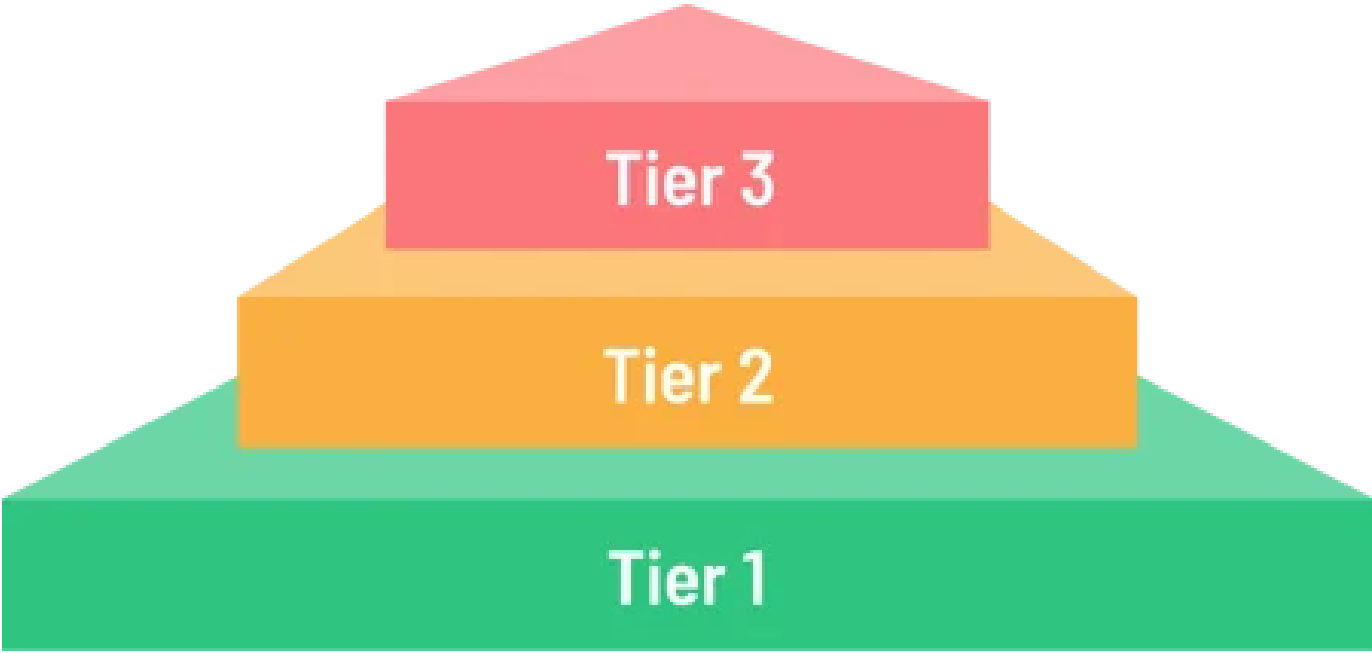
Data-Informed Instruction

- **Universal screening and common assessments (iReady Reading and Mathematics Diagnostic, Qualitative Spelling Inventory (QSI), CAM, and F&P Benchmark Assessment**
- **Monitoring student progress in Tiers I and II**
- **Adjusting instruction proactively to prevent gaps**
- **Engaging students in self-reflection**



Strengthening Tier 3 Through Alignment and Fidelity

- A significant systemwide shift in how Tier 3 supports are delivered and monitored
- The use of Easy CBM as a progress monitoring tool
- Branching Minds used consistently to:
 - Document Tier 3 plans
 - Monitor progress
 - Ensure fidelity across all elementary schools



easyCBM Detailed Norms
Grade 2

Passage Reading Fluency (PRF)				Passage Reading Fluency (PRF)				Passage Reading Fluency (PRF)				Passage Reading Fluency (PRF)			
Score	Percentile			Score	Percentile			Score	Percentile			Score	Percentile		
	Fall	Winter	Spring		Fall	Winter	Spring		Fall	Winter	Spring		Fall	Winter	Spring
0	2	1	1	55	54	41	29	110	92	84	68	165	99	99	96
1	3	1	1	56	55	42	29	111	92	85	69	166	99	99	96
2	4	2	2	57	56	43	30	112	92	86	70	167	99	99	96
3	5	2	2	58	57	43	30	113	92	86	70	168	99	99	96
4	6	3	3	59	57	44	30	114	93	87	71	169	99	99	96
5	8	4	3	60	58	45	31	115	93	87	72	170	99	99	96
6	9	5	4	61	60	45	32	116	93	88	73	171	99	99	97
7	10	6	4	62	61	46	32	117	93	89	74	172	99	99	97
8	11	7	5	63	62	47	33	118	93	89	75	173	99	99	97
9	12	8	6	64	63	48	34	119	94	90	76	174	99	99	97
10	13	9	6	65	64	49	34	120	94	91	77	175	99	99	97
11	14	9	7	66	65	50	35	121	94	92	78	176	99	99	97
12	15	10	8	67	66	50	36	122	94	92	78	177	99	99	97
13	16	12	8	68	66	51	37	123	94	92	79	178	99	99	97
14	17	13	9	69	67	52	38	124	94	93	79	179	99	99	98
15	18	13	10	70	67	52	38	125	95	93	80	180	99	99	98
16	19	15	11	71	68	53	39	126	95	93	81	181	99	99	98
17	20	16	12	72	69	53	39	127	95	94	81	182	99	99	98
18	21	17	12	73	69	54	40	128	95	94	82	183	99	99	98
19	22	18	13	74	70	55	41	129	95	94	82	184	99	99	98
20	24	18	13	75	71	56	41	130	95	94	83	185	99	99	98
21	24	19	14	76	71	56	42	131	96	94	84	186	99	99	98
22	25	20	14	77	72	58	43	132	96	95	84	187	99	99	98
23	26	21	14	78	72	59	43	133	96	95	85	188	99	99	98
24	27	21	15	79	73	60	44	134	96	96	86	189	99	99	99
25	28	22	15	80	74	61	45	135	96	96	86	190	99	99	99
26	29	22	16	81	75	63	46	136	96	96	86	191	99	99	99
27	30	22	16	82	76	64	46	137	96	96	86	192	99	99	99
28	31	23	16	83	76	65	47	138	96	96	86	193	99	99	99
29	32	23	17	84	76	65	48	139	97	96	87	194	99	99	99
30	33	24	17	85	77	66	48	140	97	96	87	195	99	99	99
31	34	24	18	86	77	66	49	141	97	96	88	196	99	99	99
32	35	25	18	87	78	66	50	142	97	96	88	197	99	99	99
33	37	25	19	88	79	67	51	143	97	97	89	198	99	99	99
34	38	26	19	89	79	68	51	144	97	97	89	199	99	99	99
35	39	27	20	90	80	69	52	145	98	97	90	200	99	99	99
36	39	28	20	91	80	70	52	146	98	97	90	201	99	99	99
37	40	29	21	92	82	71	52	147	98	97	91	202	99	99	99
38	41	29	21	93	82	72	53	148	98	97	91	203	99	99	99
39	42	30	22	94	83	74	55	149	98	97	91	204	99	99	99
40	43	31	22	95	83	74	56	150	98	97	91	205	99	99	99
41	43	32	23	96	84	76	56	151	98	97	92	206	99	99	99
42	44	32	23	97	86	77	57	152	98	98	92	207	99	99	99
43	45	33	23	98	87	77	58	153	98	98	92	208	99	99	99
44	45	34	24	99	88	78	59	154	98	98	92	209	99	99	99
45	46	34	24	100	88	78	60	155	98	98	93	210	99	99	99
46	46	35	25	101	88	79	61	156	99	98	93	211	99	99	99
47	47	35	25	102	89	79	62	157	99	98	94	212	99	99	99
48	48	36	26	103	89	80	62	158	99	98	94	213	99	99	99
49	49	36	26	104	90	81	63	159	99	98	94	214	99	99	99
50	50	37	27	105	90	81	65	160	99	98	94	215	99	99	99
51	51	38	27	106	91	82	66	161	99	98	95	216	99	99	99
52	52	38	28	107	91	82	67	162	99	99	95	217	99	99	99
53	53	39	28	108	91	83	67	163	99	99	95	218	99	99	99
54	54	40	29	109	92	84	68	164	99	99	96	219	99	99	99



Strengthening Tier 3 Through Alignment and Fidelity

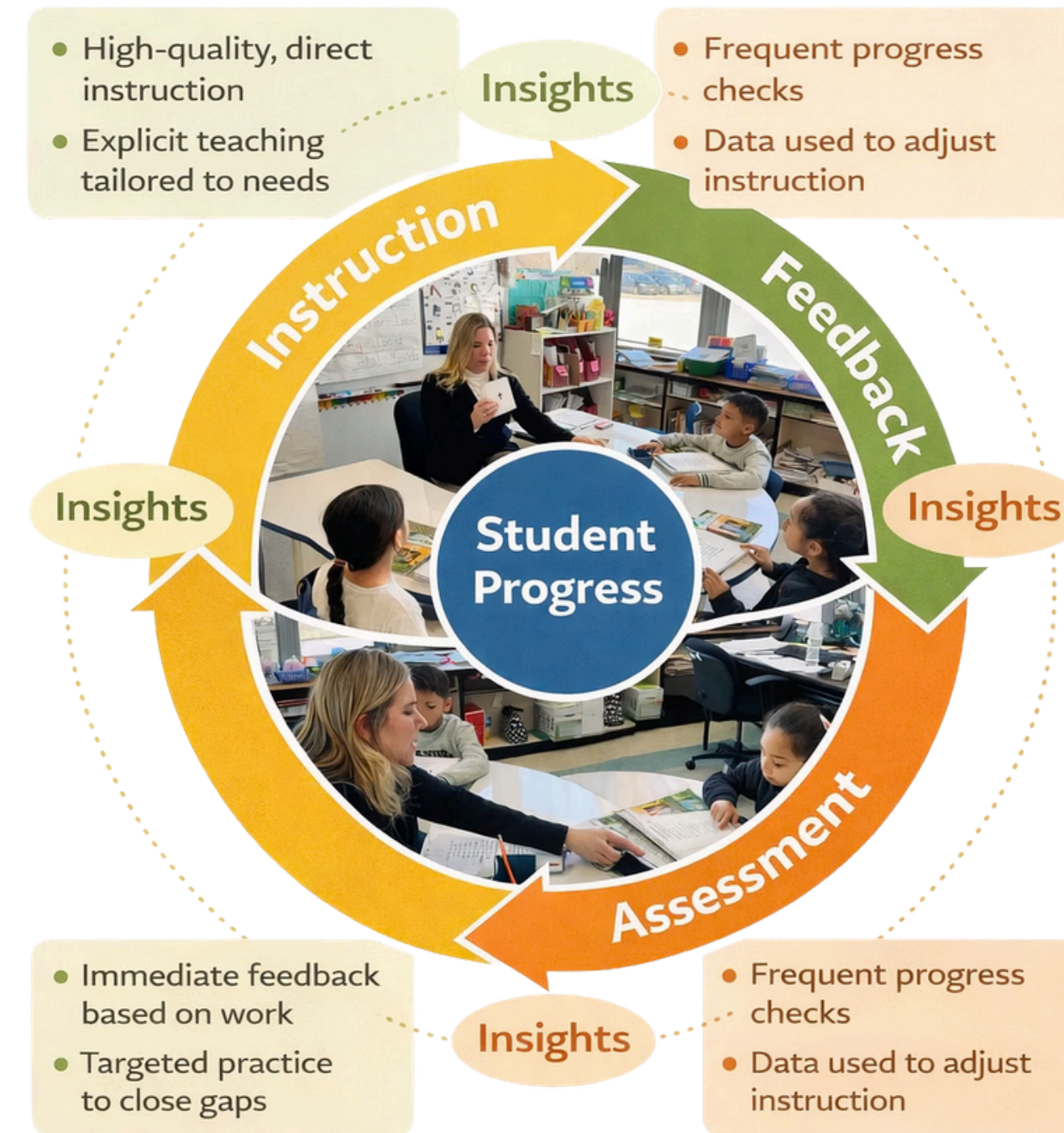
- Research-based Tier 3 interventions implemented districtwide:

- **Sonday**
- **SPIRE**
- **SIPPS**
- **Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)**
- **Moving with Math**
- **Fine motor and speech**

**minimum 4x weekly/40 minutes*

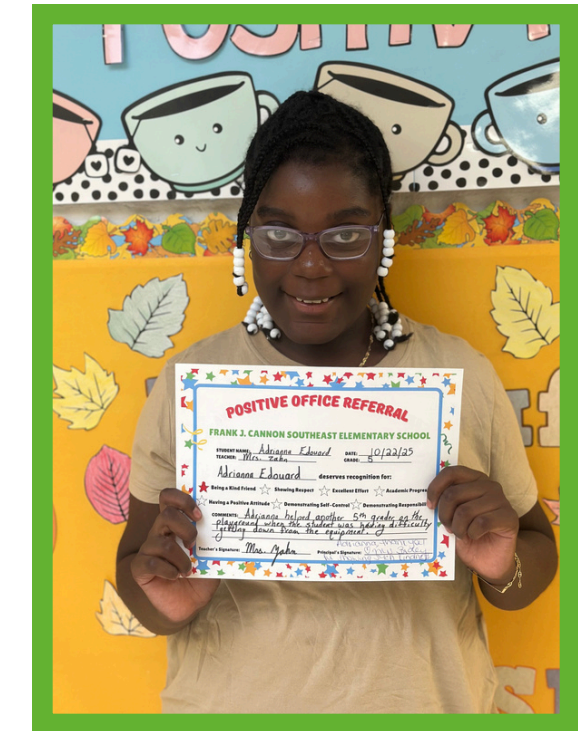
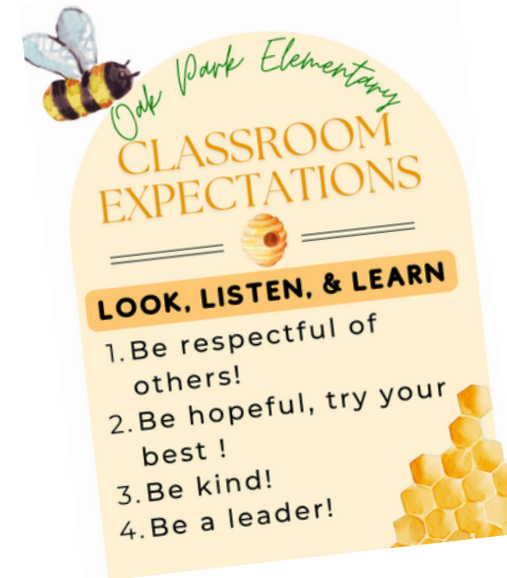
- **Students supported by:**

- **Reading and math consultants**
- **Interventionists**
- **ENL Teachers**
- **SIFE Coaches**
- **Special Education Teachers**
- **Speech and OT**



Positive Behavior Supports That Keep Students Engaged

- Tier 1: Explicit expectations, PBIS, rewards and acknowledgment, Too Good Program, Great Program, Positive Office Referrals, Child Safety Matters/Erin's Law, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Beautiful Me, "I am, We are," "Devin Speaks Up!"



- Tier 2: CICO, PPS supports
- Tier 3: BCBA support; EAC, PM Pediatrics, DASH
- Reduction in behavioral challenges and OSS

Check-In, Check-Out (CICO)
My Daily Progress

Christopher

Date: _____

Target Goals	AM Check In	Morning Meeting	Math	Structured Literacy	Guided Reading Groups	Special Areas	Lunch/ Recess	PM Check Out
Quiet Voice During Learning	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Calm Body	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Follow Adult Directives	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0	2 1 0
Total Points:	/48 Goal = 35 points							

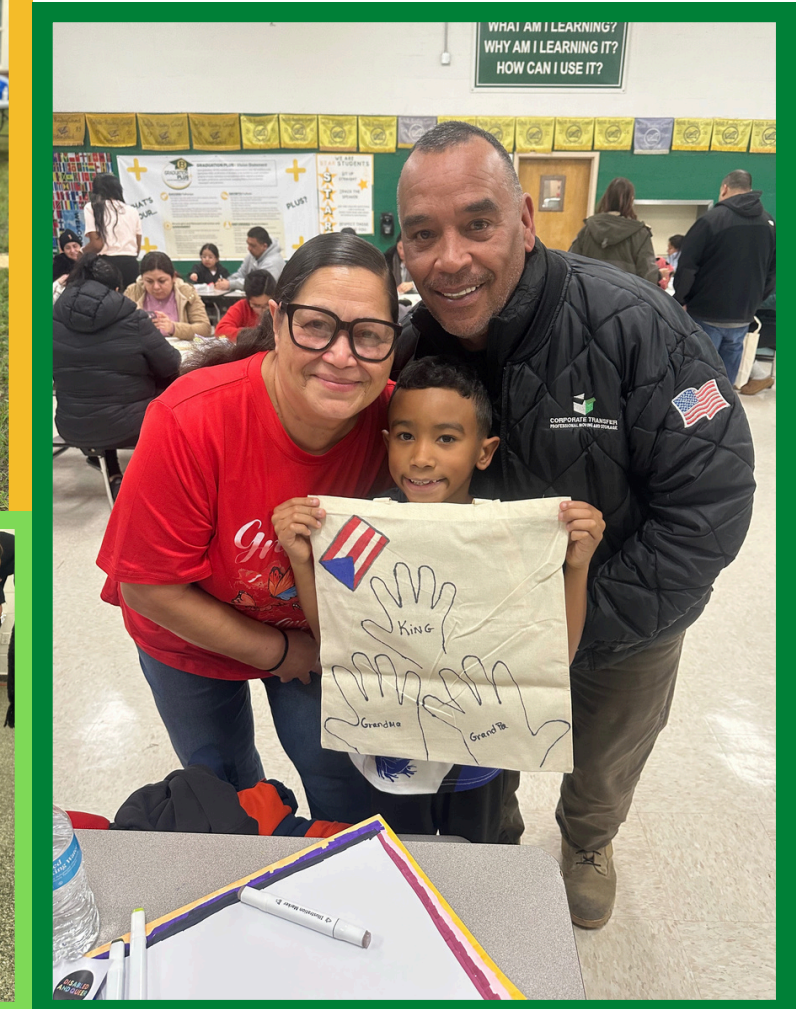
Additional Comments: _____

Parent Signature: _____



Family and Community Engagement

- ParentSquare and Facebook to highlight district and school events
- Family Community Center and Community Plaza
- PTA Events/Workshops, and Star Student Celebrations
- SEPTA Events and Workshops
- Parent University at Saturday Academy
- PIQUE (Parent Institute for Quality Education)
- Young Author's Night
- Family Fun Days at Saturday/Lego Academy, and The Language Immersion Saturday Program
- The Breast Cancer Walk
- Autism Walk
- UPK Family Nights
- Field Day
- Jack Curio Jr. Olympics
- Day of the Recorder/All District Music
- Welcome Back Family Picnics
- Back to School Night
- Curriculum Nights and Title Funding Presentations
- UPK, Kindergarten, and First-Grade Orientation
- 5th Grade Moving Up Ceremonies



Starting Graduation Plus Early: Universal Pre-Kindergarten add registration info

UPK Access and Participation

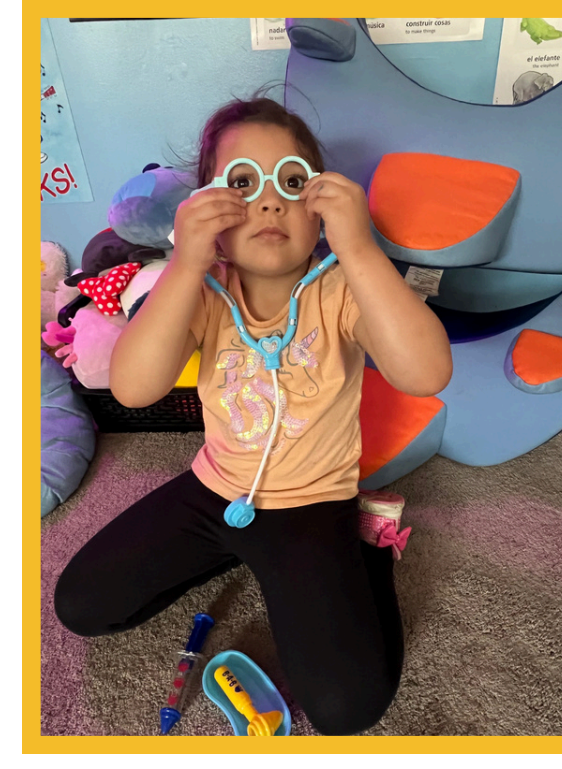
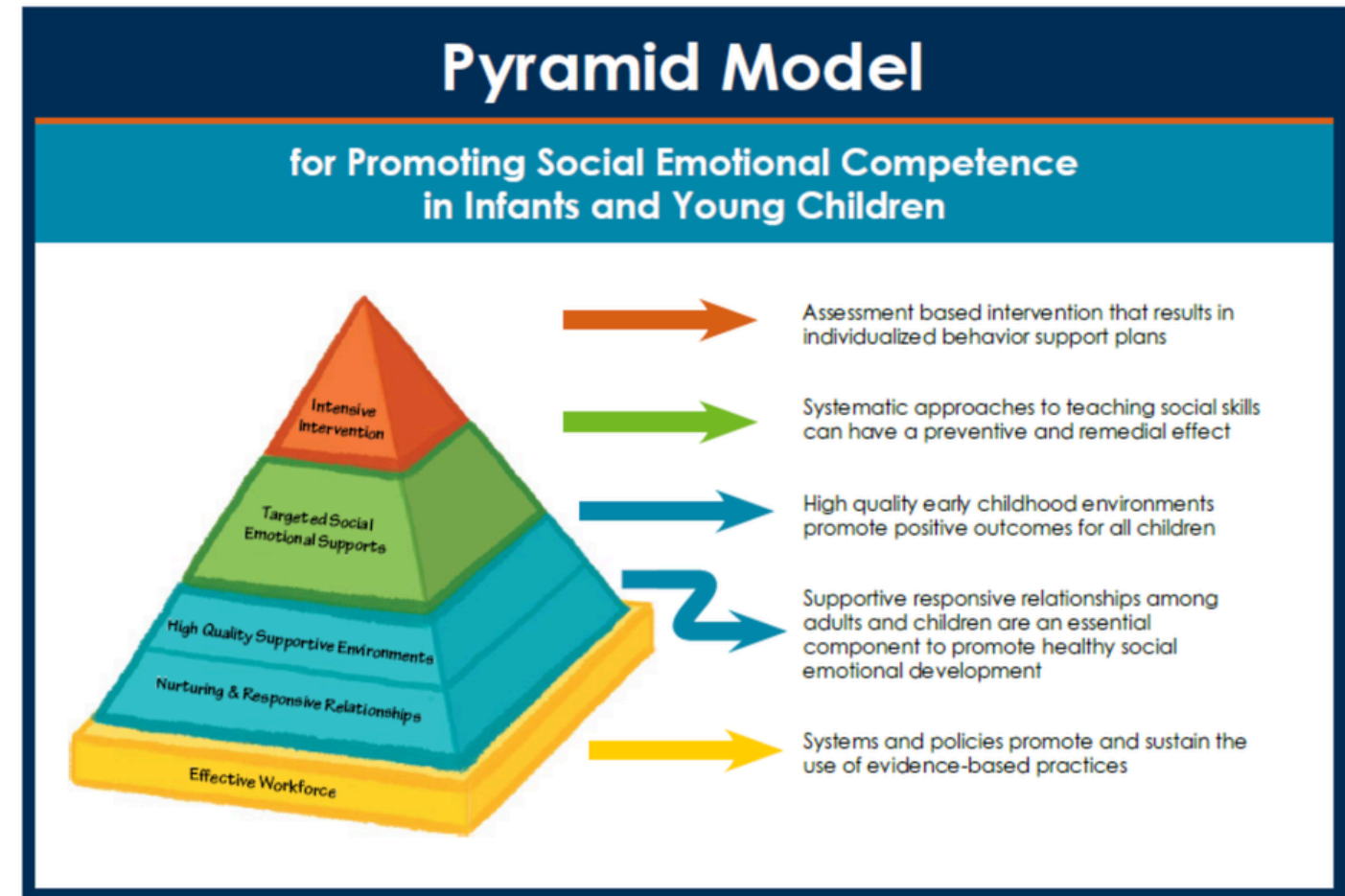
- **Students served through:**
 - **5 Community-Based Organizations:**
Shepherd's Gate, Family Service League,
Head Start, MDQ, The Nursery School
 - **2 Integrated co-teaching UPK classes**
at East Elementary School
- **Aligned Core Curriculum**
 - **Three Cheers for Pre-K**
 - **Consistent instructional approach**
across all UPK settings

School	Max Seats Allowed	Students Enrolled
EK	20	19
FSL	108	106
HS	54	51
MDQ	144	127
TNS	58	56
SG	320	320
TOTAL	704	679



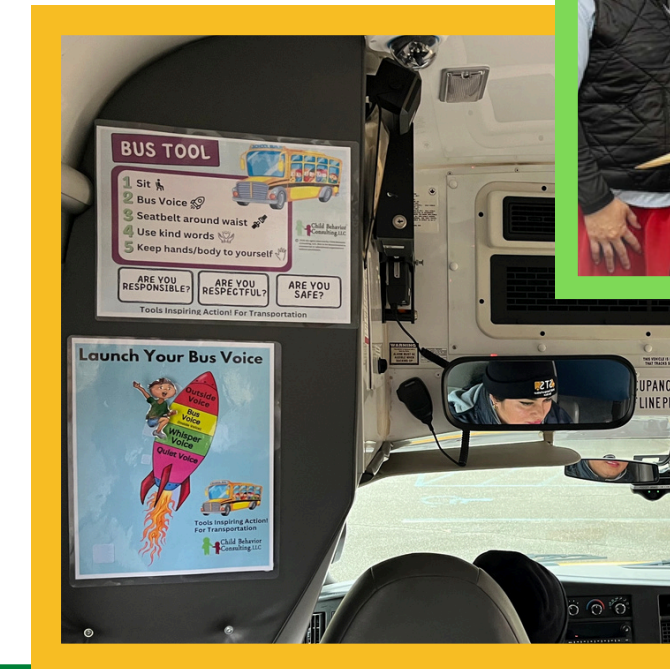
Starting Graduation Plus Early: New York State's Pyramid Model

- Pyramid Model Implementation
- Ongoing Professional Development for all UPK faculty and staff members
- Explicit instruction in:
 - Self-regulation
 - Emotion management
 - Friendship and social skills
 - Prevention-focused social-emotional supports



Bus Safety: Starting Graduation Plus Early

- School Bus Safety Program
 - Ongoing PBIS training for UPK bus drivers to reinforce expectations beyond the classroom
- Family engagement embedded in UPK programming



Impact at Scale: Elementary Success

- **All** elementary schools are in good standing (LSI Designation)
- LSI emphasizes:
 - Local planning
 - Continuous improvement
 - Growth over time



Indicators Used to Make School and District Status Determinations (Elementary/Middle Level)

- **Weighted Average Achievement:** Annual student performance in English language arts (ELA), math, and science calculated using a denominator that meets USDE requirements for the academic achievement indicator (i.e., the greater of the number of continuously enrolled students in the subgroup with valid test scores or 95% of continuously enrolled students)
- **Core Subject Performance:** Annual student performance in ELA, math, and science calculated using a denominator of continuously enrolled students with valid test scores
- **Student Growth:** Student growth on State assessments in ELA and math for current continuously enrolled students in Grades 4–8 who took the same subject test in the prior school year and the next sequential grade level test in the current school year
- **English Language Proficiency:** Percentage of students meeting individual progress targets on the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) divided by the percentage of students in the subgroup who were expected to make such progress
- **Attendance:** Attendance for students in Grades 1–8 calculated using a student attendance index of all students enrolled at least 30 cumulative instructional days and in attendance for one of those days

Elementary Growth at Scale: ELA & Math Growth with Credibility (Newsday)

2024 - 2025 State Assessment Results

English Language Arts (Grades 3–8)

- +7.6 percentage point increase
- 82.4% participation
- (6,824 students tested)

Mathematics (Grades 3–8)

- +3 percentage point increase
- 77.9% participation
- (6,449 students tested)



Why This Matters

- Growth occurred while testing more students than most neighboring districts
- Results reflect **systemwide improvement**, not small-cohort gains

Directions
Read this article. Then answer questions 1 through 6.

Excerpt from *Why Do We Sleep?*
by Trudee Romanek

1 Sleep has puzzled people for a long time. Why do we lie down and zone out for hours every night? Isn't sleep just a giant waste of time? Could we learn to do without it?

2 Now scientists are beginning to answer some of those questions. They've discovered that brains and bodies don't just shut down at night. Quite the contrary! At night, your body repairs itself and grows strong. Your brain is busy making memories and learning. Sleep is so useful that all animals do it. And without it, waking life would be impossible.

All Through the Night . . .

3 After lying down, most people take about 20 minutes to fall asleep. In the twilight zone between asleep and awake, your brain begins to drift. It muffles signals from the muscles and senses, ignoring information from the outside world. That can give you the odd sensation of falling. You aren't really—you're just falling asleep. . . .

4 As you slip into sleep, your heart slows down and you breathe more slowly. Your eyes shut, and your brain ignores ordinary sounds. That's why when you're sound asleep, you don't hear small noises or other things that might wake you up. The part of the brain that keeps you aware of time passing also switches off, so in the morning it feels like the night takes no time at all.

5 But your brain does not shut down at night. In fact, it gets quite active. It's got important jobs to do.

39 This question is worth 2 credits.
A diagram of a rectangle with given dimensions is shown below.

What is the area, in square feet, of the rectangle?
Show your work.

Source: Newsday, 2024–25
NYS Assessment Results)

[Article of LI Test Scores English & Math 24-25 SY.](#)





Bright Spots: Evidence of System Strength



- Hemlock Park exited Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) status
- All elementary schools with State-level testing achieved a Level 2 or higher in both Weighted Average Achievement and Core Subject Performance across all subgroups
- The ELL subgroup in 9 of our elementary schools achieved a Level 3 or higher in both Weighted Average Achievement and Core Subject Performance
- All elementary schools achieved a Level 2 or higher in Attendance across all subgroups, including 4 elementary schools at Level 3 or higher across all subgroups
- The SWD subgroup in 7 of our elementary schools achieved a Level 3 or higher in both Weighted Average Achievement and Core Subject Performance



Strategic PBIS/MTSS Investments 2025-2026

Academic and Behavioral Supports

25 ICT Classes (↑ from 10)

8 Full-Time Board Certified Behavior Analysts (↑ 5)

36 Full-Time Interventionists across 11 Elementary Schools — ELA & Math (↑ 5)

12.5 Full-Time Psychologists across 11 Elementary Schools (↑ 1.5)

10 School Counselors

10 Social Workers (↑ 1)

14 Library Media Specialists (↑ 3 for Grade 1)

27 Physical Education Teachers (↑ 1 for Adaptive PE)

13 Art Teachers (↑ 1)

16 Music Teachers (↑ 1)

6 District Staff Developers (↑ 1)



Staffing Overview, 2026 - 2027

General Education

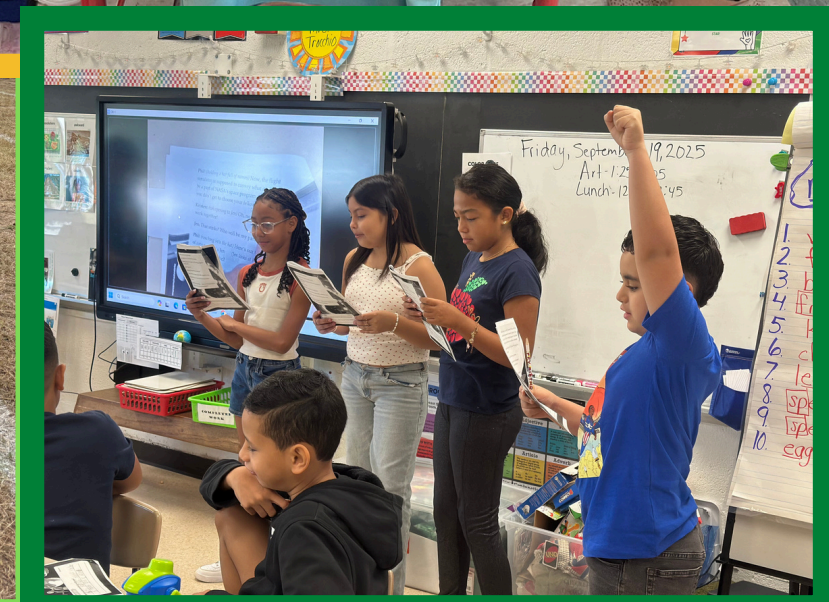
- Retirements: 13
(9 General Education, 4 Grade 6)
- Replacements: 11
- Net Change: -2 Positions

Bilingual & Dual Language

- Retirements: 1
- Replacements: 0
- DL Contingency: +1 (dependent on enrollment)

Staffing Requests

- 1 School Counselor
- 1 Social Worker
- Additional Reading & Math Interventionists (if feasible)





UPK
REGISTRATION
2026

APRIL 13, 2026 - JUNE 5, 2026
631-434-2401

KINDERGARTEN
REGISTRATION
2026

JANUARY 20, 2026 - MARCH 24, 2026
631-434-2401

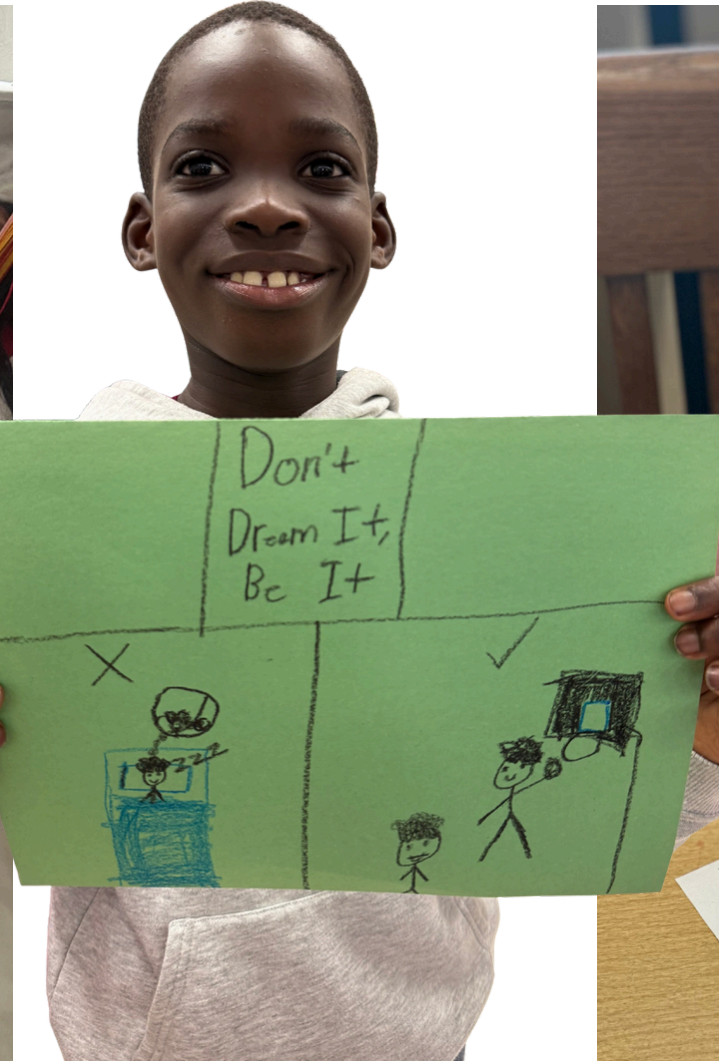


GRADUATION PLUS+

The poster features a light blue background with a white, torn-edge border. At the top, there is a colorful rainbow and a yellow sun. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical manner, with the registration periods and phone number prominently displayed. The bottom right corner includes a red apple and a logo for 'Graduation Plus+' which consists of a green graduation cap with a white 'B' and the text 'GRADUATION PLUS+' below it.

Closing

When we align early, accelerate intentionally, and sustain support, Graduation Plus+ becomes achievable for every child.



Thank You

Stacey L. Brdey
Assistant Superintendent
of Elementary Education

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