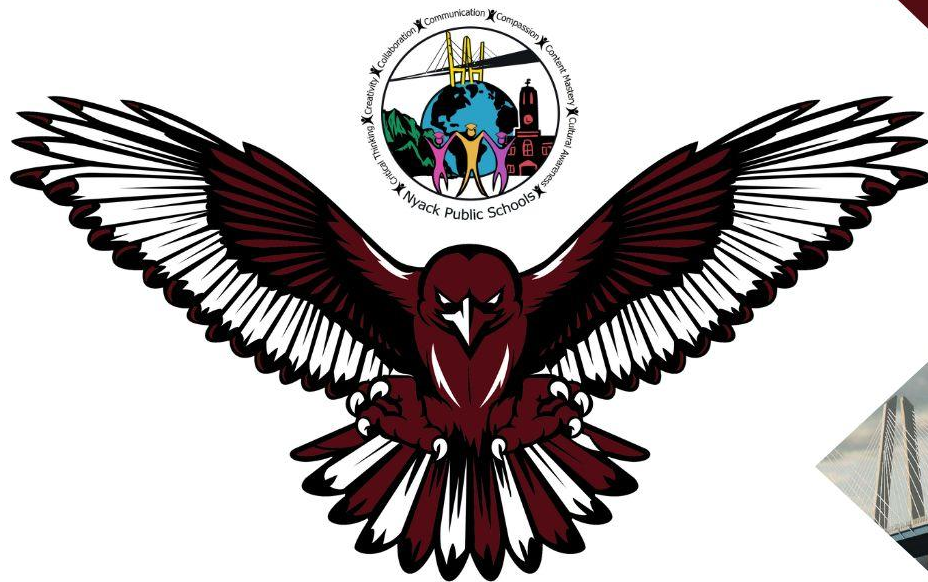


Our District Vision IN FOCUS

2024-2025 School Year



District Goals Update

Presented to the Board of Education

By Dr. Lizzette Ruiz-Giovinazzi

April 22, 2025



*RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.*

We, the students, parents, community and staff of the Nyack School District VALUE: *the pursuit of scholastic excellence; the richness of our diverse community; harmonious relationships among individuals and groups; partnerships among students, staff, parents, and community; respect for self, and others; responsible ethical behavior that engenders trust; individuals who think critically and creatively; ongoing involvement in local and global issues; development of essential skills and attitudes for a productive life; a safe and nurturing environment.*

Our Mission Statement



RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.



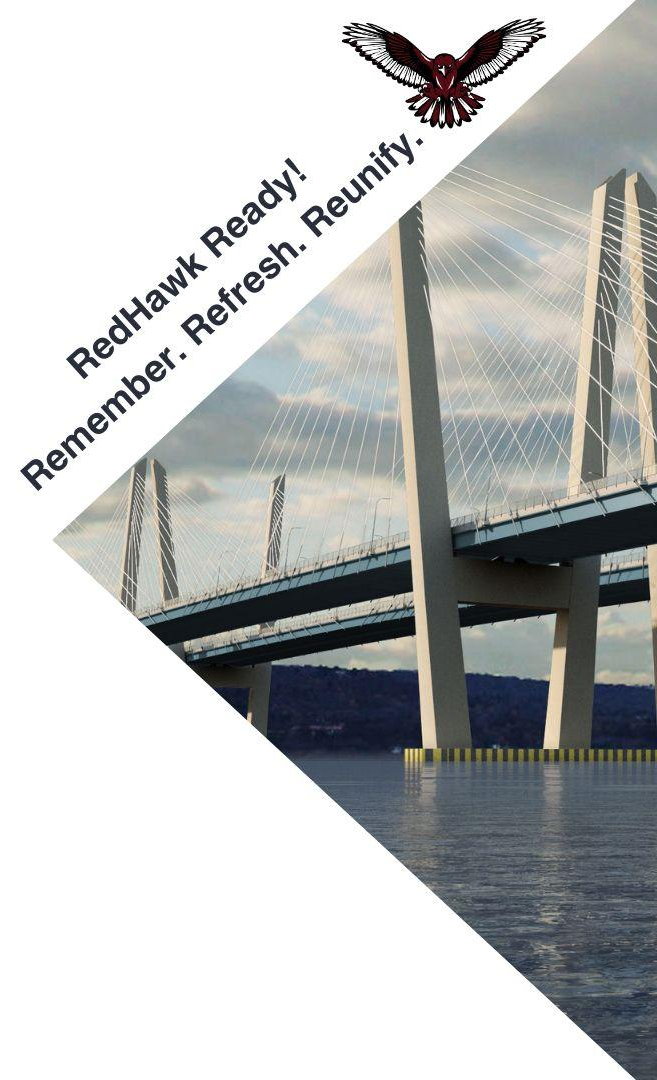
We are building bridges for today's students to cross into tomorrow's world with equity, innovation and optimism.

Embedded into the Profile of a Graduate of Nyack Public Schools are seven core competencies - Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, Compassion, Content Mastery and Cultural Awareness.

Nurturing these competencies in each student begins at birth, extends into each classroom, and prepares students for success and wellness beyond graduation onto a global platform.



Our Vision



2024-25 Systemic Intervention Time Wheel

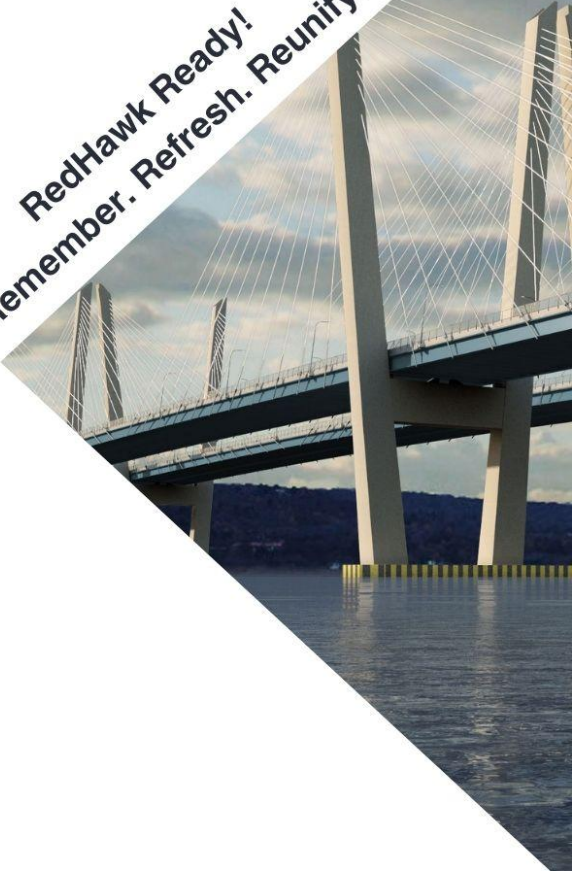


“This year, I see an immediate priority of focusing on improving climate rather than culture. By addressing visible issues that impact morale, we create the right conditions for a positive culture, bringing us back to being able to have meaningful change.”

- Dr. LRG



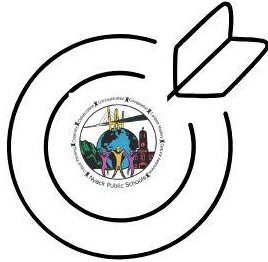
RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.



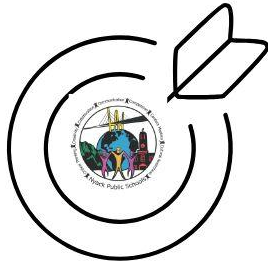
2024-2025 DISTRICT GOALS:



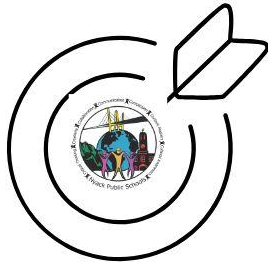
RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.



Implement
Districtwide MTSS



Advance
the District Racial
Equity Plan



Strengthen
Elementary Curriculum

What is accountability and to whom are we accountable?

HOW WILL WE REACH OUR GOALS FOR THIS YEAR AND FOR THE FUTURE OF NYACK?



Performance Measures for Results-based Accountability:

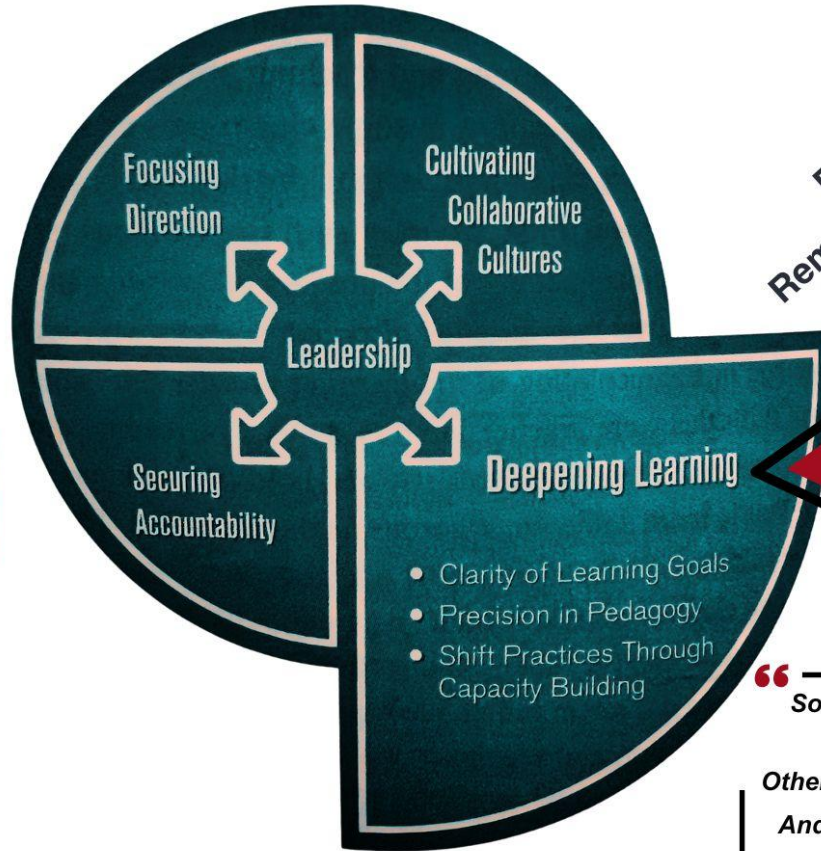
- **Quantity** - How much did we do?
- **Quality** - How well did we do it?
- **Impact** - Is anyone better off?

The Coherence Framework



RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.

Jan. 2025

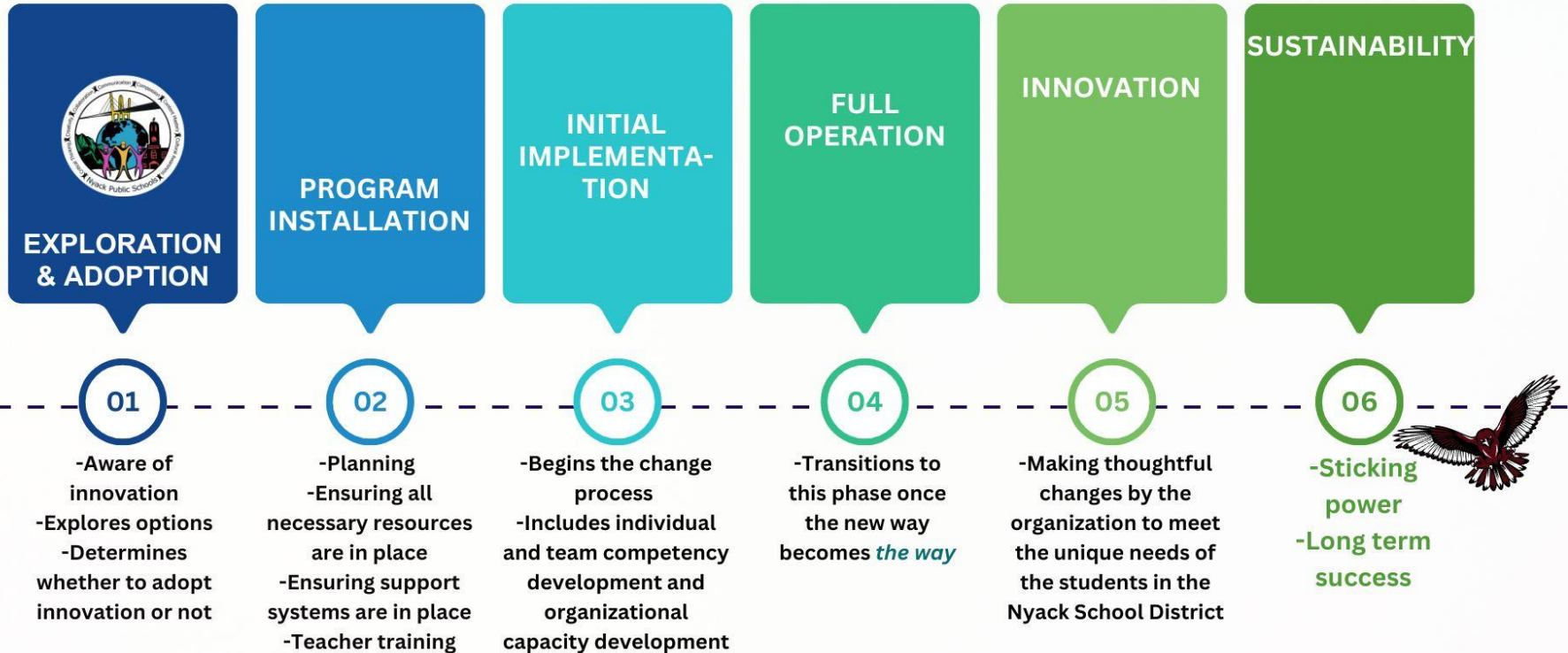


April 2025

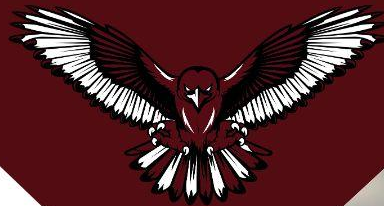
“
Some teachers taught the curriculum today.
Others taught students today.
And there's a big difference
”

Stages of Implementation

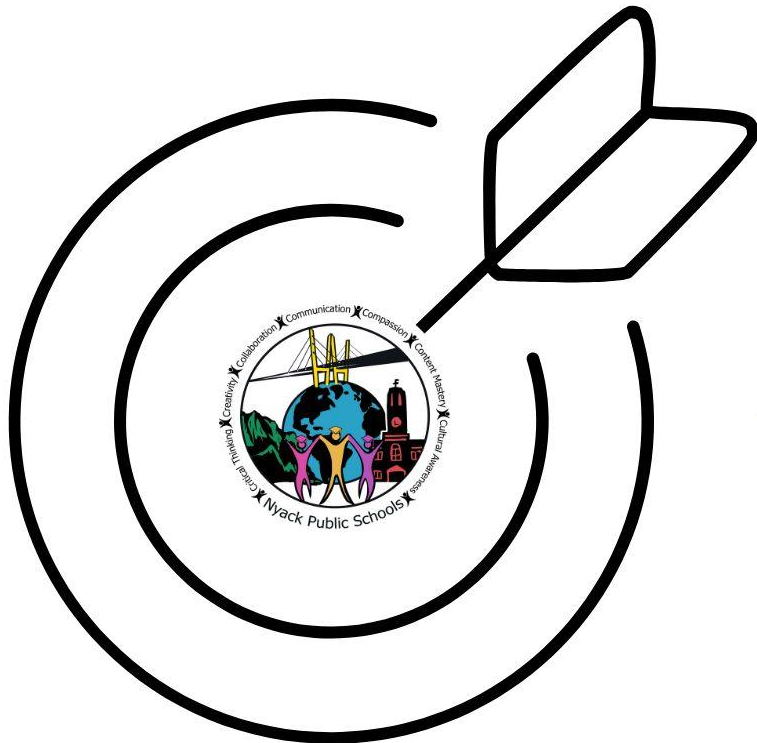
Research indicates that most programs require at least 2-4 years for full implementation
(Fixsen et.at., 2005; Affigne, 2013)



Implement Districtwide MTSS*

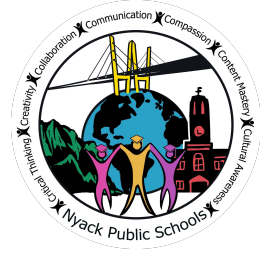


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*Multi-Tiered System of Supports

UPDATE Goal 1: Implement Districtwide MTSS Plan



Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: Meeting the needs of all students



LinkIt!

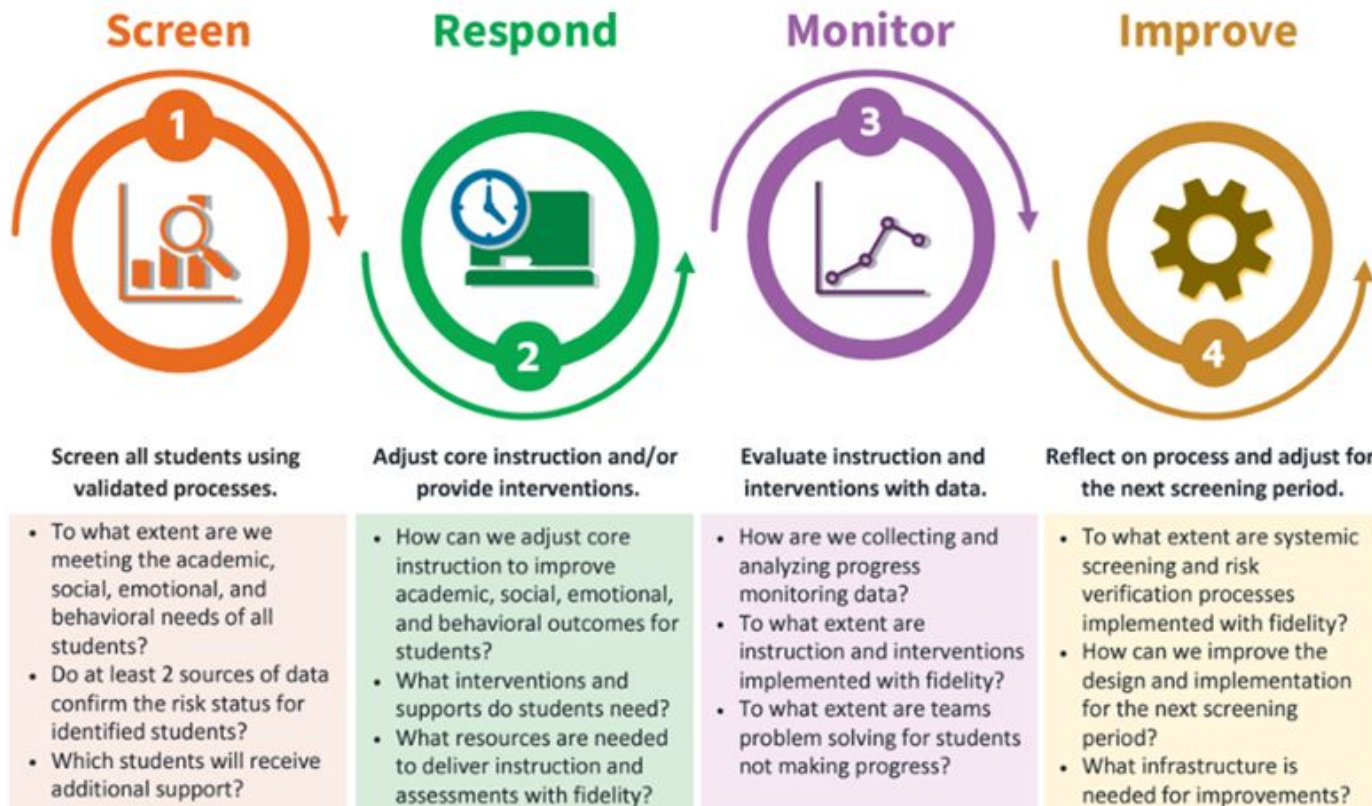
Capturing student data and turning insights into action.

Action STEPS:

- ✓ Create & Develop the [MTSS District Implementation Plan](#)
- ✓ Establish MTSS Teams in each school
- ✓ Train MTSS Teams
- ✓ Create & Complete District's MTSS Plan (handbook)
- * Strengthen MTSS Team development and role clarity
- * Encourage parent communications and engagement

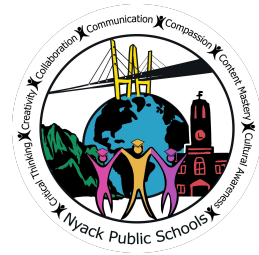
Snapshot of MTSS Implementation

A multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) is a proactive and preventative framework that integrates data and instruction to maximize student achievement and support students' social, emotional, and behavior needs from a strengths-based perspective.



DATA NARRATIVE...

What are we noticing? How are we doing?
What is the data telling us?

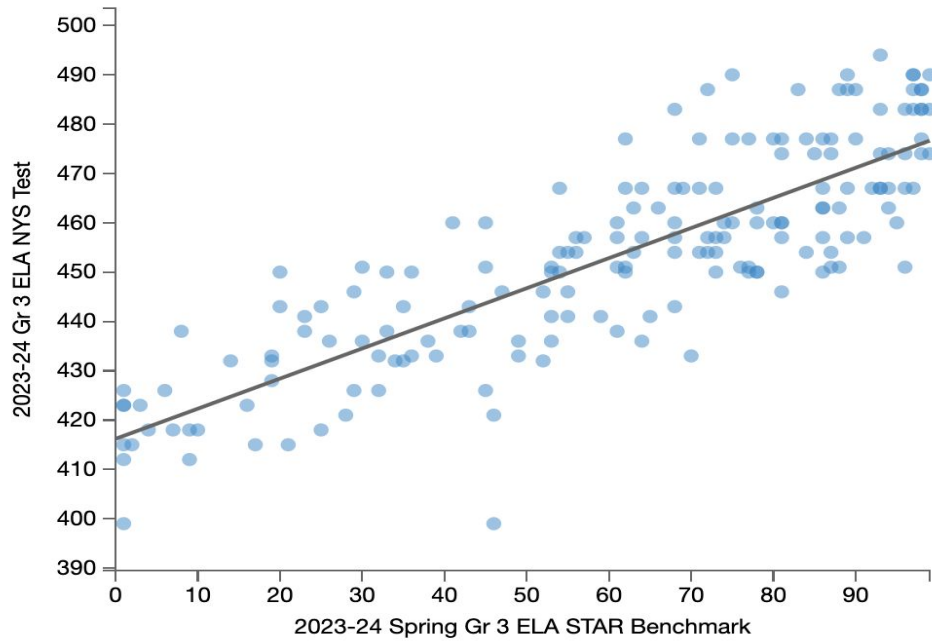


- **How are we measuring progress in Elementary Math & ELA?**
 - by grade
 - by race
 - by gender
- **How are teachers planting seeds and “growing the green”?**
 - requesting new resources
 - requesting new curriculum
- **Looking ahead: What are our parents noticing?** (survey tbd)

Star Benchmarks & NYS Grades 3-8 Assessments



R coefficient 0.835
R squared 0.697



Star and the NYS ELA & Math Assessments



Grade	ELA		Math	
	R Cef	R Sq	R Cef	R Sq
3	.8	.7	.8	.7
4	.8	.7	.9	.7
5	.8	.7	.7	.6
6*	.8	.7	.8	.6
7*	.8	.6	.8	.7
8*	.8	.6	.7	.5

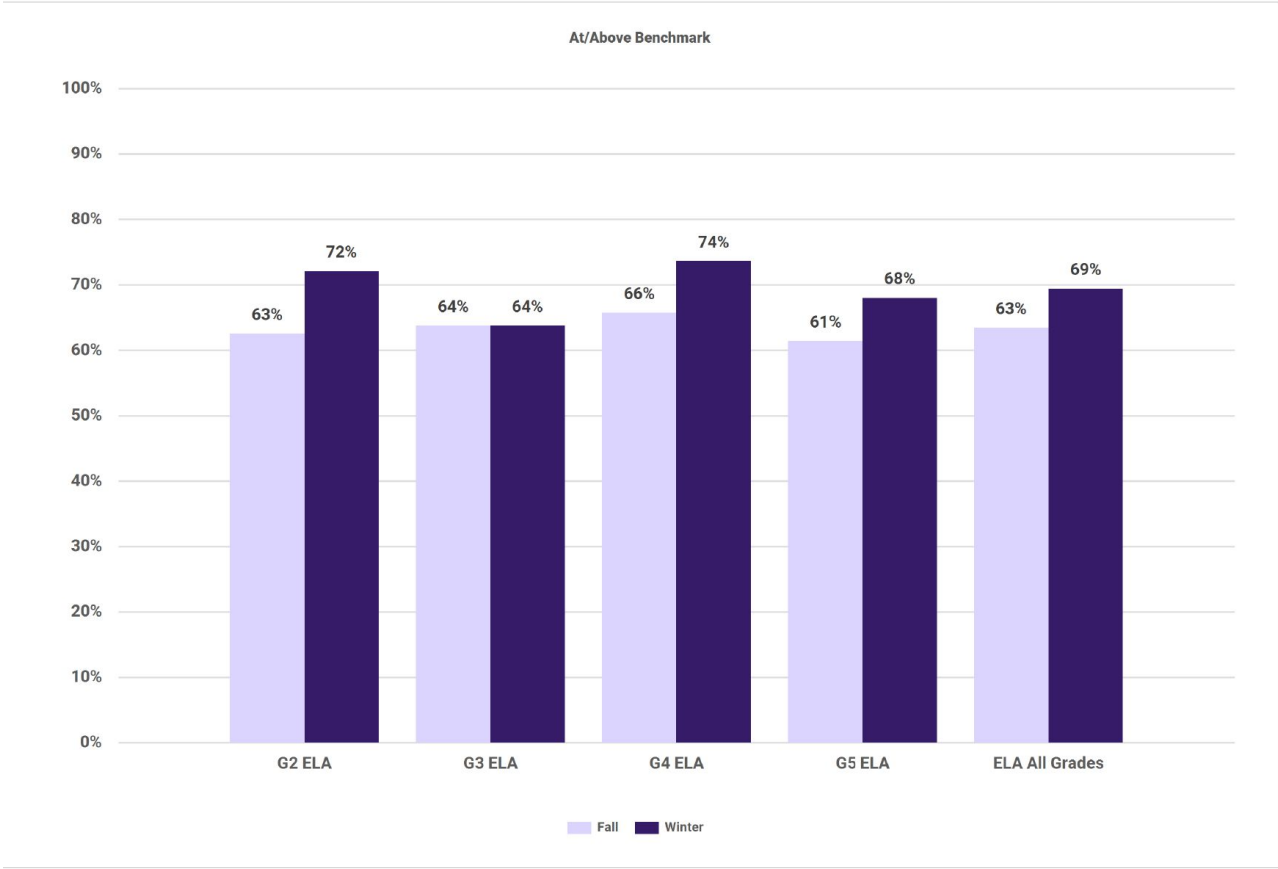
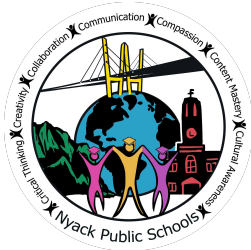
Given the strong correlation between student performance on the Star Benchmark Assessments and the NYS Assessments for Grades 3 through 8, the Star Assessments may be effectively utilized to monitor students' academic growth three times annually in grades K - 9.

R Squared of $\geq .7$ - strong relationship between Star and NYS Assessments

R Coefficient of $\geq .7$ - strong positive relationship between the Star and NYS Assessments

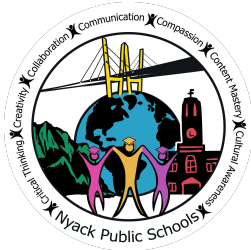
Star Fall to Winter 2024-25

Grades 2-5 ELA Proficiency

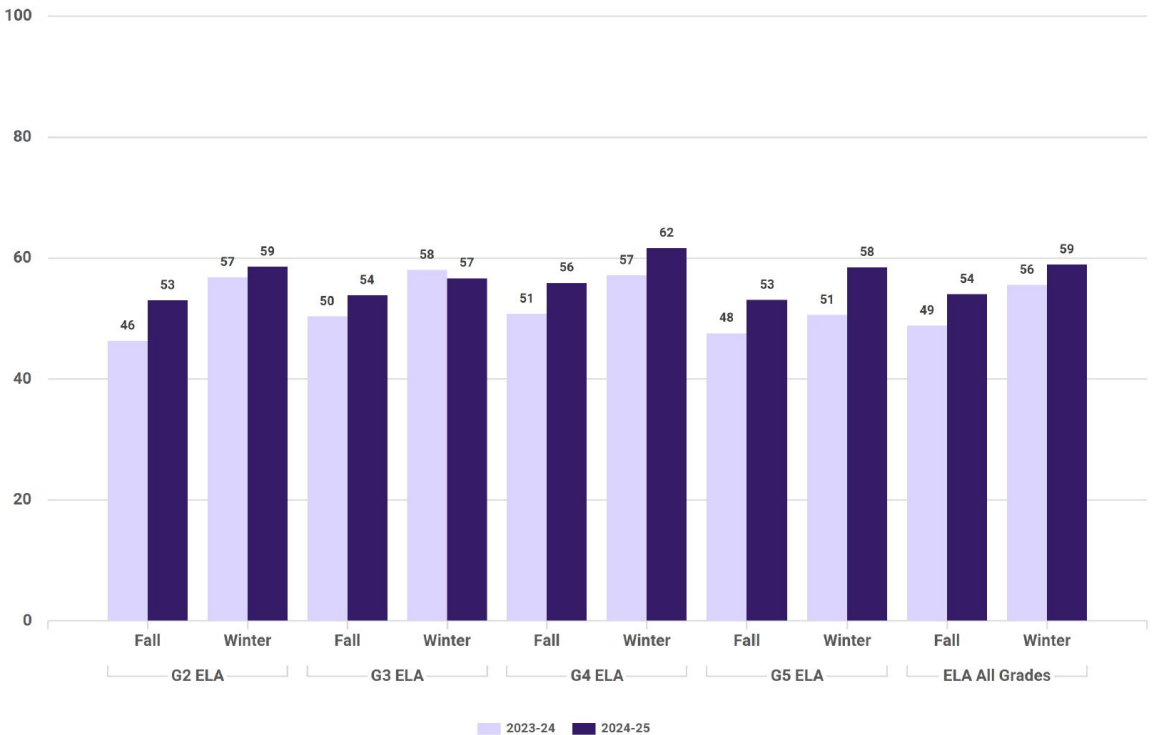


Star Fall to Winter 2023/24 & 2024/25

Grades 2-5 ELA Percentile Summary

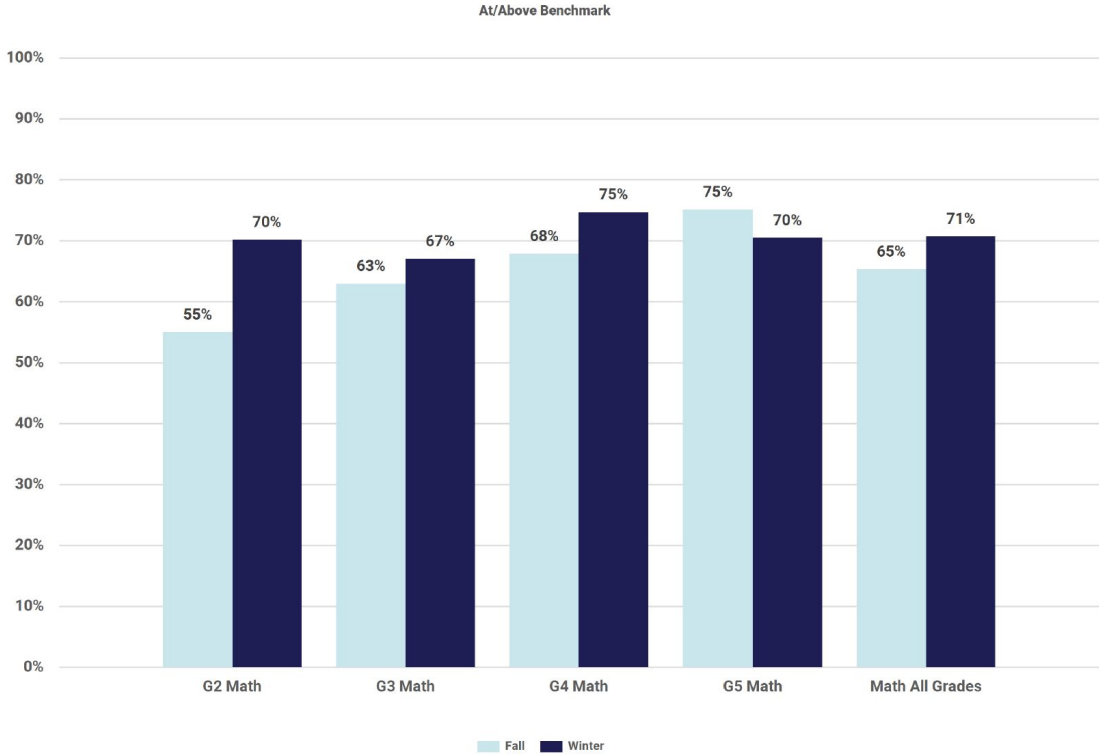


Nyack Public Schools Year-over-Year Comparison



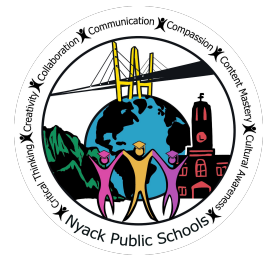
Star Fall to Winter 2024-25

Grades 2-5 Math Proficiency

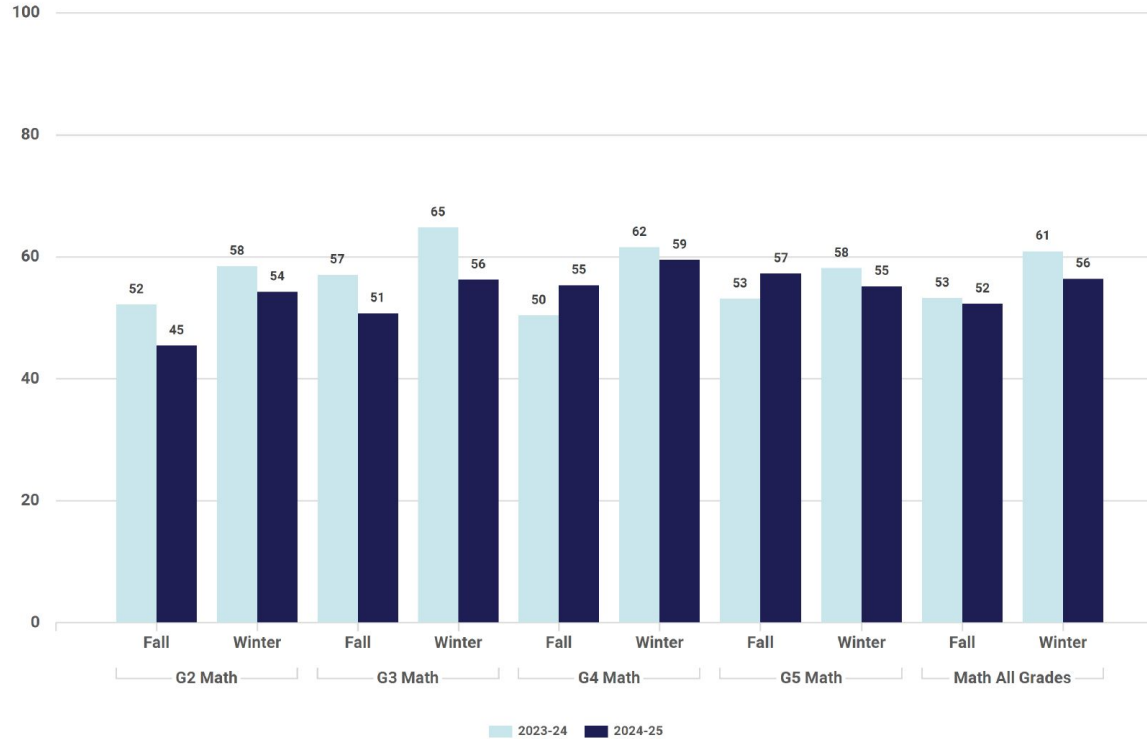


Star Fall to Winter 2023-24 & 2024-25

Grades 2-5 Math Percentile Summary



Nyack Public Schools Year-over-Year Comparison

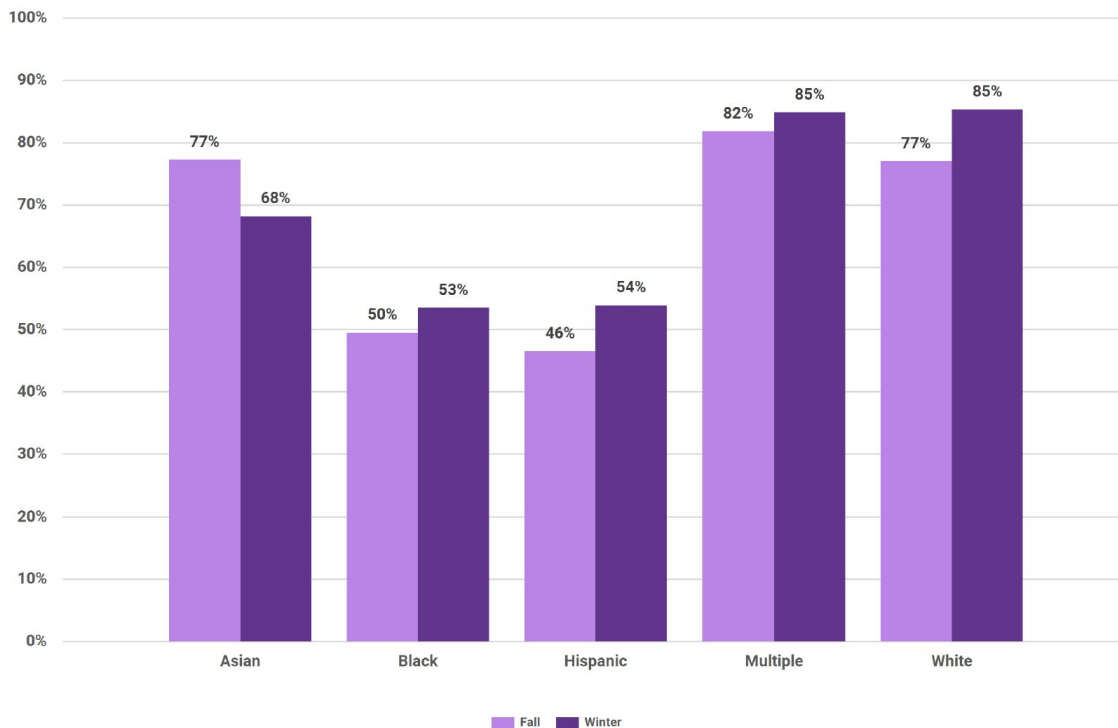


Star Fall to Winter 2024-25

Grades 2-5 ELA Proficiency by Race



2024-25 At/Above Benchmark (G2-G5 ELA)

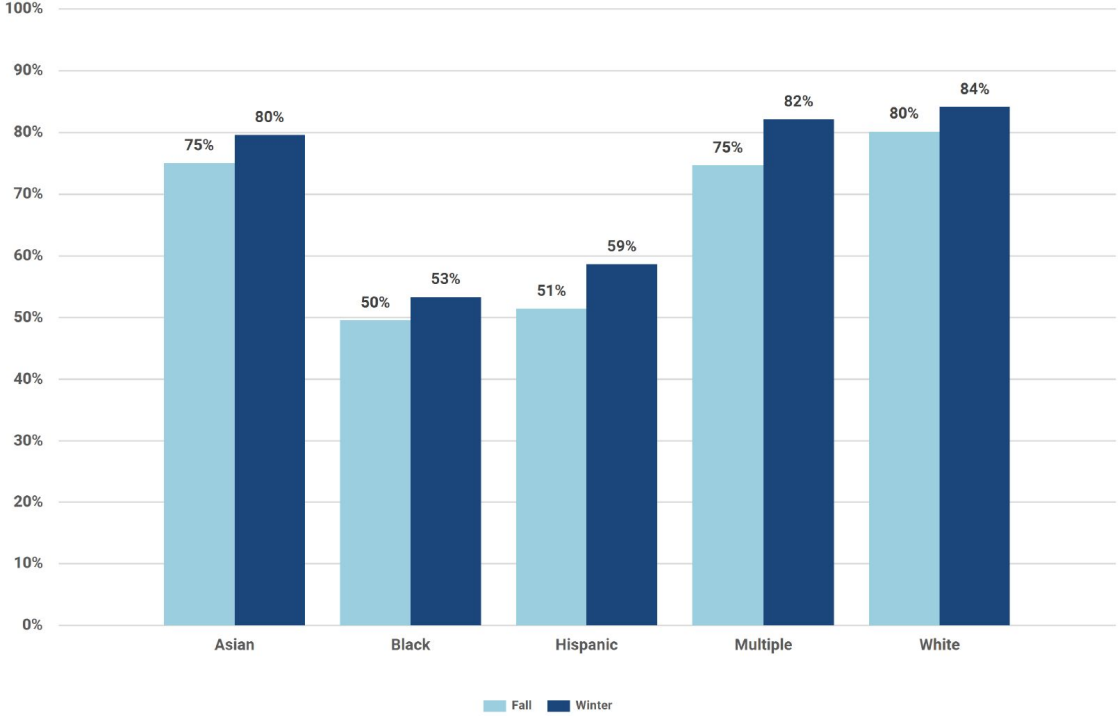


Star Fall to Winter 2024-25

Grades 2-5 Math Proficiency by Race

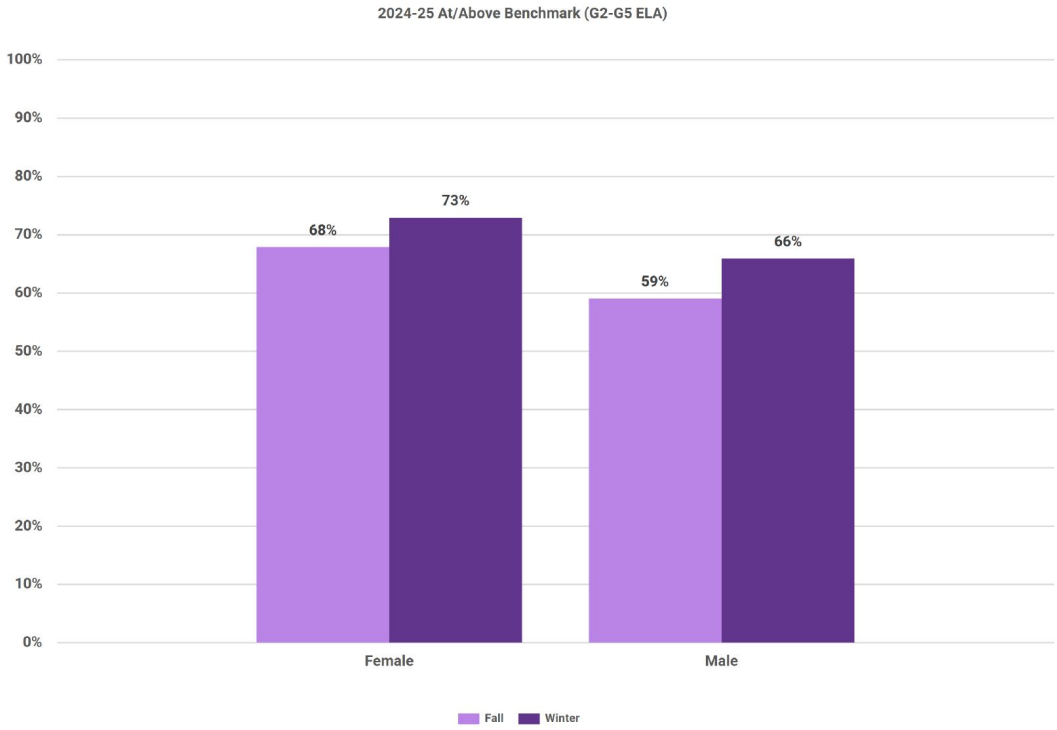


2024-25 At/Above Benchmark (G2-G5 Math)



Star Fall to Winter 2024-25

Grades 2-5 ELA Proficiency by Gender

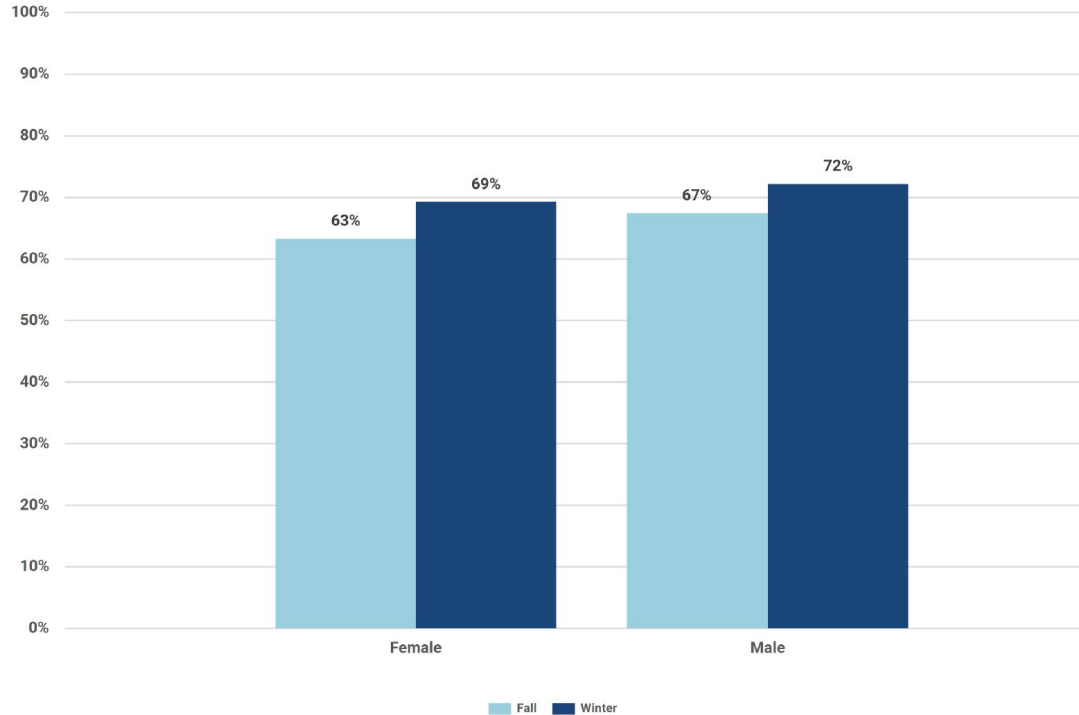


Star Fall to Winter 2024-25

Grades 2-5 Math Proficiency by Gender



2024-25 At/Above Benchmark (G2-G5 Math)

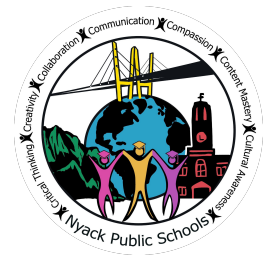


How are we measuring growth for students receiving Tiers 2 and 3 Services?



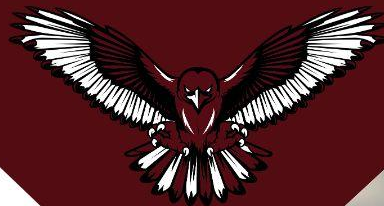
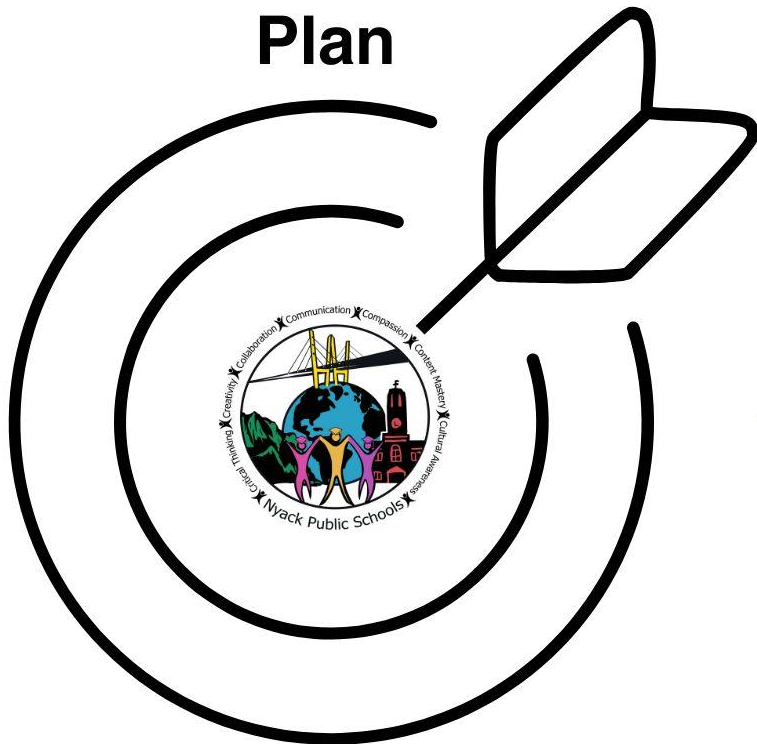
- **AIMSWeb Plus** has been implemented in grades K-5 to monitor student learning for students receiving ELA and Math Tiers 2 and 3 interventions.

How are teachers responding to MTSS Implementation?



- *Can we develop LinkIt! Data Dashboards by school, grade, or department to analyze District data?*
- *Students are becoming more self-reliant in spelling.*
- *In math, students are gaining a stronger grasp of mathematical concepts & confidence.*
- *Teachers are requesting a K-5 science resource to meet the new Science Learning Standards. (We are now implementing Science 21.)*
- *We need a different writing resource to improve writing outcomes. (We are now implementing Simplify Writing in Grades K-5.)*

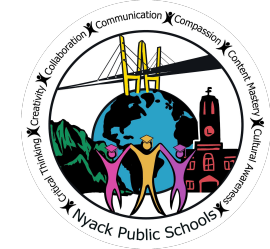
Advance the District Racial Equity Plan



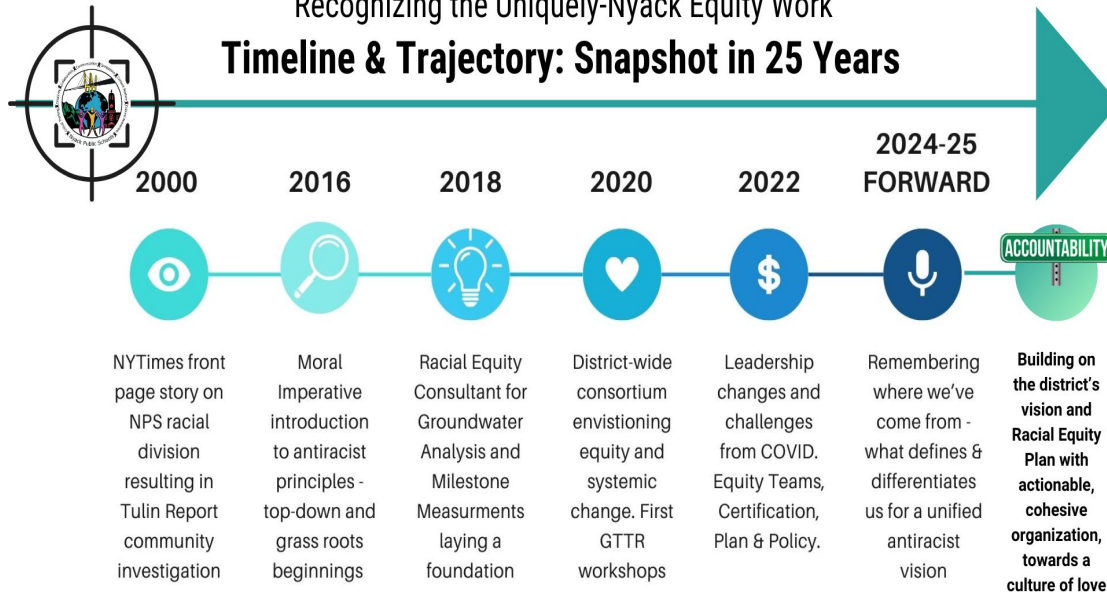
RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.



UPDATE Goal 2: **Advance** The District Racial Equity Plan



Recognizing the Uniquely-Nyack Equity Work Timeline & Trajectory: Snapshot in 25 Years



Action STEPS:

- Hire** a Director of Equity & K-12 Curriculum
- Hosted** Regional GTTR for edu.
- Deepen Understanding** of the District's existing and trajectory of equity work
- Support and Expand** Building-level Equity Teams
- Build and Lead** a District Equity Team
- Sustain and Support** District's Equity Certification Program



First 30 days: **Reconnecting with our Roots**

Director of Equity, K-12 Instruction & Curriculum



Deepen understanding of the District's existing and trajectory of equity work.



- **Entry plan chats** with stakeholders
- Review of historical documents
- **Participate** in building equity meetings
- **Participate** in Equity Certification Program (ECP)
- **Participate** in Leadership Roundtable
- **Participate** in PNW equity collegial circle and scholarship series

Support and Expand; Build and Lead



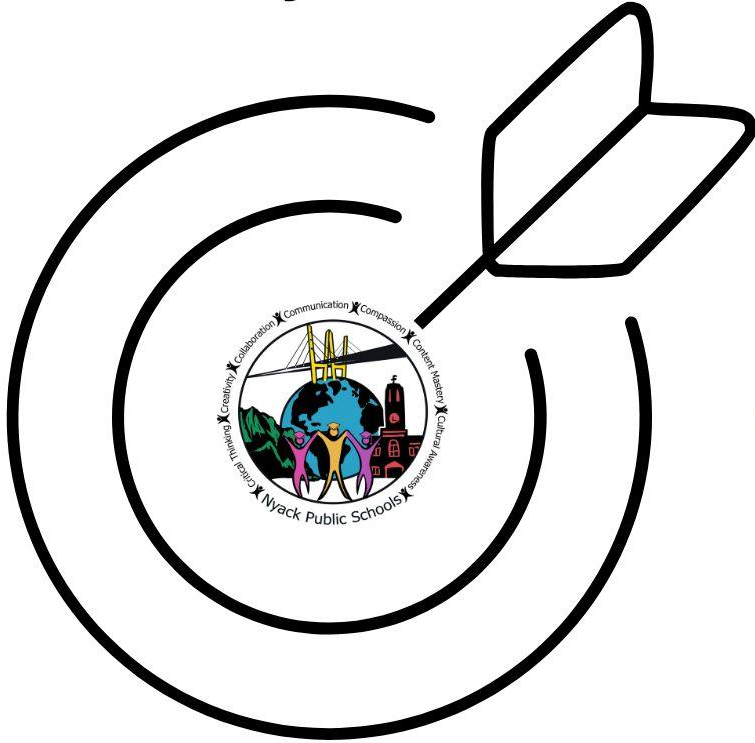
- **Leadership and teaming** for building equity work
- **Alignment & coherence**
 - Schools District
 - District Roundtables
 - Building Equity Meetings,
 - ECP, GTTR
- **FRC Collaboration**
- **Back to Our Roots**
- Strategic Plan for Excellence through Racial Equity
- Tier I MTSS via racial equity lens: Restorative Practices, PBIS

Sustain and Support



- **Co-create** scope and sequence for districtwide equity work with buildings: SUMMER 2025
- **Partner** with National Institute for Customizing Education (Dr. Todd Mealy) for 25-26 ECP

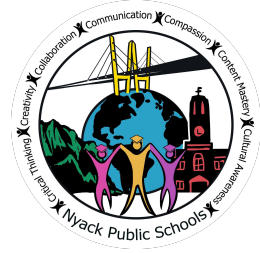
Strengthen Elementary Curriculum



RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.



UPDATE Goal 3: **Strengthen** Elementary ELA/ENL/Math Curriculum



95
PERCENT OF STUDENTS
READING AT GRADE LEVEL...
**AN ACHIEVABLE
GOAL** 95%
2023-24



Action STEPS:

- * **Work closely with FRC Coordinators** to develop workshops, provide translation services, and distribute resources that assist ENL families in navigating the school system
- ✓ **95% Group Implementation Timeline**
 - ✓ K-2 - continue from 2023-24
 - ✓ Grade 3 - 2024-25
 - ✓ Grade 4 - 2025-26
- ✓ SCD NOV - partnership with Rockland and PNW Boces for professional development opportunities K-12
- ✓ Before & After School academic support for ENL students K-12
- ✓ Hire Acting Director of Bilingual Education & ENL
- * Create small, specialized groups for newcomers; individualized attention to help them adjust both academically and socially. (MS/HS)



First 30 days: **Reconnecting with families**

Acting Director of Bilingual Education & ENL



Goal 1: Implement District-wide MTSS Plan



- **Train** 8 K-8 ENL Teachers in Institute for Multisensory Education's Orton Gillingham curriculum to provide intensive literacy intervention support for Long-term ELLs
- **Implementing** Edgenuity's evidence-based digital curriculum with thousands of courses available to support ELLs in content-area learning, with LHRIC support

Goal 2: Strengthen Core Curriculum



- **Train** all K-12 ENL Teachers on the Writing Revolution to provide evidence-based strategies ensure that all students at all levels can produce clear, coherent, unified, and structured writing
- **Establish** a plan with building level leaders for delivering Integrated ELA and ENL Standalone by projected proficiency levels & special ed needs

Goal 3: Strengthen Programming & Practices



- **Provide** continued before- and after school programs for additional ENL academic support
- **Expand** ELL afterschool High School program to include ELA Regents Test Prep.
- **Partner** with ENL teachers to develop curricula that integrates language, literacy and content-area knowledge using linguistically and culturally responsive practices

**The work is
ongoing...**



**...planting seeds for
student success.**



**RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & ACCOUNTABILITY

Board of Education:

Jen Marraccino, President
Benny Vasquez, Vice President
Jessica Goodman, Secretary
Bryan Burrell, Trustee
Michael Mark, Trustee
Elaine Philhower, Trustee
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Dr. Lizzette Ruiz-Giovinazzi, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Kathleen Affigne, Interim Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Enrique Catalan, Asst. Superintendent for Finance & Operations
Debra Legato, Interim Executive Chief Executive Director of Human Resources

District Office Administration:

Stalina Hernandez-Feliciano, Acting Director of Bilingual Education & ENL
Dr. Audrey Brutus, Director of Equity and K-12 Curriculum & Instruction
Lorraine Longing, Director of Guidance K-12
Leo Macias, Director of Special Education & Pupil Personnel Services
Darleen Nicolosi, Director of Technology & Innovation
Joe Sigillo, Director of PE, Health, Wellness & Athletics

School Administration:

Nicole Saieva, Nyack High School Principal
George Teasdale, Nyack High School Asst. Principal
Julio Cedeno, Nyack High School Asst. Principal
Dave Johnson, Nyack Middle School Principal
Karissa Sullivan, Nyack Middle School Asst. Principal
Lucia Pichardo, Liberty Elementary School Acting Principal
Tom DiLeo, Upper Nyack Elementary School Principal
Lucrisha Addison Harris, Valley Cottage Elementary School Principal



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Remember. Refresh. Reunify.



Slide Deck and Design for
Strategic Communications
in Nyack Public Schools
by Lisa Minerger Retallack, PRCO
www.nyackschools.org

