

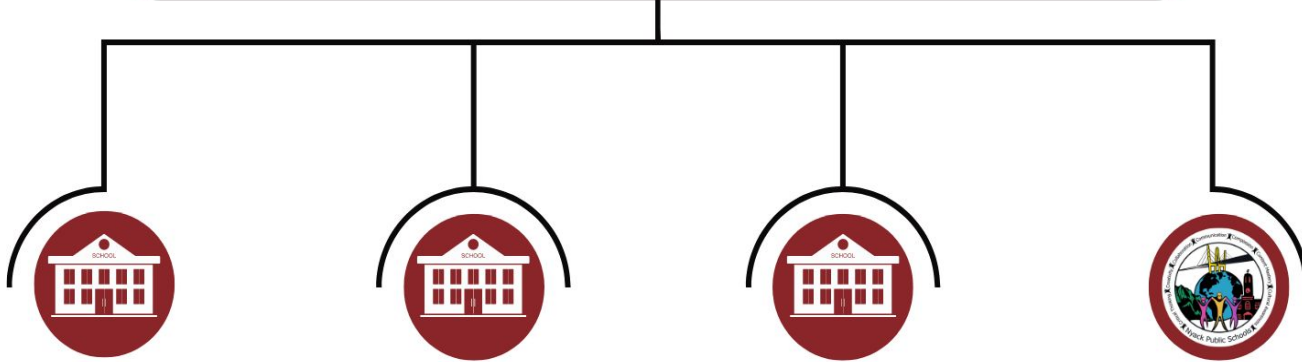


SCHOOL COUNSELING In Nyack Public Schools: **Supporting Student Success**

Lorraine Longing
Director of Guidance, K-12
October 15, 2024



Nyack School District's School Counseling Team K-12



Elementary Level

Andrea Perez
School Counselor
Upper Nyack Elementary

Jon Hogg
School Counselor
Valley Cottage Elementary

Marina Gomez
Bilingual School Counselor
Liberty Elementary

Middle School Level

Liz Battista
6th Grade Counselor
Nyack Middle School

Francesca Falvo
7th Grade Counselor
Nyack Middle School

Edgar Lambert
8th Grade Counselor
Nyack Middle School

High School Level

Karina Arias
Bilingual School Counselor
ENL Grades 10, 11, 12

Katey Cisneros
Bilingual School Counselor
Nyack High School & ENL 9th

Sean Cavanagh, School Counselor

Tara Kuber, School Counselor

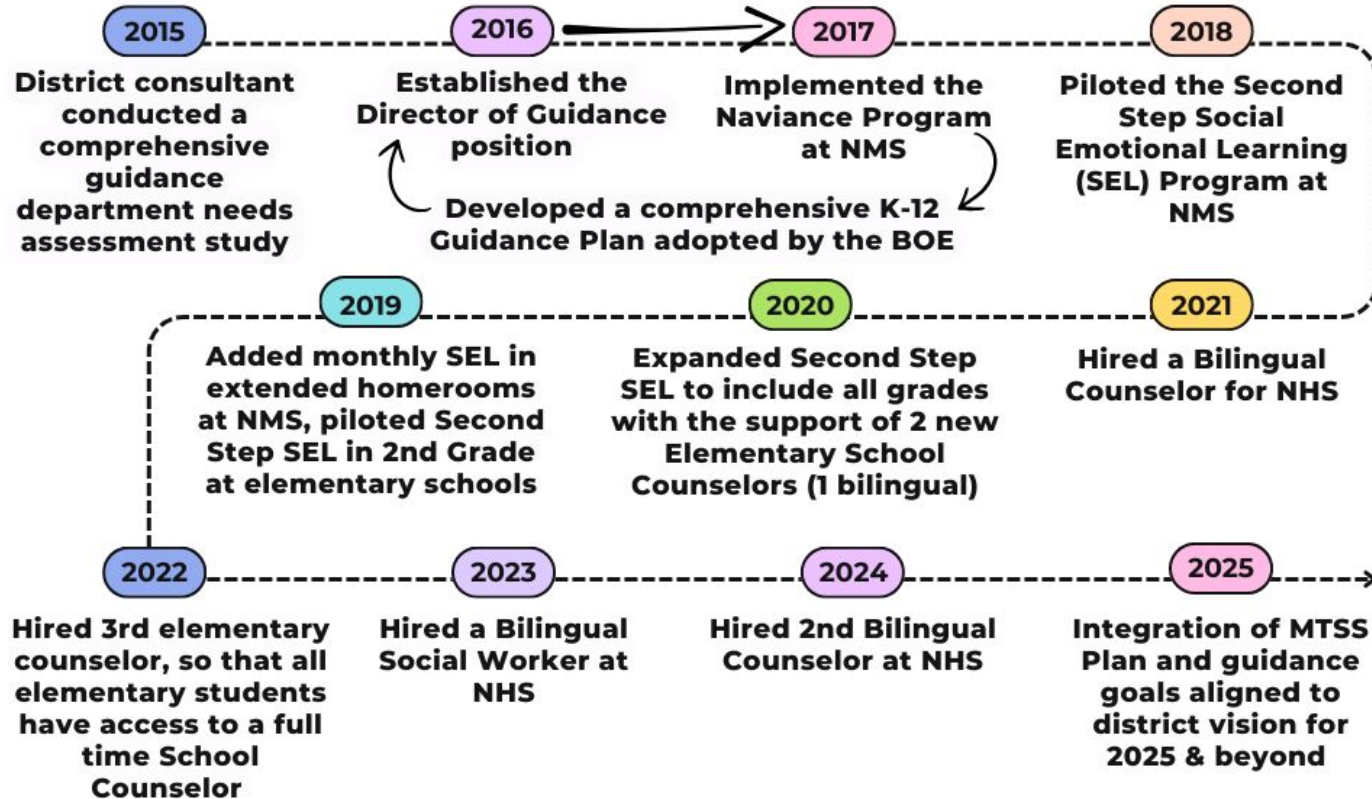
Alissa Lynch, School Counselor

District Level

Lorraine Longing
Director of Guidance



Highlights in a 10-Year Trajectory of the District's School Counseling Department





SCHOOL COUNSELING OVERVIEW

Elementary Level

All three Elementary Schools have a full time Elementary School Counselor:

- **Liberty 1:458**
- **Upper Nyack 1:394**
- **Valley Cottage 1:385**



Equitable Access

All students, K-12, in the Nyack School District have access to a certified school counselor.

Middle School Level

Nyack Middle School has 3 certified school counselors that loop with their students:

- **6th grade 1:223**
- **7th grade 1:204**
- **8th grade 1:222**



Advisory Council

The School Counselor Advisory Council was established in 2019 and meets 1x per month with stakeholders.

High School Level

Nyack High School has 5 certified school counselors with caseloads of:

- **9, 10, 11 and 12 graders 1:190**



Key Areas of Support

Our school counseling program supports students in three categories:

- **Academic**
- **College and Career**
- **Personal Social Development**

K-12 School Counseling District Program



The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Standards

Academic Development

ASCA National Standards for academic development guide school counseling programs to implement strategies and activities to support and maximize each student's ability to learn.

College and Career Development

ASCA National Standards for career development guide school counseling programs to provide the foundation for the acquisition of skills, attitudes and knowledge that enable students to make a successful transition from school to the world of work, and from job to job across the lifespan.

Personal/Social Development

ASCA National Standards for personal/social development guide school counseling programs to provide the foundation for personal and social growth as students progress through school and into adulthood.



Nyack's School Counselors Believe:

- **Every student** can learn, and every student can succeed.
- **Every student** should have access to and opportunity for a high-quality education.
- **Every student** should graduate from high school prepared for postsecondary opportunities.
- **Every student** should have access to a school counseling program.
- **Effective school counseling is a collaborative process** involving school counselors, students, families, teachers, administrators, other school staff and education stakeholders.
- **School counselors are leaders** in the school, district, state and nation.
- **School counseling programs promote and enhance** student academic, college & career and social/emotional outcomes.



Elementary School Counseling

→ **Social Emotional Learning (SEL)**

- Bi-weekly lessons through Second Step and Yale Ruler Curriculums.
- Topics include Problem solving, Relationships, Personal Space, etc.

→ **Bullying Prevention** lessons throughout the month of October.

→ **Mindfulness, Breathing Exercises, Calming Strategies**

- Helps address the increase of stress and anxiety.

→ **College & Career Introduction** through our March Madness program

→ **Other Services:** individual counseling, group counseling, RTI referrals, Crisis Response, Start with Hello, Stomp Out Bullying: Blue Shirt Day, 5th Grade Ambassador Program, Buddy Benches

→ **Community Partnerships:** Center for Safety and Change, Candle Rockland, Nyack Pride Center



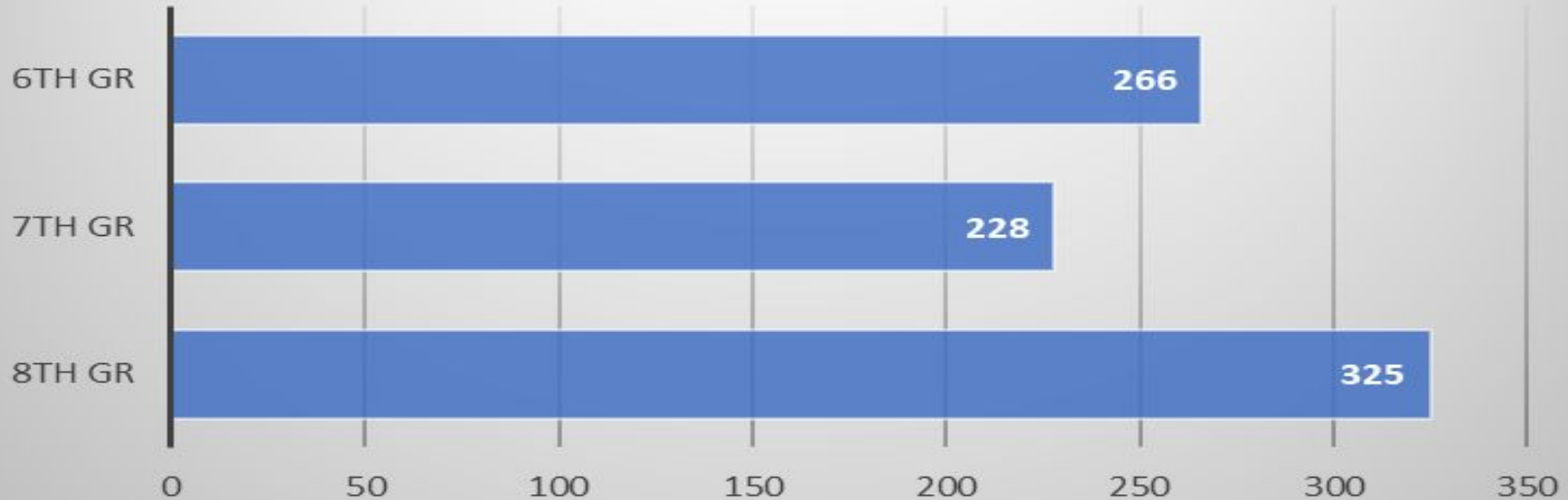
Middle School Counseling

- **School Counselors provide monthly lessons** through Second Step and Yale Ruler Curriculum
- **All students are scheduled for an annual individual progress review** meeting which reflects each student's educational progress, and career plans
- **Naviance Program** is available for all 6 - 8 graders and their parents
- **Middle School Students receive monthly SEL activities** during Extended Homerooms
- **Students are exposed to early college and career** programs in March
- **Parent Communication:** 8th Grade Orientation, 6th to 7th Grade Transition Night, 7th to 8th Grade Transition Night , Social Media, Website, District Calendar, Counselor Welcome Letters and Emails
- **Other services:** IST(Instructional Support Team) , 6th grade minute meetings, Crisis Response, Grade level Team Meetings
- **Community Partnerships:** Center for Safety and Change, Candle Rockland, Nyack Pride Center
- **Satellite Program:** Greater Mental Health of New York



Naviance Usage: Middle School

Grade Level Login Summary 2023-2024 By Grade Level

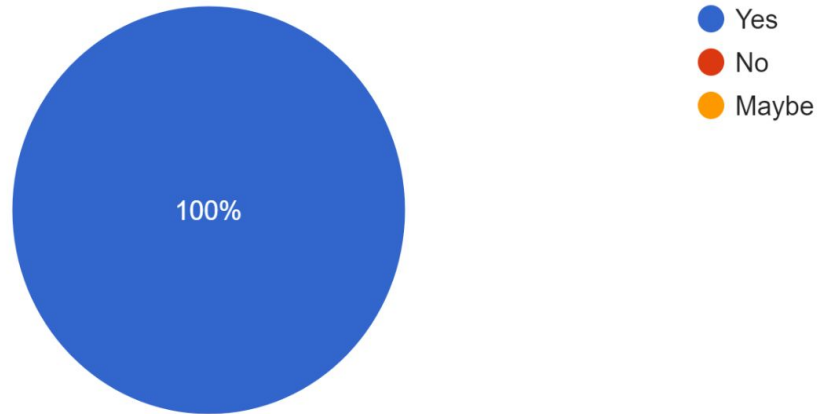




Current 6th Graders Response to a “6th Grade Minute Meeting”

Do you know an adult at school who you can go to when you have a problem?

169 responses

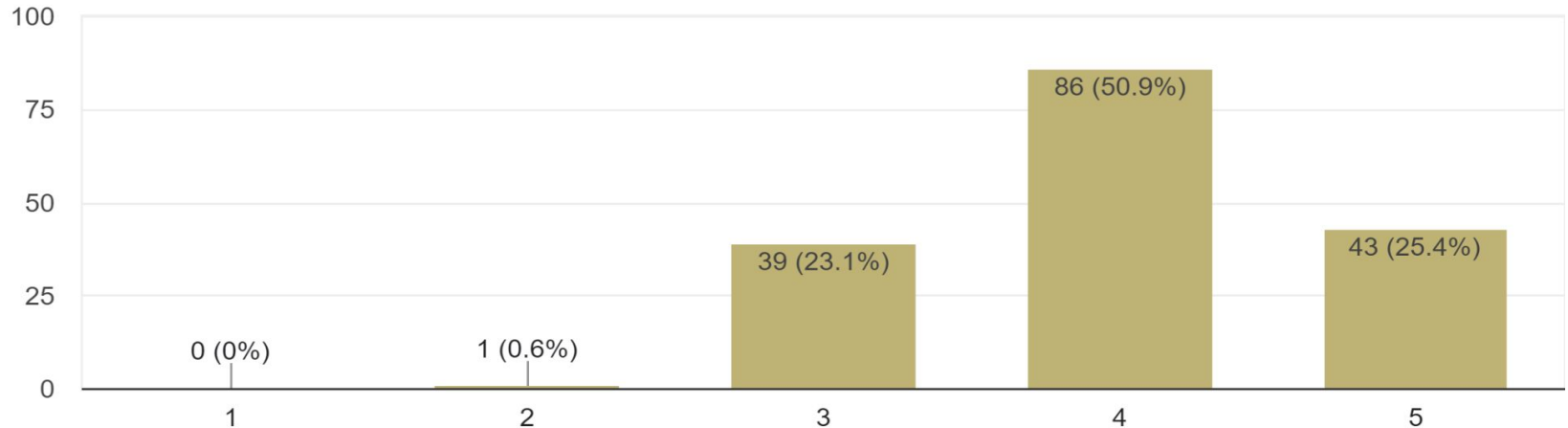




Current 6th Grade response to a “Minute Meeting” question on how they feel about school.

How do you feel about school?

169 responses





Naviance Assessment Information

Current 9th Graders Assessment Surveys % Completed





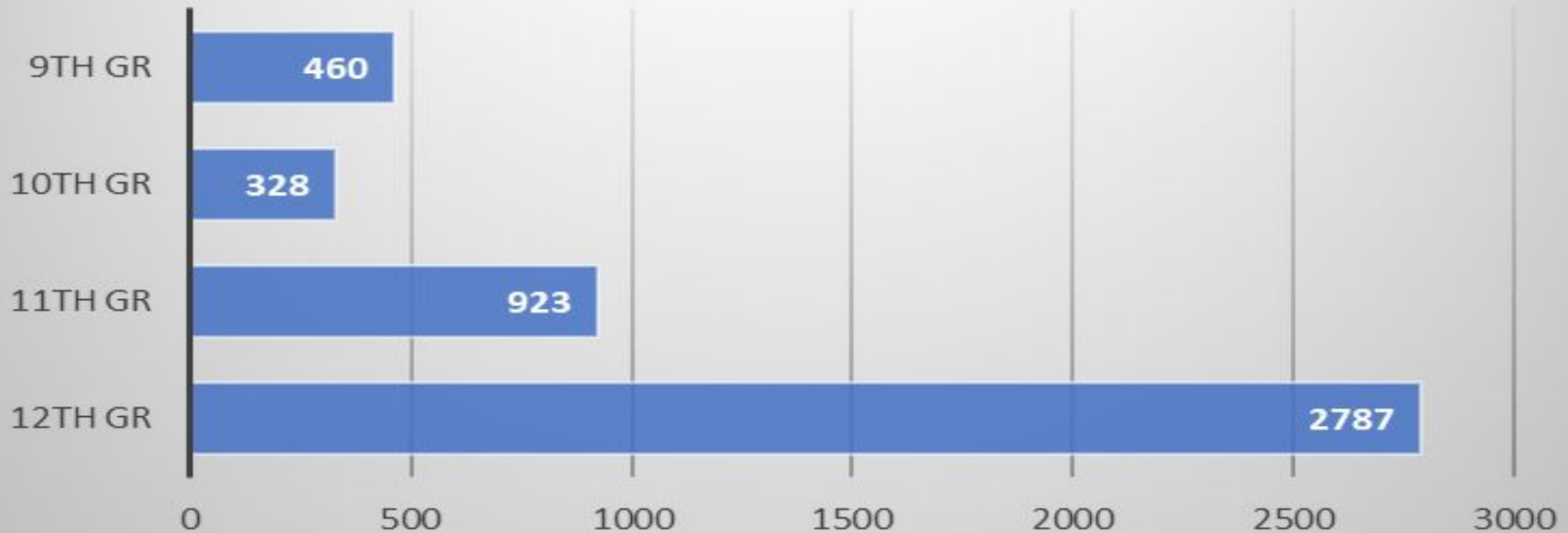
High School Counseling

- **School Counselors collaborate** with teachers to provide quarterly classroom presentations on college/ career, social emotional and academic progress
- **School Counselors schedule** minute meetings with all freshmen at the start of school
- **School Counselors provide** an annual individual progress review plan which reflects each student's educational progress and career plans
- **Students receive monthly SEL activities** through Second Step High School Program
- **Parent communication:** Monthly email blasts, social media, senior parent night, junior parent night, sophomore parent night, 8th grade parent orientation, mailings, website
- **Other services include:** IST(Instructional Support Team), College Applications, Letters of Recommendations, Scholarship Assistance, Course Advisement, Parent Meetings, College Fairs
- **Community Partnerships:** Center for Safety and Change, Candle Rockland, Nyack Pride Center
- **Satellite Program:** Greater Mental Health of New York



Naviance Usage High School

Grade Level Login Summary 2023-2024 By Grade Level

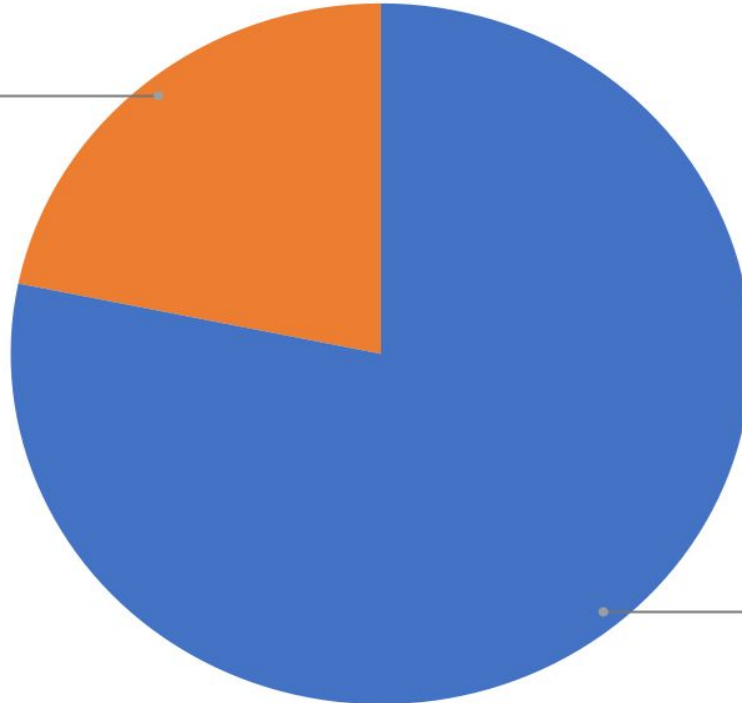




% of Juniors who took the PSAT in October 2023

Did not Take Test

21.8%

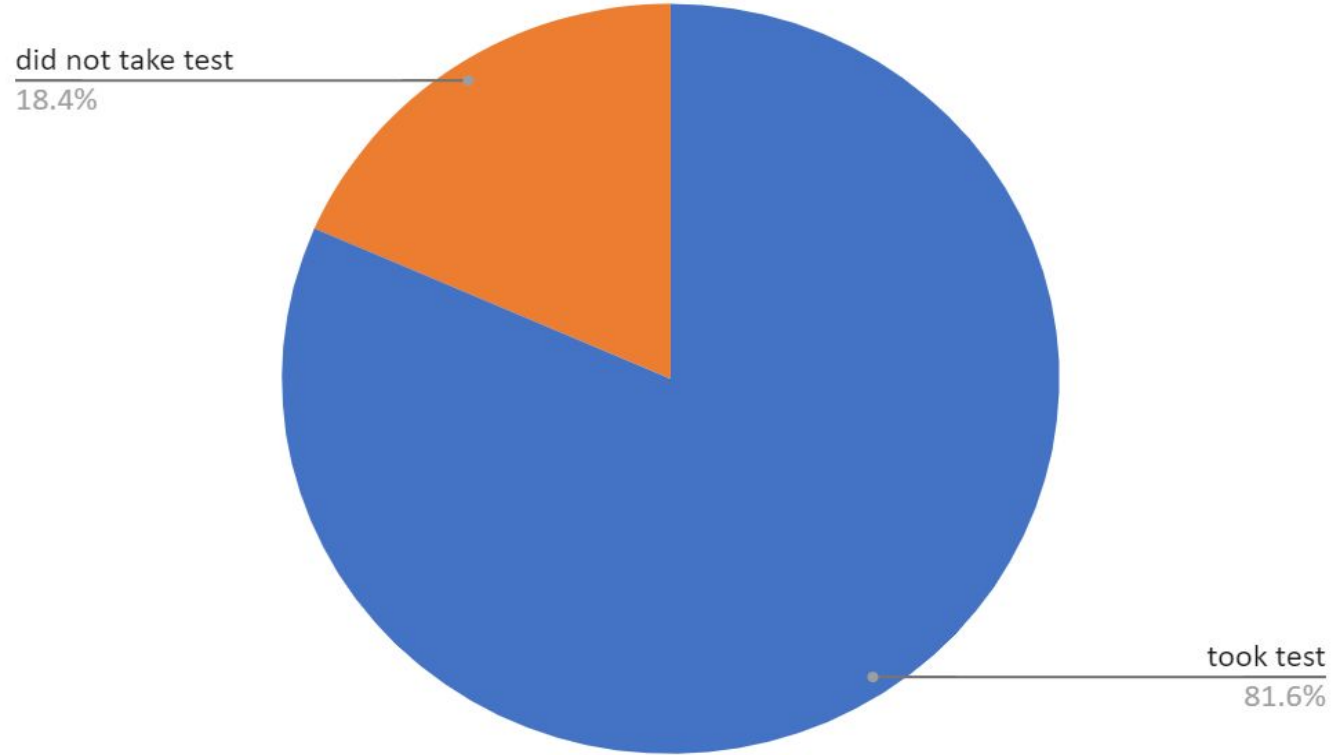


Took Test

78.2%



% of Students who took the PreACT in November 2023



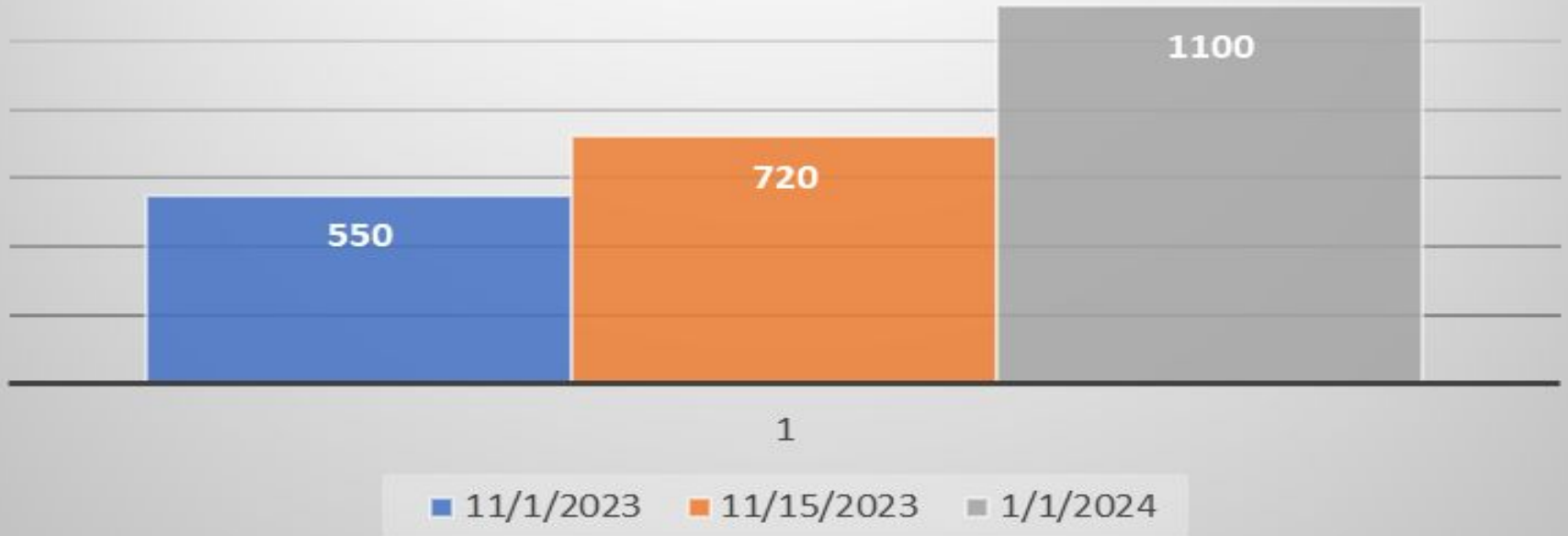


Top 11 Colleges & Universities Applied To by NHS Class of 2024

 75 RCC	 47 SUNY Buffalo	 42 SUNY Oneonta	 27 Northeastern University
 66 Binghamton University	 46 SUNY Stony Brook	 40 SUNY Cortland	 27 NYU
 62 SUNY Albany	 44 SUNY New Paltz	 32 SUNY Purchase	 508 TOTAL

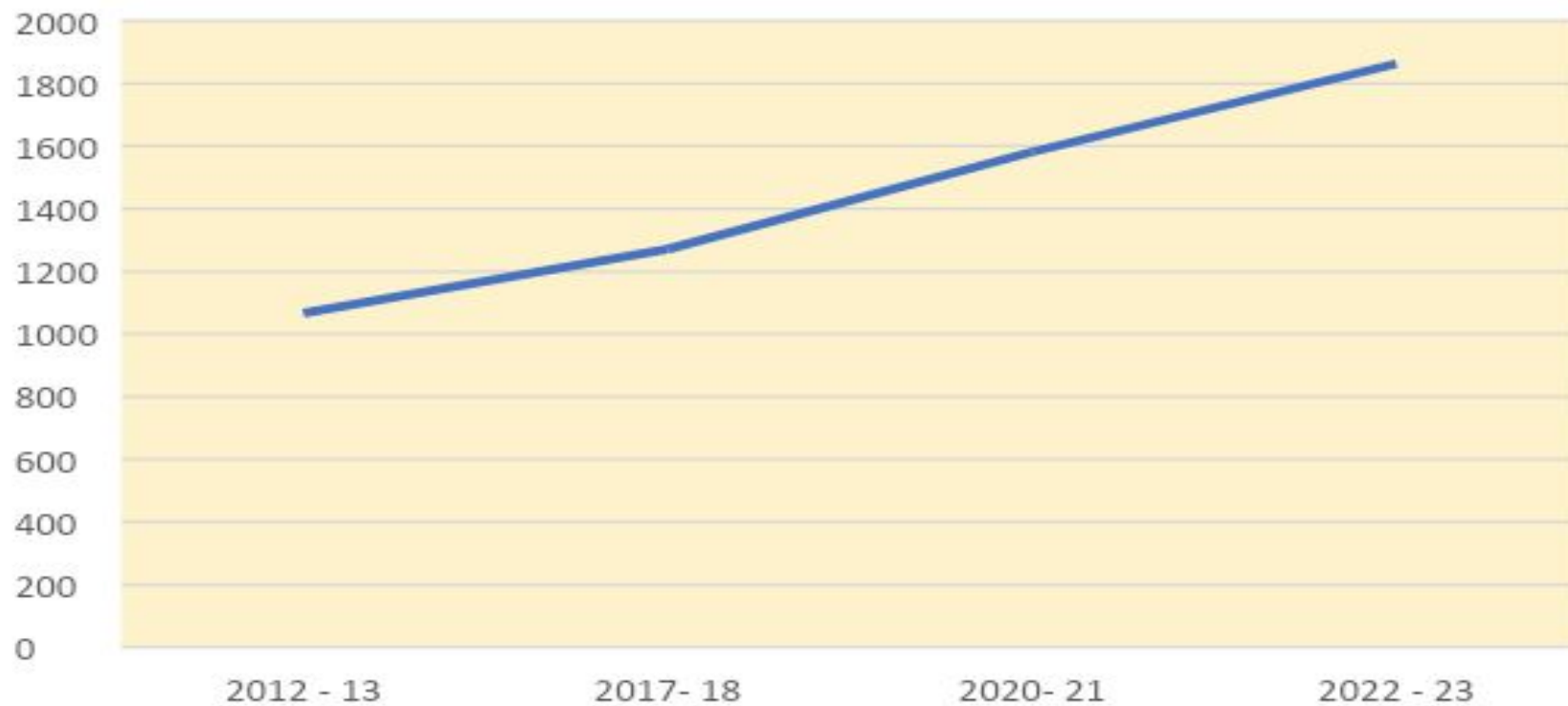


Number of Applications NHS Class of 2024





submitted college applications



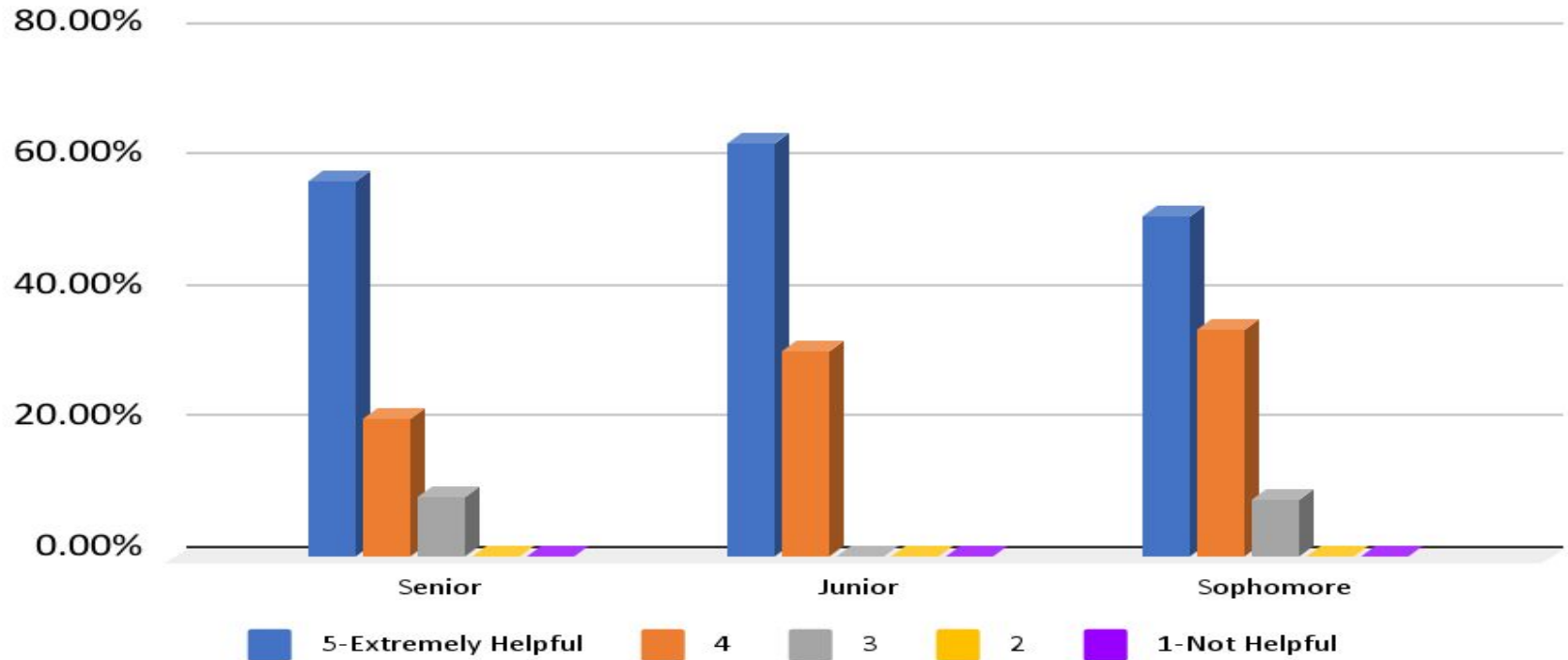


Subgroups of Post Secondary Plans for Nyack High School Class of 2024

Subgroups	4 year college	2 year college	Military	other
All students	70.4%	21.2%	1%	7.4%
Asian	76.9%	23.1%	0%	0%
Black/ African American	73.4%	20%	2.2%	4.4%
Hispanic /Latino	56.4%	27.3%	0%	16.3%
White	77.5%	16.9%	1.1%	4.5%
Pacific	0%	100%	0%	0%

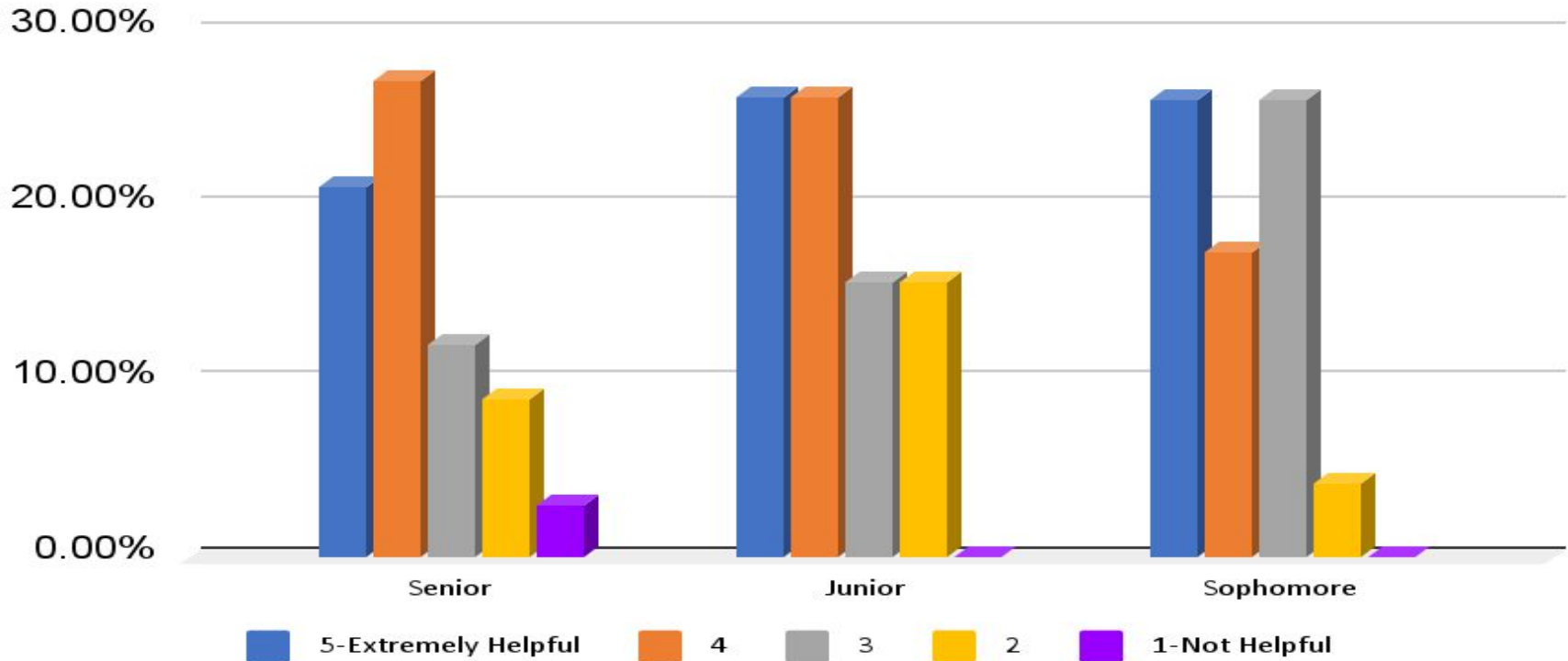


Results of Parent Night Survey: Grade Level Presentation





Results of Parent Night Survey: Grade Level College Fair





Integrating School Counseling with District Goals

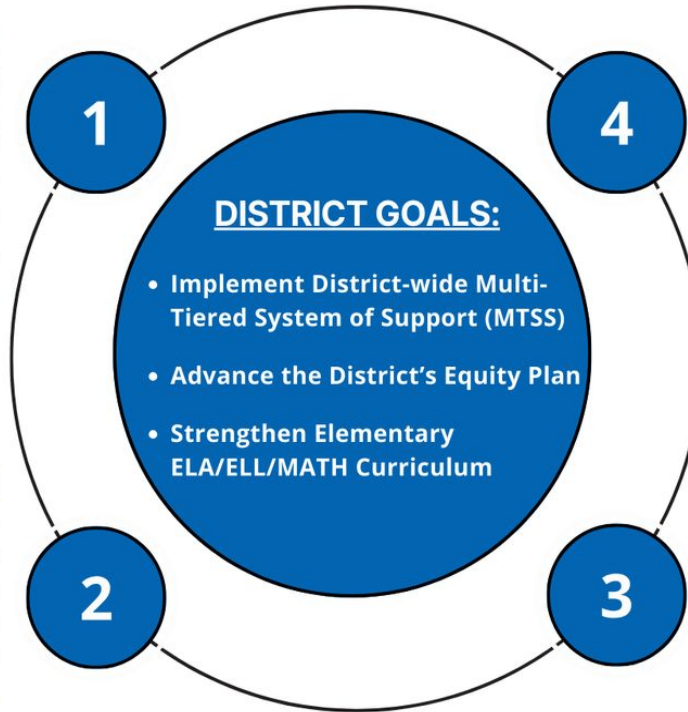
SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT GOALS FOR 2024-2025:

COLLABORATE FOR COHERENCE

Work with the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction (ASI) on Social Emotional Learning (SEL) measurement tools that are aligned with LinkIt and MTSS.

STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS

Create opportunities to fostering stronger relationships between counselors and teachers which will benefit our students academically, socially and emotionally.



SHARE INFO WITH EQUITY

Continue to design ways for the counseling department to share relevant information with *all* shareholders within the community.



EXPAND SUPPORT FOR ELLS

Continue to strengthen our comprehensive support system for students and families that comprise our ELL population.



Celebrating Student Success

Areas to
Celebrate:
Class of
2024



Graduation Rate - Class of 2024

92% graduation rate

(according to data.nysed.gov)



Post Secondary Education

Of 202 graduates, 92.6% enrolled in post-secondary education (77% 4-year colleges, 23% 2-year colleges, 1% US Military).



National Merit Achievement

1 Nat'l Merit Scholarship Finalist,
8 Nat'l Merit Scholarship Letters of Commendation, **2** Nat'l African American Recognition Awards, **4** Nat'l Hispanic Recognition Awards



NYS Seal of Biliteracy

20 students received formal recognition of having studied and attained a high proficiency in two or more languages by HS graduation.



NYS Seal of Civics Readiness

184 students received formal recognition of demonstrating the civic knowledge, skills, mindsets, and experiences necessary to become an actively engaged citizen.



Celebrating Student Success



AP Scholars 2024

106 Students: 40 AP Scholar, 13 AP Scholar with Honor, 53 AP Scholar with Distinction



College-Level Class Enrollment

96.6% of the **Class of 2024** took at least one or more college level courses which includes AP, DE, PLTW & RCC EA during their high school career



Scholarship Awards

Nyack Scholarship Amount:

Class of 2024 received more than **\$220,000** in scholarships



College Visits & Applications

- In the **2023-24 school year**
- Nyack High School hosted visits from **164** college admissions representatives
- **97%** of the class of 2024 applied to at least 1 college



College Level Courses

94.1% of the **Class of 2024** took one or more college levels courses senior year totaling **691** college level courses

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & ACCOUNTABILITY



Board of Education:

Jen Marraccino, President
Benny Vasquez, Vice President
Jessica Goodman, Secretary
Bryan Burrell, Trustee
Michael Mark, Trustee
Elaine Philhower, Trustee
Matthew Watson, Trustee

Central Office Administration:

Dr. Lizzette Ruiz-Giovinazzi, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Kathleen Affigne, Interim Asst. Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction
Enrique Catalan, Asst. Superintendent for Finance & Operations
Debra Legato, Interim Executive Chief Executive Director of Human Resources
Lorraine Longing, Director of Guidance K-12
Leo Macias, Director of Special Education & Pupil Personnel Services
Darleen Nicolosi, Director of Technology & Innovation
Lucia Pichardo, Director of Bilingual Education/English as a New Language (ENL)
Joe Sigillo, Director of PE, Health, Wellness & Athletics
Lisa Mininger Retallack, District PR & Community Outreach Specialist

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
Ellen Rechenberger, Liberty Elementary School Principal
Tom DiLeo, Upper Nyack Elementary School Principal
Lucrisha Addison Harris, Valley Cottage Elementary School Principal

RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.



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

