Superintendent's Conference Day

August 28, 2025

2025 → 2026

Dr. Lizzette Ruiz-Giovinazzi
Superintendent, Nyack Public Schools

Be Real.
RedHawks Rise Together
Be Bold.
In Nyack Public Schools
Be NPS.

Our Mission Statement

WE, the students, paren
of the Nyack Scho **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.

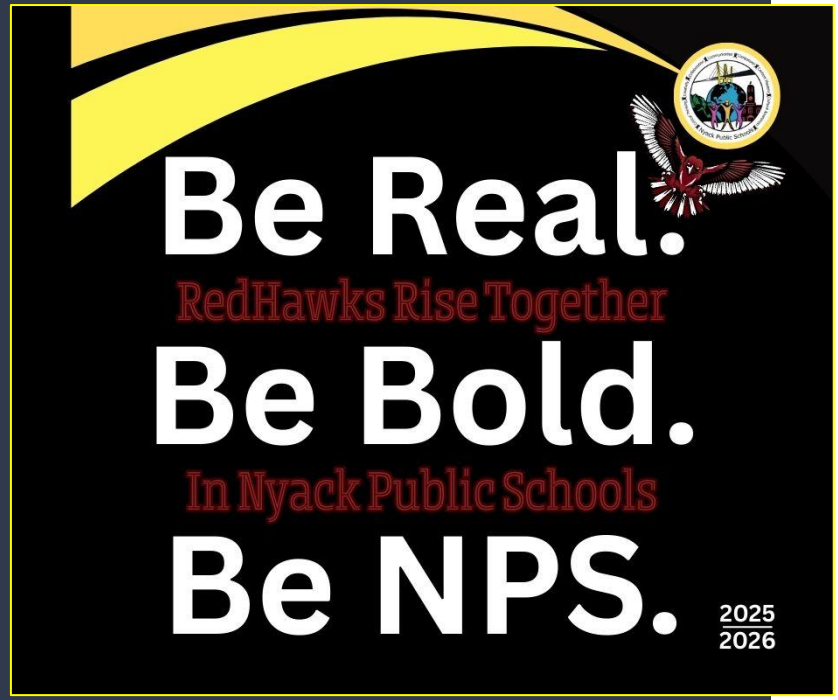
Our Mission + Our Vision = Radical Love

Our Vision

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.



Superintendent's Conference Day Agenda

Welcome Back to All Staff

Opening Words - BOE President Jen Marraccino

Introduction of New Staff - Principals Saieva & Johnson

Message from NTA - Adele Metrakos & Tracy Potter

Keynote - Dr. Lizzette Ruiz-Giovinazzi

What it means to Be NPS

Our District Vision in Focus for 2025-2026

Closing Remarks & Activity: *"We've got your back!"*

Welcome NEW RedHawk Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Staff

We're so glad to have you on our NPS TEAM!

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WE ARE building bridges for today's students to cross into tomorrow's world with equity, innovation and optimism

NEW to Our District Office for 2025-2026

District Office Administrators

- **Noel Campbell**
  Chief Executive Director of Human Resources
- **Dr. Audrey Brutus**
  Director of Equity, K-12 Curriculum & Instruction
- **Stalina Hernandez-Feliciano**
  Director of Bilingual Services & English as a New Language (ENL)
- **Joe Russo**
  Director of Facilities

Familiar Face in a New Place

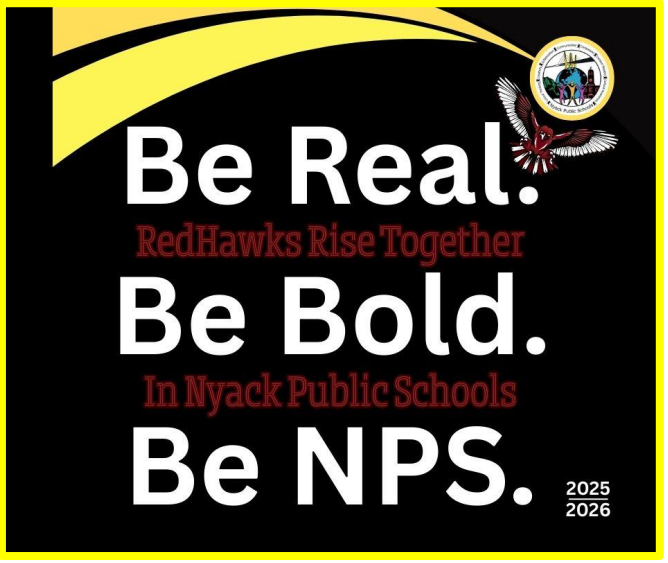
- **Tara Abbene,** Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

District Office Secretaries

- **Griselys Aponte,** Secretary for Transportation & Facilities
- **Michele Derderian,** Secretary to Asst. Supt. for Finance/Operations

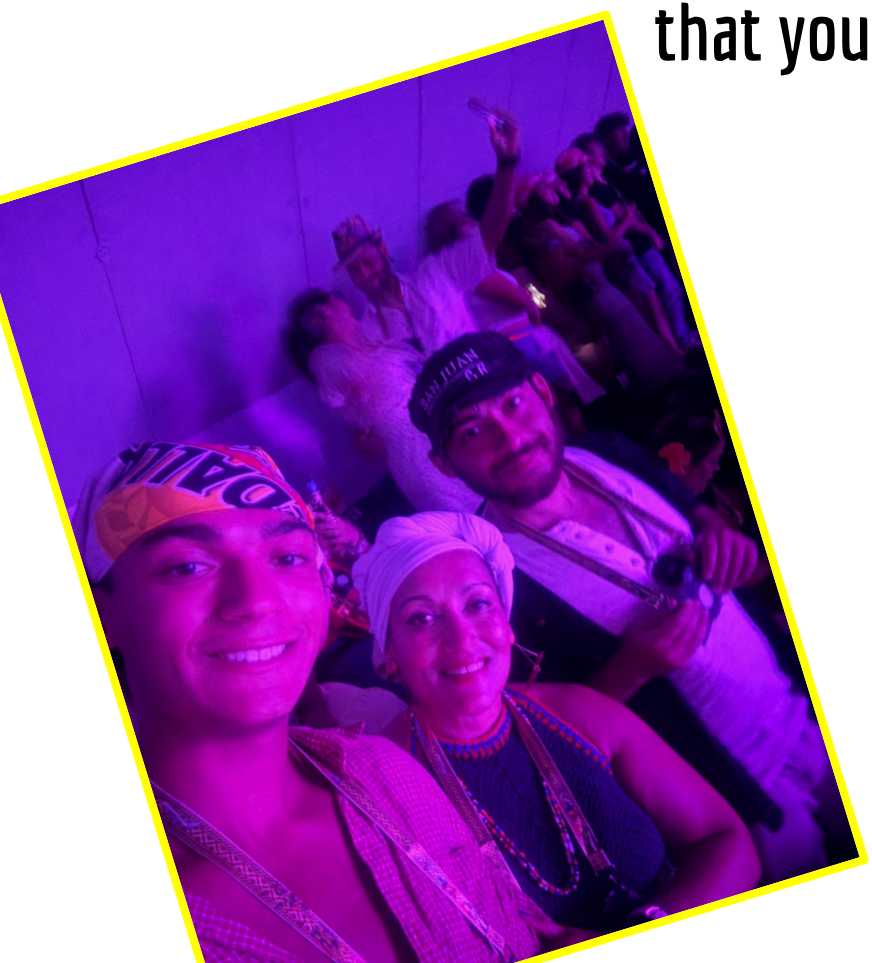


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Share a moment in the summer that you will carry with you this year…

Share a moment in the summer that you will carry with you this year...





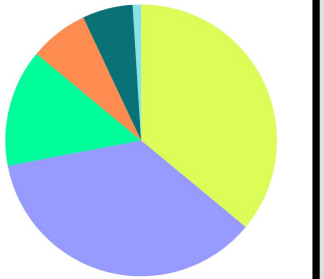
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2025
2026

Bvideo

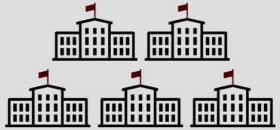
Who We Are Now

We are a microcosm of the United States: A school community rich with diversity across all sectors and systems.

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5 SCHOOLS:
- Nyack High School
- Nyack Middle School
- Liberty Elementary School
- Upper Nyack Elementary School
- Valley Cottage Elementary School



1 COMMUNITY...
- **8** sq. miles on the scenic Hudson
- **20** miles north of NYC
- **23k** residents
- **36** World Languages Spoken; *Most predominant: English, Spanish, Haitian Creole*
- **20+** countries represented by student body and families





Ethnic Make-Up:
- 36% White
- 36% Hispanic/Latinx
- 14% Black, African or Haitian American
- 7% Multiracial
- 6% Asian
- 1% American Indian or Pacific Islander

Student Population:
2813 (5 Schools)

Average Class Size:
Gr. K - 5:20
Gr. 6 - 12:24

Economic Diversity:
22% students considered economically disadvantaged

Median household income:
$66K/District-wide
$118K/Nyack
$181K/Upper Nyack
$133K/VC

CEP 40% Free Meals - NYS eligible

Graduation Rate: 90%

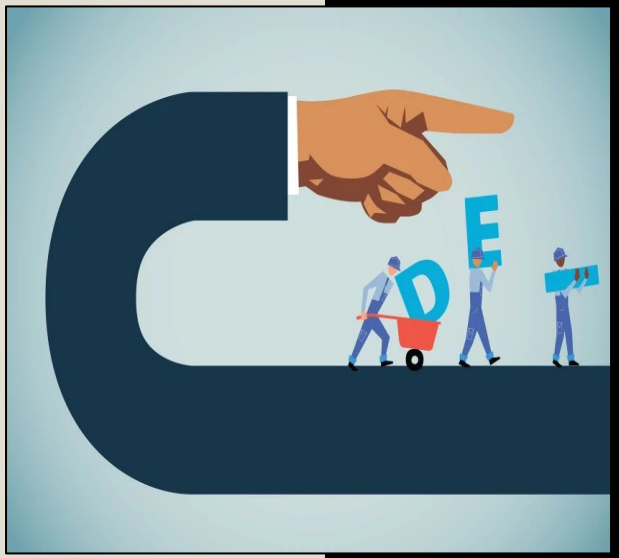
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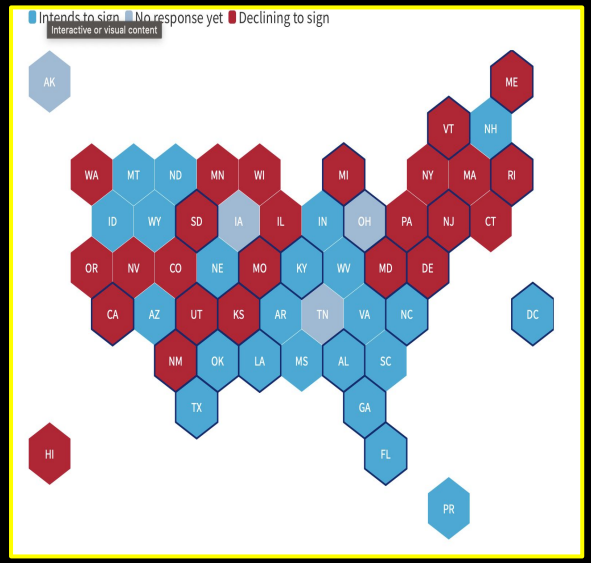
‘Illegal’ DEI

‘Illegal’ DEI: See Which States Are Telling Trump Their Schools Don’t Use It

By Matthew Stone & Mark Lieberman

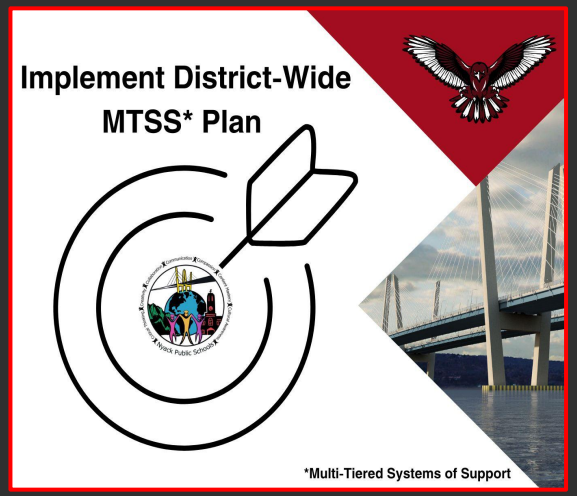
– April 10, 2025 | Updated: April 30, 2025



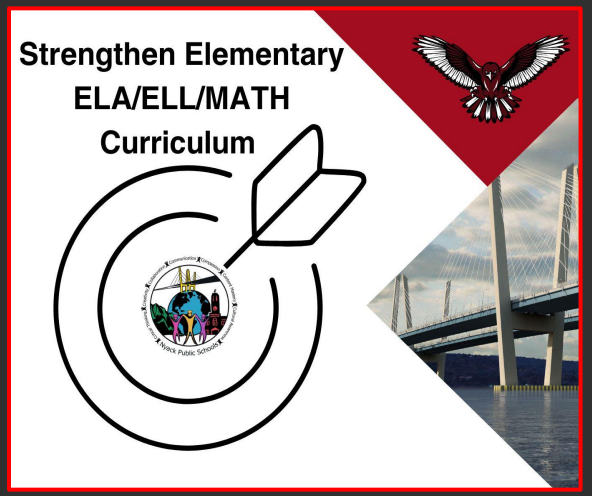


> *Madre, is he gonna take away your doctorate? Are you gonna lose it because you did it on Black and Brown leaders?”*

Looking Back... How did we do??

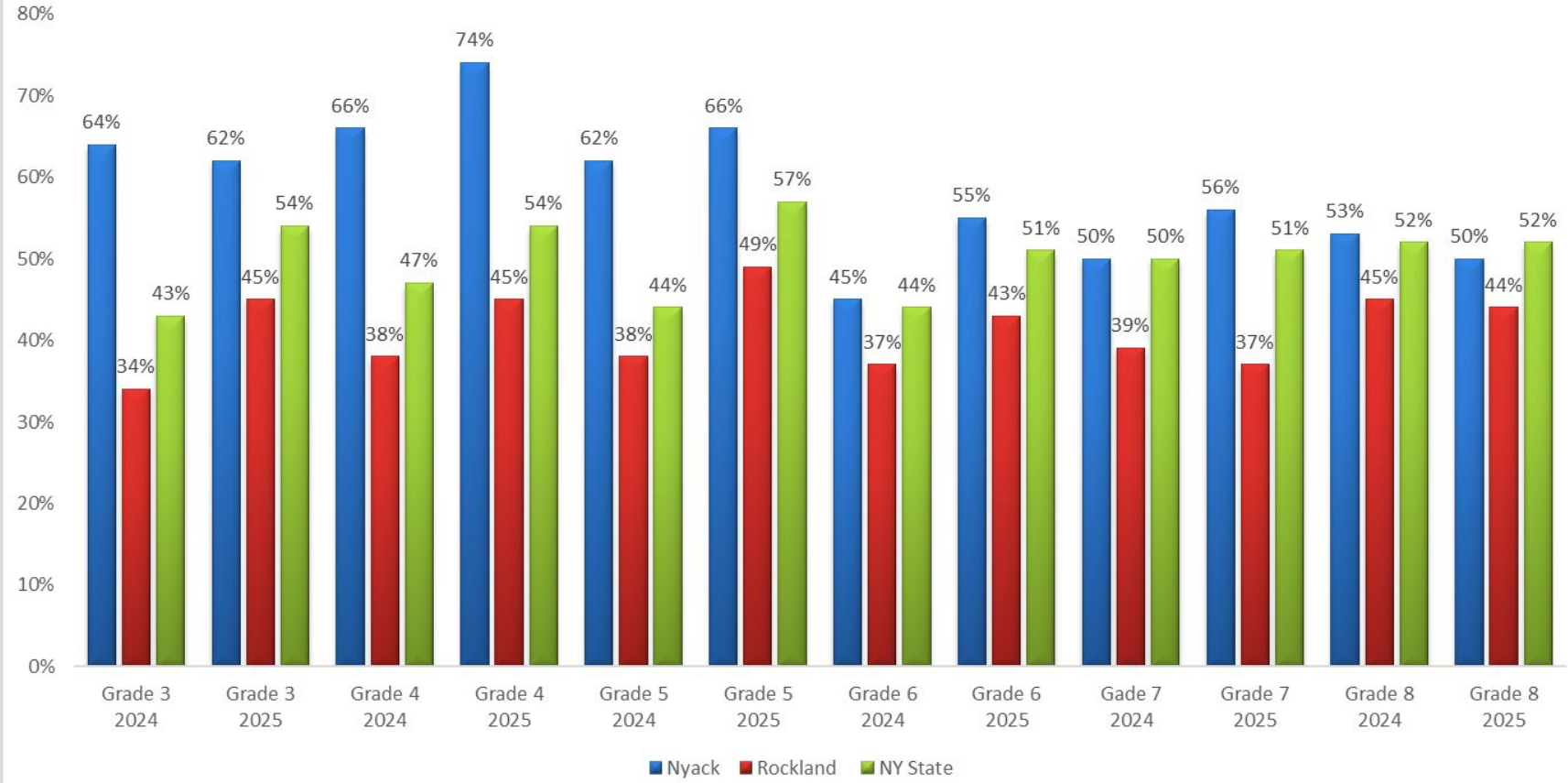






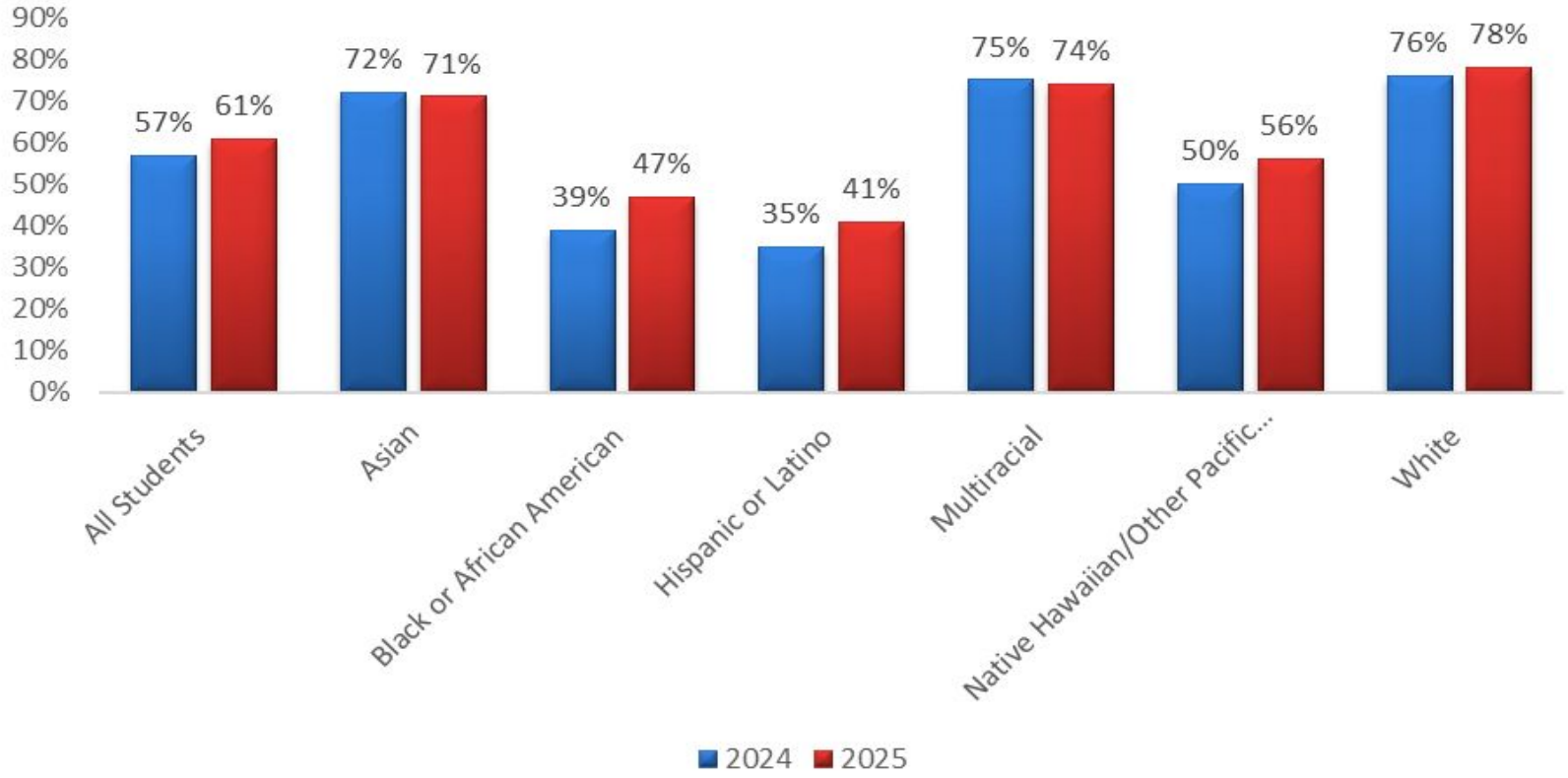
...with equity, innovation and optimism

Grades 3 - 8 NYS ELA 2024 and 2025 (Preliminary Results): % Scoring Porficient by Grade



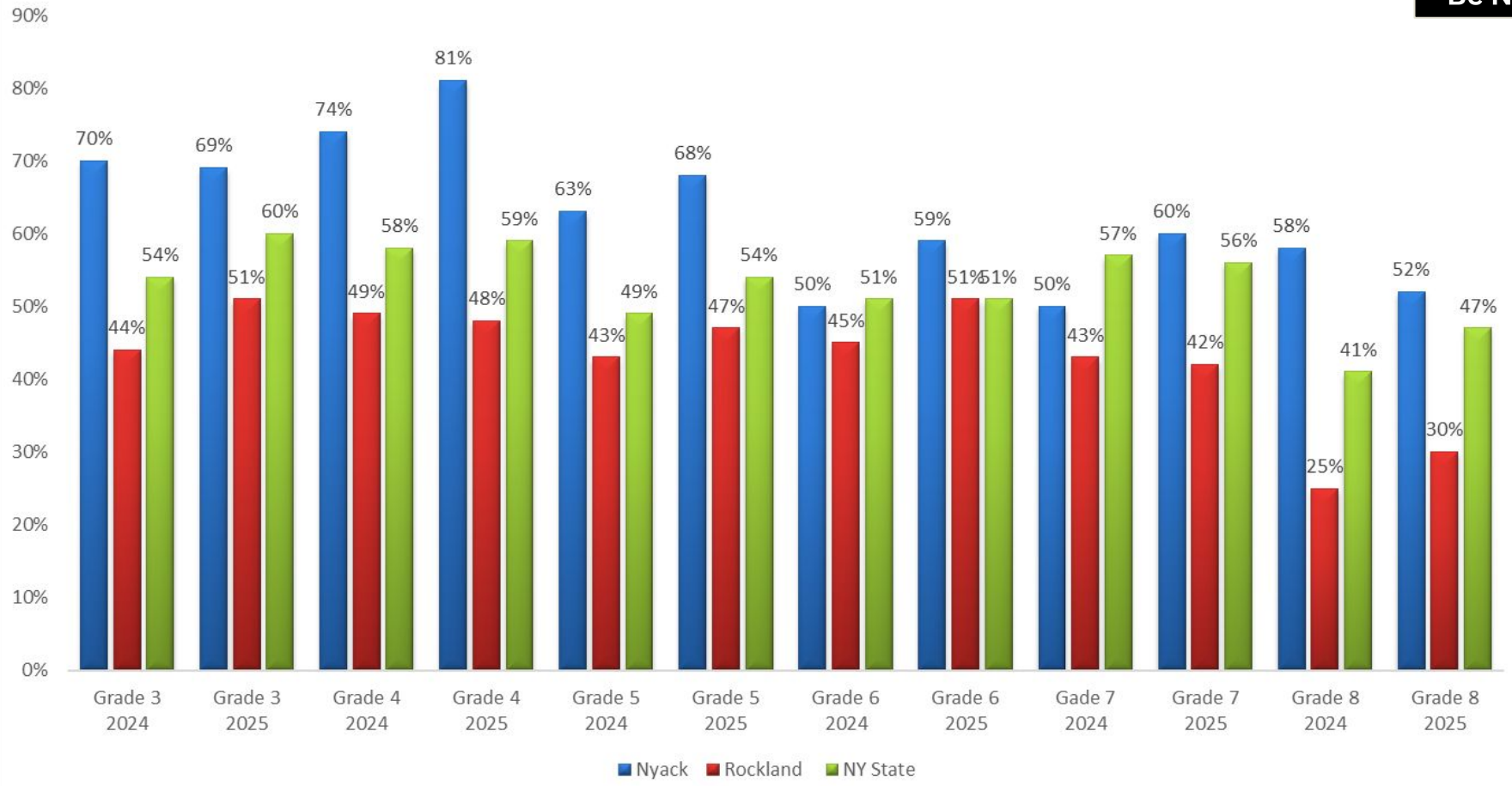
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Grades 3 - 8 ELA Assessments 2024 & 2025 (Preliminary Results): % Scoring Proficient by Race



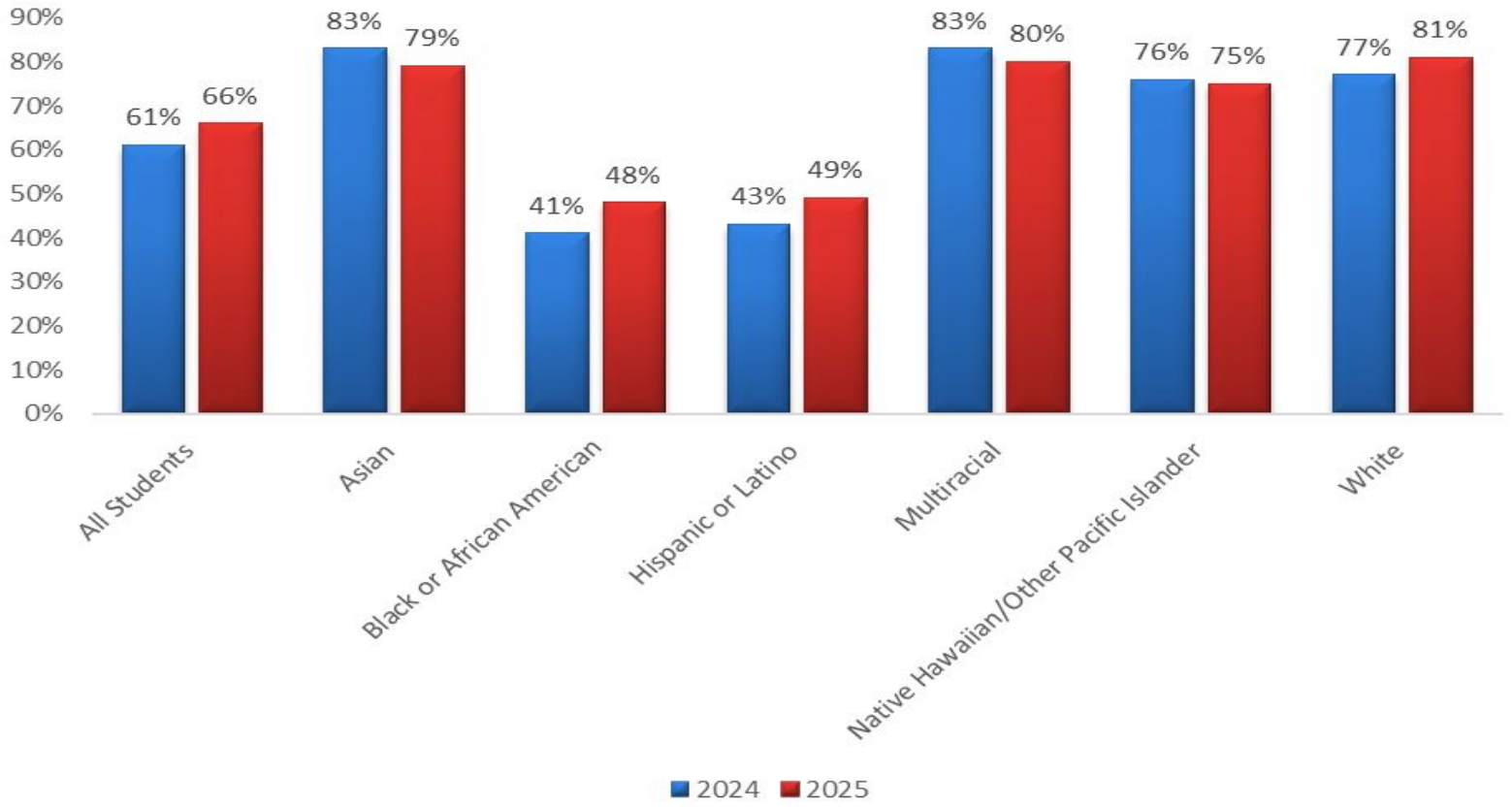
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Grades 3 - 8 NYS Math 2024 and 2025
(Preliminary Results): % Scoring Porficient by Grade



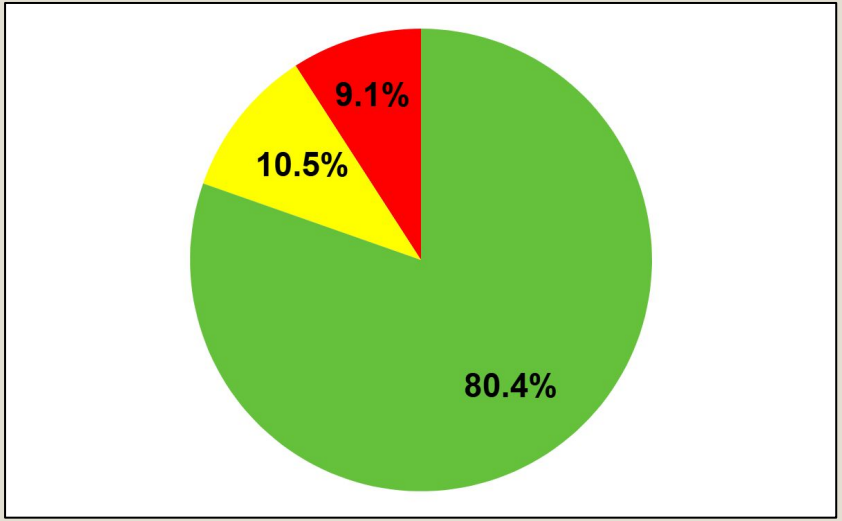
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Grades 3 - 8 Math Assessments 2024 & 2025 (Preliminary Results): % Scoring Proficient by Race

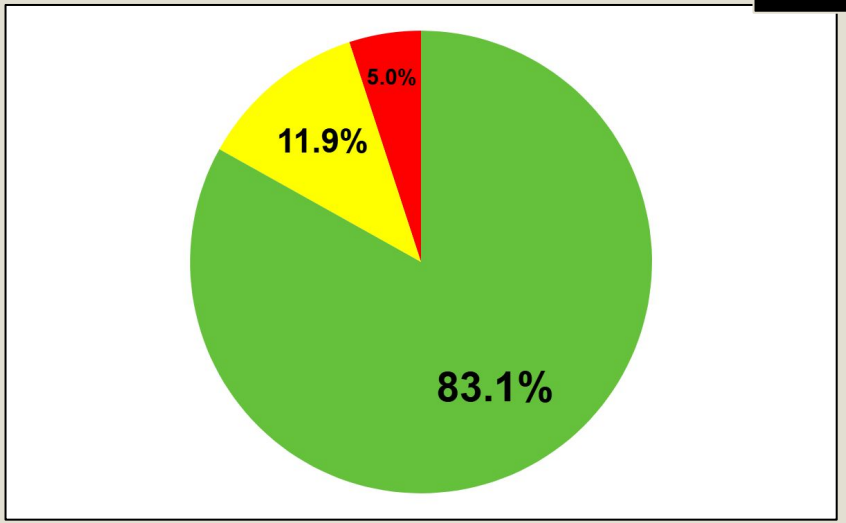


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4th Grade Cohort SY 24-25 Math



2023-2024 Spring Grade 3

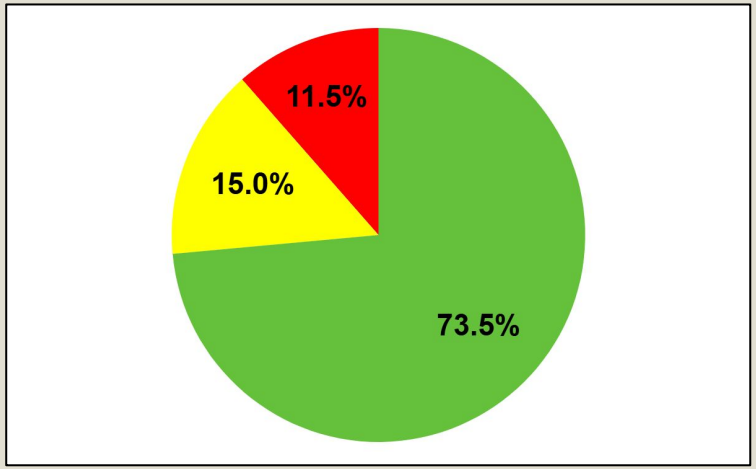


2024-2025 Spring Grade 4

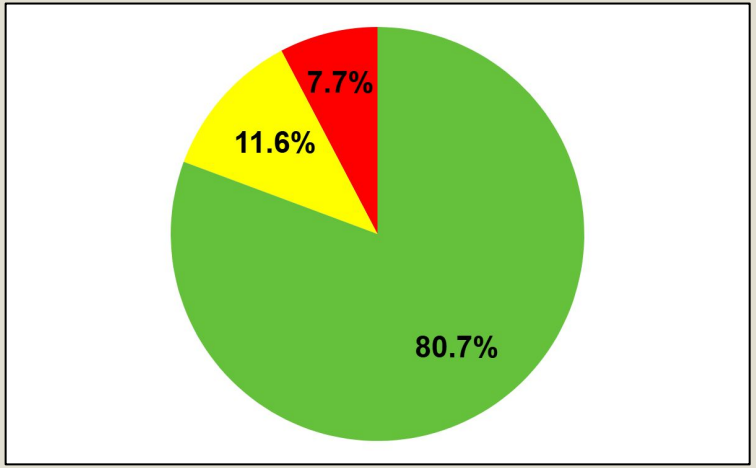
Tier I is 83.1% which includes:

- 73.1% At/Above Benchmark
- 10% On Watch

Grades 1-5 Math STAR Benchmarks (SY 24-25)

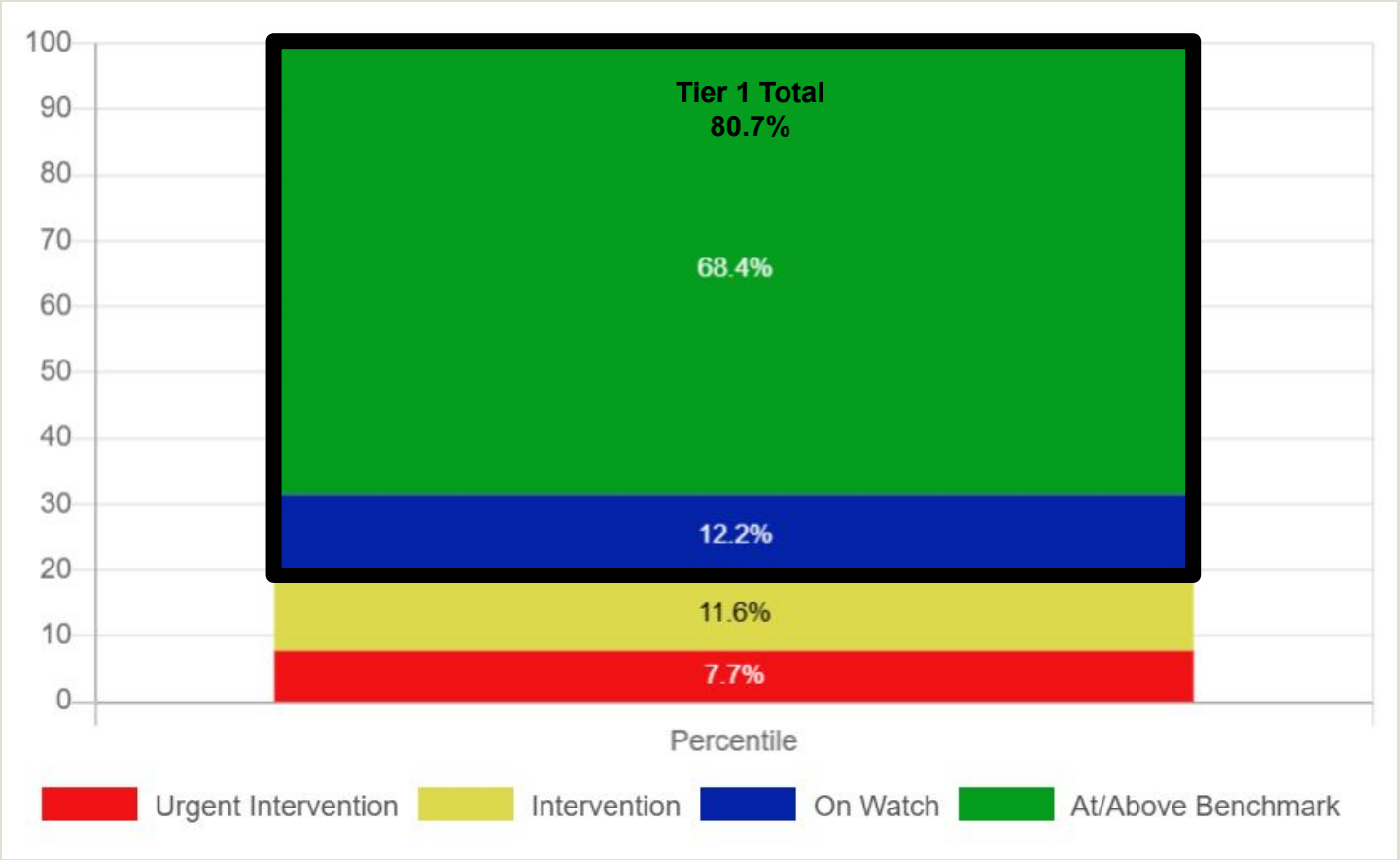


Fall

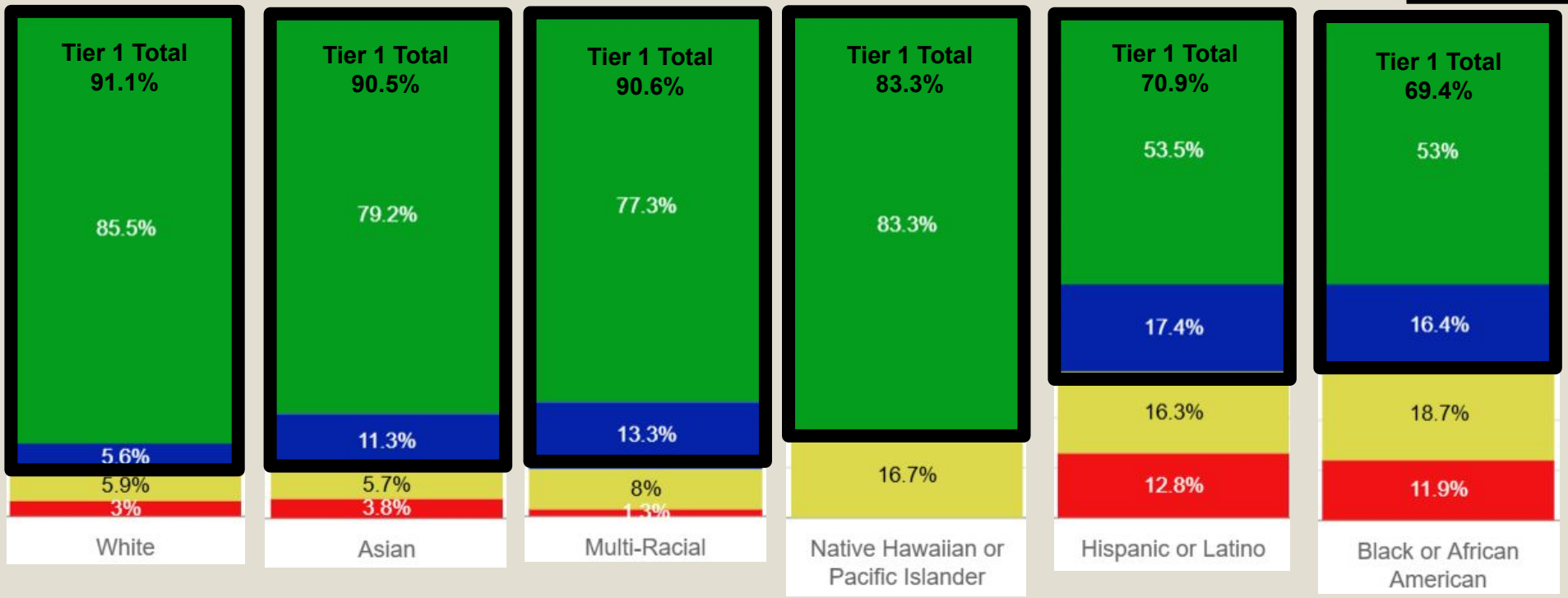


Spring

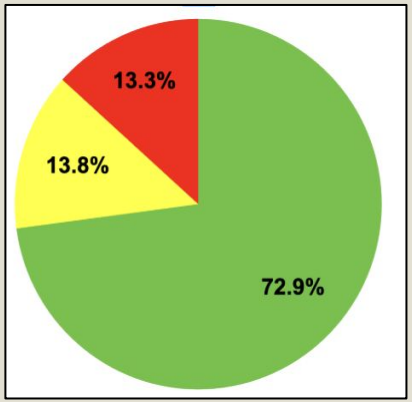
Spring STAR Math Benchmark SY 24-25 (Grades 1-5)



Spring STAR Math Benchmark SY 24-25 (Grades 1-5) by Race

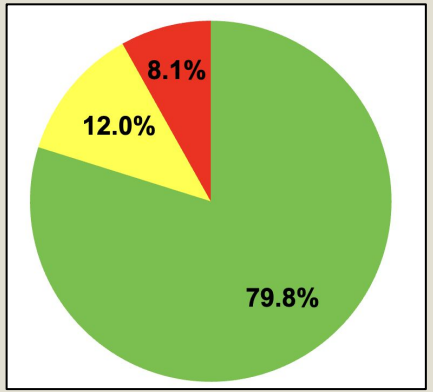


ELA: Fall to Spring Comparison 2024- 2025- K-5 Proficiency based on STAR Data



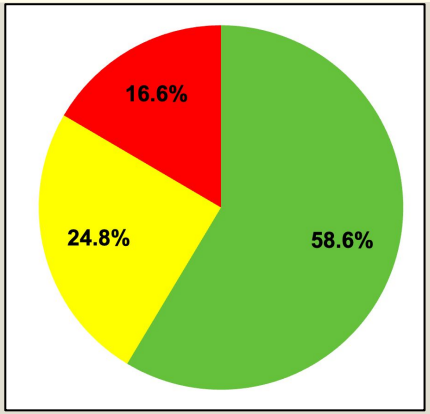
Fall 2024

K-1st Grade Early Literacy STAR



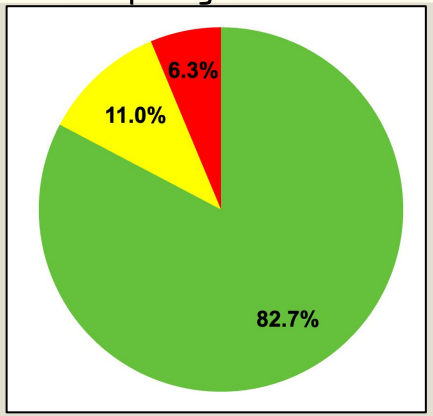
Spring 2025

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Fall 2024

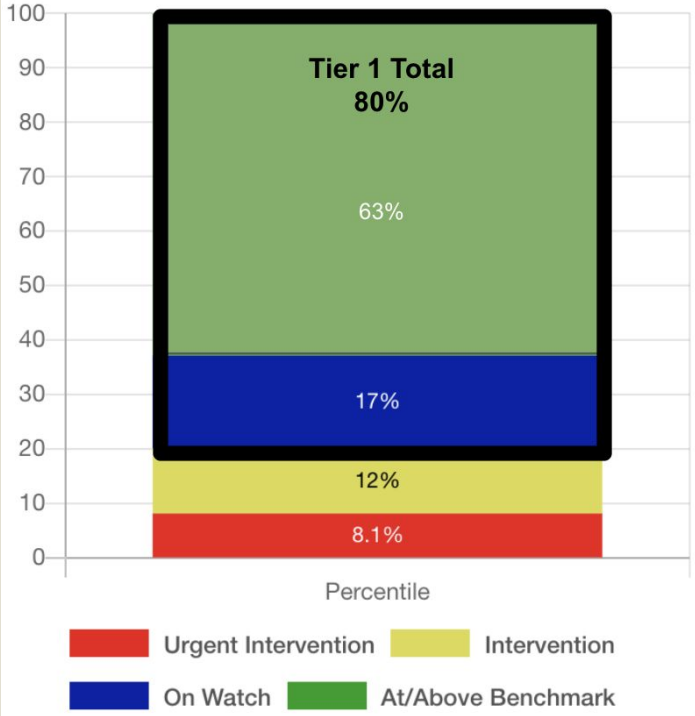
Grades 2-5 STAR Reading



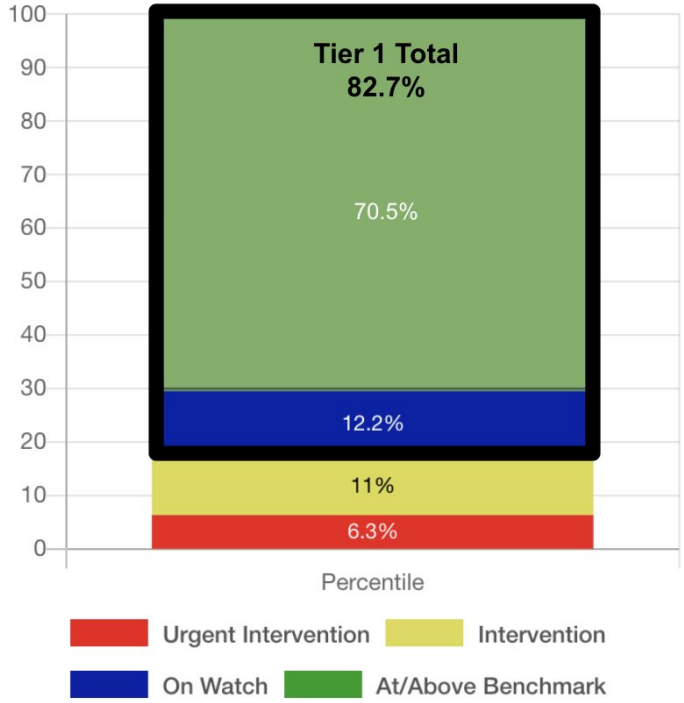
Spring 2025

ELA-Spring SY 24-25 (Grades K-5)

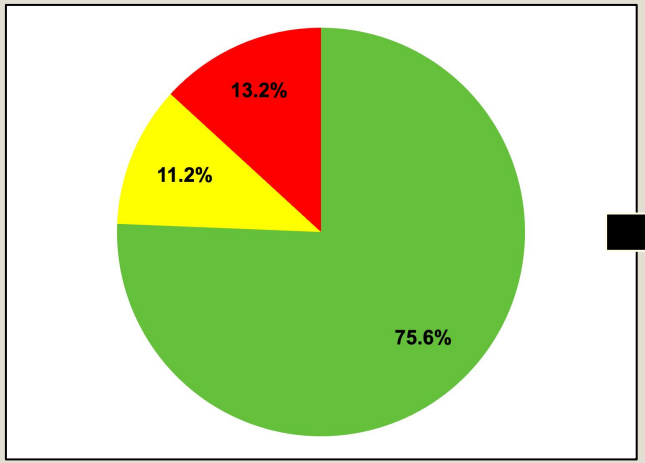
Spring STAR Early Literacy Benchmark SY 24-25 (Grades K-1)

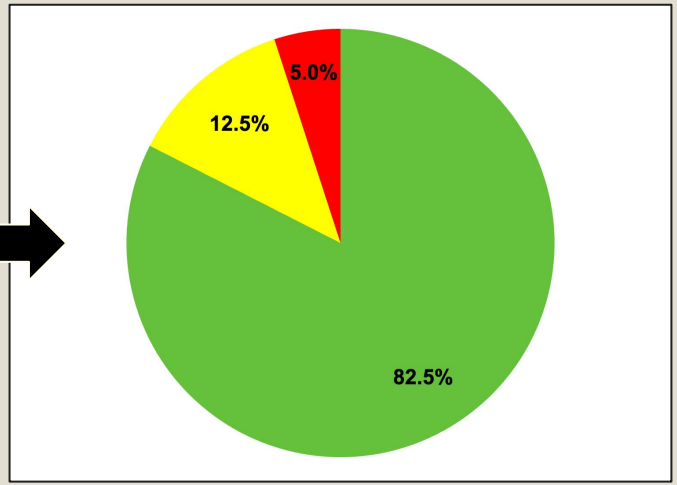


Spring STAR Benchmark SY 24-25 (Grades 2-5)



3rd Grade 2024-2025 Cohort ELA: 2 Years of 95% Phonics Instruction





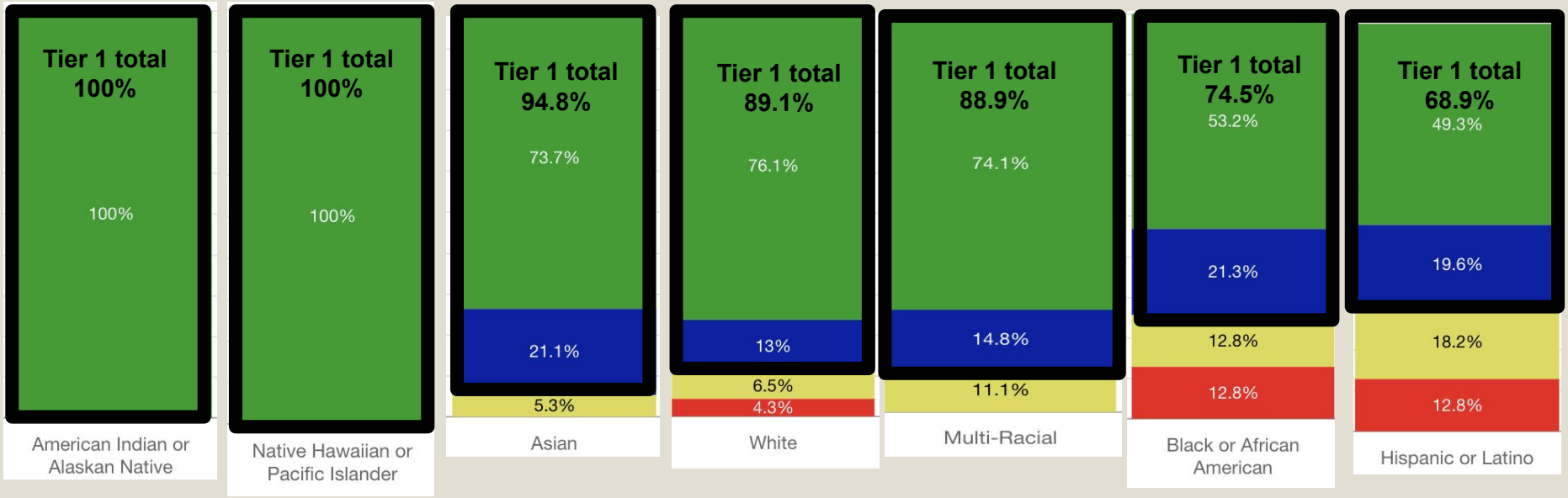
2023-2024 Spring Grade 2

Tier I Proficiency was 75.6%

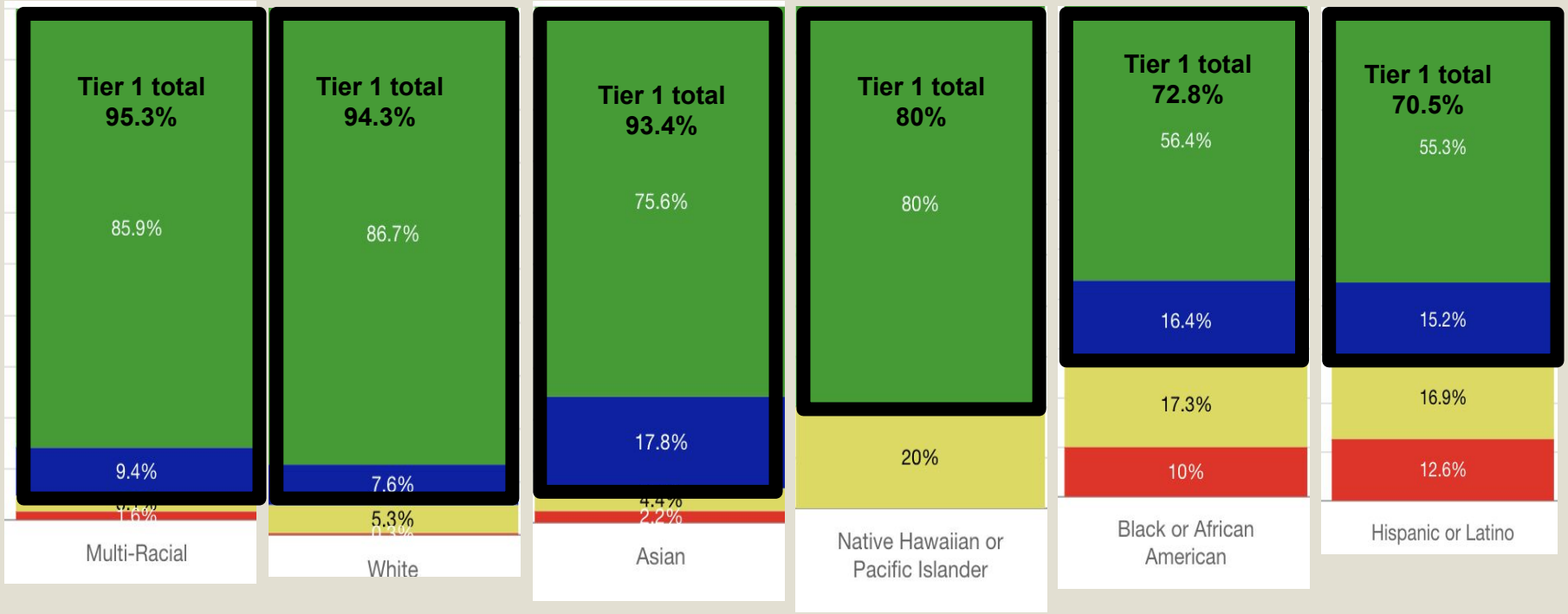
2024-2025 Spring Grade 3

Tier I Proficiency is now 82.5%

Spring STAR Early Literacy Benchmark SY 24-25 (Grades K-1) by Race

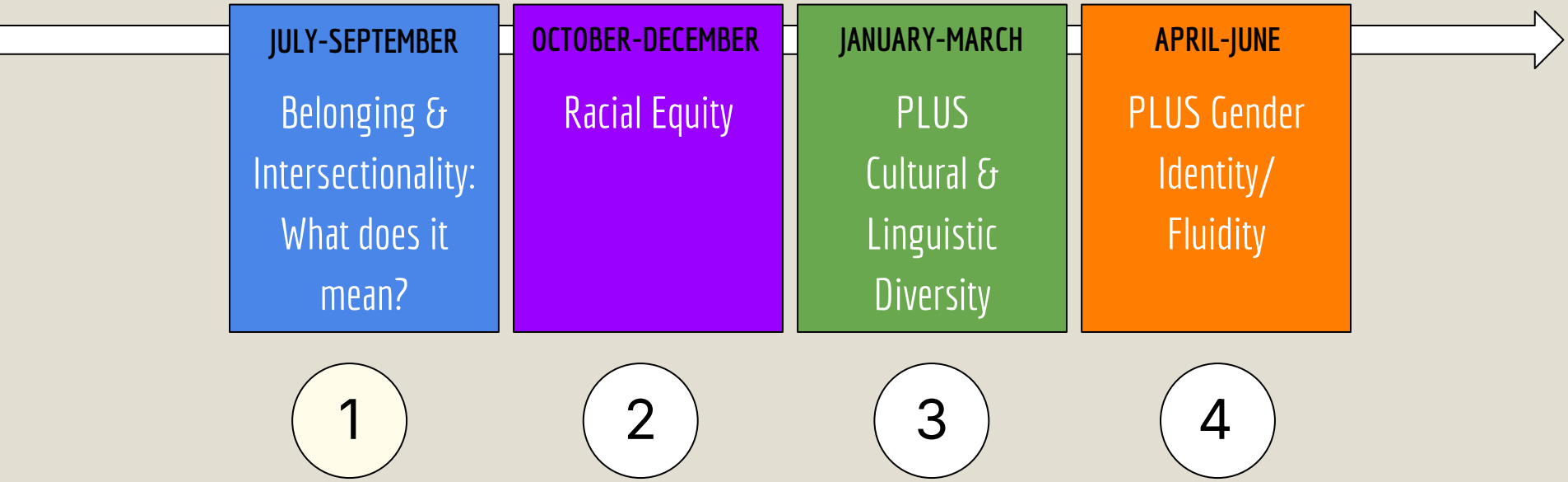


Spring STAR Reading Benchmark SY 24-25 (Grades 2-5) by Race



Timeline: Keeping it real

Belonging and Intersectionality



How do our intersecting identities shape our lived experience and belonging?

Dreaming with Determination

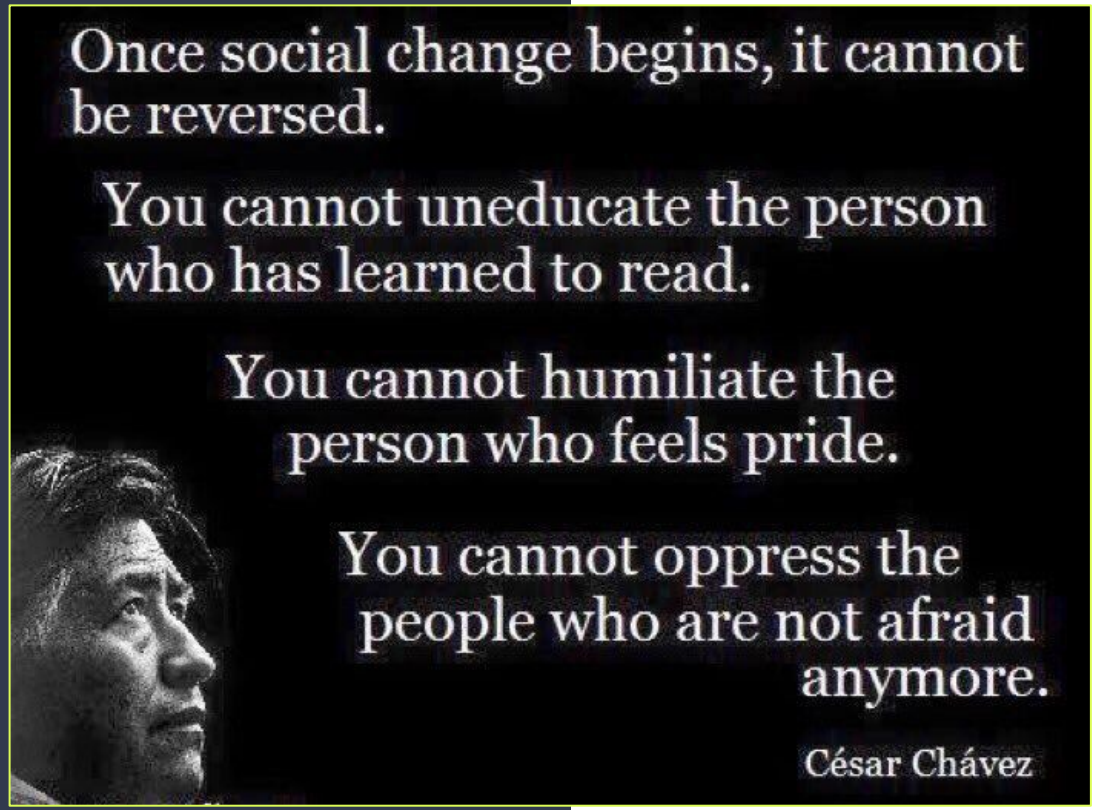
Building a culture of love in our school community

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2026





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Our Moral Imperative

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RACIAL EQUITY MILESTONES MEASUREMENTS OF SUCCESS

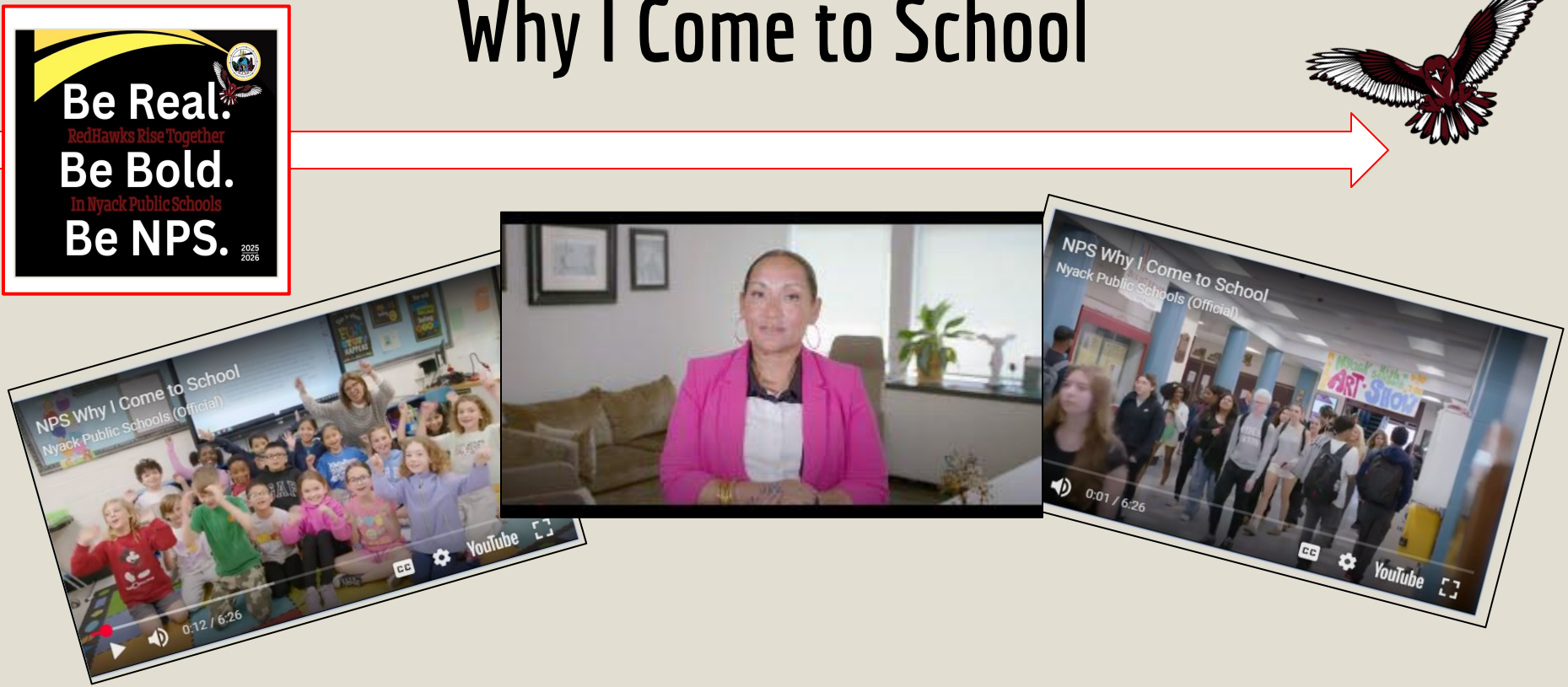
As a result of implementing our Racial Equity Plan, and accomplishing each objective, Nyack Public Schools will significantly improve achievement outcomes for students of color and all students as measured by the Milestone Framework.





Student in NPS:				
Will enter Kindergarten ready to learn and 1st Grade ready to read.	Will be on grade level reading at the end of 3rd Grade.	Will complete 8th Grade ready for high school.	Will enter 10th Grade on tract to graduate high school.	Will complete 12th Grade on time and ready for college and the work force.

Why I Come to School

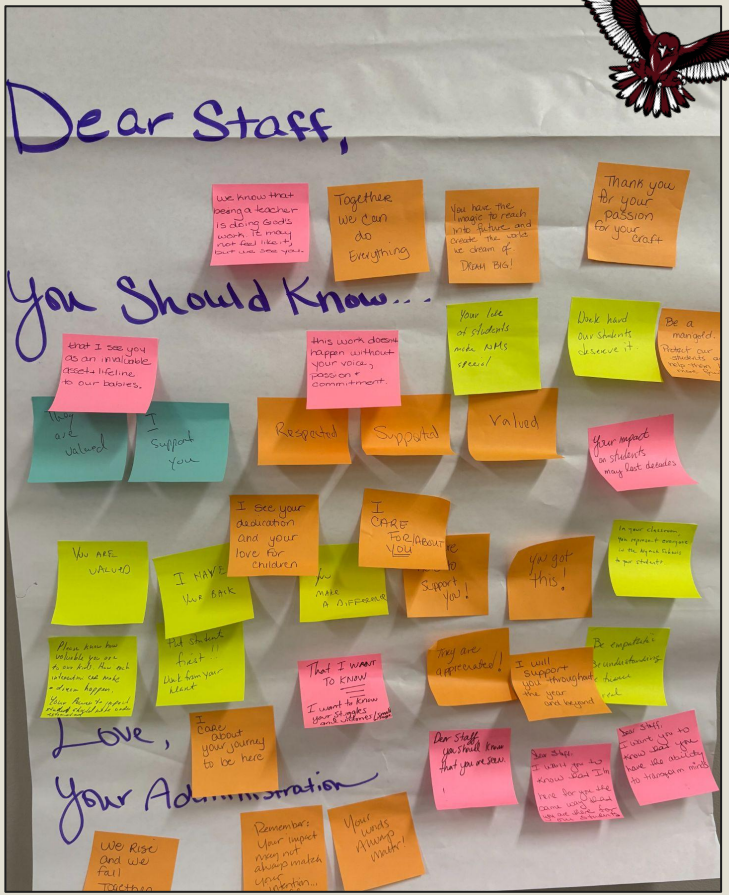


Dear Students: *WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!*

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Dear Staff, you should know...



"I see you as an invaluable asset and life line to our babies"

"We rise and fall together"

"This work does not happen without your voice, passion and commitment."

"Please know how valuable you are to our kids."

"We know that a teacher is doing God's work."

"I want your struggles and your victories"

"I have your back"

"It may not feel like it, but we see you."

Keeping It Real with our students



WELCOME BACK VIDEO

Closing Activity:

1. Find your school and building equity leaders and representative from the Art Department.
2. **Write a message** to your students to help support their sense of belonging here at NPS!

Dreaming with Determination



We believe that *real* excellence only happens when students are seen, heard, and valued for who they truly are. **That is what it means to "BE NPS" - Dr. LRG**



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