The University of the State of New York
The State Education Department

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, AND GRADUATION RATE
for

TONAWANDA CITY SD

2003–04 School Accountability Status:

District in Good Standing

Title I Funding
This school received Title I funding in:

2001–02: Yes
2002–03: Yes
2003–04: Yes

District/School Accountability Status Categories

The list below defines the district or school status categories under New York State's district and school accountability system, which is divided into a Federal Title I component and a State component. A district or school that does not receive Title I funding in a school year does not have a federal status in that year. Schools receiving Title I funds that are not in good standing must provide school choice for their students; those in need of improvement year 2 and beyond must also provide Supplemental Education Services to eligible students. Other consequences for districts and schools not in good standing can be found at: www.emsc.nysed.gov/deputy/nclb/accountability/siinfo.htm. To be removed from any improvement status, a district or school must make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two consecutive years, or in the case of a School Under Registration Review, achieve the performance targets established for the school by the Commissioner.

District/School in Good Standing: A district or school is considered to be in good standing if it has not been identified as a District or School in Need of Improvement, Requiring Corrective Action, Planning for Restructuring, or Requiring Academic Progress, or as a School Under Registration Review.

District/School Requiring Academic Progress: Under the State component of New York's accountability system, a district or school that did not make AYP in the same grade and subject for two consecutive years is considered a School Requiring Academic Progress (Year 1) the following year. In each succeeding year that the school fails to make AYP, the year designation is incremented by one.

District/School in Need of Improvement (Year 1): A district or school that has not made AYP for two consecutive years in the same grade or subject while receiving Title I funds is considered a District/School in Need of Improvement (Year 1) the following year.

District/School in Need of Improvement (Year 2): A District or School in Need of Improvement (Year 1) that does not make AYP in the grade or subject for which it was identified while receiving Title I funds is considered a District or School in Need of Improvement (Year 2) the following year.

District/School Requiring Corrective Action: A District or School in Need of Improvement (Year 2) that does not make AYP in the grade or subject for which it was identified while receiving Title I funds is considered a District or School Requiring Corrective Action the following year.

District/School Planning for Restructuring: A District or School Requiring Corrective Action that does not make AYP in the grade or subject for which it was identified while receiving Title I funds is considered a District or School Planning for Restructuring the following year.

School Under Registration Review (SURR): Schools that are farthest from the State standard and have been determined by the Commissioner to be most in need of improvement are Schools Under Registration Review. These schools must achieve performance targets specified by the Commissioner of Education in their area(s) of identification within a prescribed timeframe or risk having their registration revoked by the Board of Regents.

Elementary-Level English Language Arts

Definitions of terms, such as Performance Index and Effective Annual Measurable Objective (AMO), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

For a school to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2002–03, every accountability group must make AYP.

For an accountability group to make AYP in 2002–03, it must

1. meet the 95 percent participation requirement (***2002–03 Participation***), *and*
2. *either* meet its Effective AMO *or* make safe harbor (***2002–03 Performance*** and ***Standards***).

To meet the participation requirement, 95 percent of the grade 4 enrollment in each accountability group with 40 or more students must be tested. To meet the Effective AMO, the Performance Index for each group with 30 or more continuously enrolled students must equal or exceed the Effective AMO. To make safe harbor, the Performance Index of each of these groups must equal or exceed its ELA safe harbor target *and* the group must meet the elementary-level science qualification for safe harbor. (See the elementary-level science page of this report for further information on meeting the science qualification for safe harbor.)

ELA Safe Harbor Targets: The elementary-level 2002–03 ELA Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2001–02 PI + (200 – the 2001–02 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 ELA Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2002–03 PI + (200 – the 2002–03 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 target is provided for groups whose PI was below the Effective AMO in 2002–03.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Participation		2002–03 Performance*		2002–03 Standards			Made AYP in ELA in 2002–03	2003–04
	Grade 4 Enrollment	Percent of Enrollment Tested	Count of Continuously Enrolled Students	Performance Index	Effective AMO	ELA Safe Harbor Target	Met the Science Qualification for Safe Harbor		ELA Safe Harbor Target
All Students	215	100%	214	157	115			**Yes**	
Students with Disabilities	27		27						
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1		1						
Black	4		4						
Hispanic	7		7						
Asian or Pacific Islander									
White	203	100%	202	157	115			**Yes**	
Limited English Proficient									
Economically Disadvantaged	64	98%	63	151	111			**Yes**	
Final AYP Determination								**Yes**	

*For schools with fewer than 30 continuously enrolled tested students in 2002–03, data for 2001–02 and 2002–03 were combined to determine counts and PIs.

Groups with a "" are not required to meet the science qualification for safe harbor to make safe harbor in English and mathematics because fewer than 30 students in the group were administered the science test.

State accountability status in elementary-level English language arts: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status in elementary-level English language arts: District in Good Standing

Elementary-Level Mathematics

Definitions of terms, such as Performance Index and Effective Annual Measurable Objective (AMO), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

For a school to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2002–03, every accountability group must make AYP.

For an accountability group to make AYP in 2002–03, it must

1. meet the 95 percent participation requirement (***2002–03 Participation***), *and*
2. *either* meet its Effective AMO *or* make safe harbor (***2002–03 Performance*** and ***Standards***).

To meet the participation requirement, 95 percent of the grade 4 enrollment in each accountability group with 40 or more students must be tested. To meet the Effective AMO, the Performance Index for each group with 30 or more continuously enrolled students must equal or exceed the Effective AMO. To make safe harbor, the Performance Index of each of these groups must equal or exceed its math safe harbor target *and* the group must meet the elementary-level science qualification for safe harbor. (See the elementary-level science page of this report for further information on meeting the science qualification for safe harbor.)

Math Safe Harbor Targets: The elementary-level 2002–03 Math Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2001–02 PI + (200 – the 2001–02 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 Math Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2002–03 PI + (200 – the 2002–03 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 target is provided for groups whose PI was below the Effective AMO in 2002–03.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Participation		2002–03 Performance*		2002–03 Standards			Made AYP in Math in 2002–03	2003–04
	Grade 4 Enrollment	Percent of Enrollment Tested	Count of Continuously Enrolled Students	Performance Index	Effective AMO	Math Safe Harbor Target	Met the Science Qualification for Safe Harbor		Math Safe Harbor Target
All Students	214	100%	213	187	128			**Yes**	
Students with Disabilities	26		26						
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1		1						
Black	4		4						
Hispanic	7		7						
Asian or Pacific Islander									
White	202	100%	201	187	128			**Yes**	
Limited English Proficient									
Economically Disadvantaged	64	98%	63	184	124			**Yes**	
Final AYP Determination								**Yes**	

*For schools with fewer than 30 continuously enrolled tested students in 2002–03, data for 2001–02 and 2002–03 were combined to determine counts and PIs.
Groups with a "" are not required to meet the science qualification for safe harbor to make safe harbor in English and mathematics because fewer than 30 students in the group were administered the science test.

State accountability status in elementary-level mathematics: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status in elementary-level mathematics: District in Good Standing

Elementary-Level Science

Definitions of terms, such as Progress Target and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

Made AYP in Science in 2002–03: For a school to make AYP in science, the Percent At or Above SDL for the "All Students" group must equal or exceed the State Science Standard or the Science Progress Target.

State Designated Level (SDL): The score that students taking the elementary-level science test must equal or exceed on the written portion of the test to meet the State Science Standard.

Qualification for Safe Harbor in Elementary-Level ELA and Math: For an accountability group to be considered Qualified for Safe Harbor in Elementary-Level ELA and Math, the Percent At or Above SDL must equal or exceed the State Science Standard or the Science Progress Target in elementary-level science for that group. Groups with fewer than 30 students tested in elementary-level science are not subject to this qualification criterion.

Science Progress Targets: The elementary-level 2002–03 Science Progress Target is calculated by adding one point to the 2001–02 Percent At or Above SDL. The 2003–04 Science Progress Target is calculated by multiplying the 2002–03 Percent At or Above SDL by two and then adding one point. The 2003–04 target is provided for groups whose Percent At or Above SDL was below the State Science Standard in 2002–03.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Performance*		2002–03 Standards		Made AYP in Science in 2002–03	2002–03	2003–04
	Count of Continuously Enrolled Students	Percent At or Above SDL	State Science Standard	Science Progress Target		Qualified for Safe Harbor in Elementary-Level ELA and Math	Science Progress Target
All Students	211	88	40		**Yes**	Yes	
Students with Disabilities	26						
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1						
Black	4						
Hispanic	7						
Asian or Pacific Islander							
White	199	87	40			Yes	
Limited English Proficient							
Economically Disadvantaged	62	84	40			Yes	
Final AYP Determination					**Yes**		

*For schools with fewer than 30 continuously enrolled students in 2002–03, data for 2001–02 and 2002–03 were combined to determine counts and percents at or above SDL.

State accountability status in elementary-level science: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status in elementary-level science: District in Good Standing

Middle-Level English Language Arts

Definitions of terms, such as Performance Index and Effective Annual Measurable Objective (AMO), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

For a school to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2002–03, every accountability group must make AYP.

For an accountability group to make AYP in 2002–03, it must

1. meet the 95 percent participation requirement (***2002–03 Participation***), *and*
2. *either* meet its Effective AMO *or* make safe harbor (***2002–03 Performance*** and ***Standards***).

To meet the participation requirement, 95 percent of the grade 8 enrollment in each accountability group with 40 or more students must be tested. To meet the Effective AMO, the Performance Index for each group with 30 or more continuously enrolled students must equal or exceed the Effective AMO. To make safe harbor, the Performance Index of each of these groups must equal or exceed its ELA safe harbor target *and* the group must meet the middle-level science qualification for safe harbor. (See the middle-level science page of this report for further information on meeting the science qualification for safe harbor.)

ELA Safe Harbor Targets: The middle-level ***2002–03*** ELA Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2001–02 PI + (200 – the 2001–02 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 ELA Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2002–03 PI + (200 – the 2002–03 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 target is provided for groups whose PI was below the Effective AMO in 2002–03.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Participation		2002–03 Performance*		2002–03 Standards			Made AYP in ELA in 2002–03	2003–04
	Grade 8 Enrollment	Percent of Enrollment Tested	Count of Continuously Enrolled Students	Performance Index	Effective AMO	ELA Safe Harbor Target	Met the Science Qualification for Safe Harbor		ELA Safe Harbor Target
All Students	218	96%	209	148	99			**Yes**	
Students with Disabilities	27		23						
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1		1						
Black	1		1						
Hispanic	1		1						
Asian or Pacific Islander	1		1						
White	214	96%	205	148	99			**Yes**	
Limited English Proficient	1								
Economically Disadvantaged	64	91%	58	136	94			**No**	
Final AYP Determination								**No**	

*For schools with fewer than 30 continuously enrolled tested students in 2002–03, data for 2001–02 and 2002–03 were combined to determine counts and PIs.

Groups with a "" are not required to meet the science qualification for safe harbor to make safe harbor in English and mathematics because fewer than 30 students in the group were administered the science test.

State accountability status in middle-level English language arts: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status in middle-level English language arts: District in Good Standing

Middle-Level Mathematics

Definitions of terms, such as Performance Index and Effective Annual Measurable Objective (AMO), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

For a school to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2002–03, every accountability group must make AYP.

For an accountability group to make AYP in 2002–03, it must

1. meet the 95 percent participation requirement (***2002–03 Participation***), *and*
2. *either* meet its Effective AMO *or* make safe harbor (***2002–03 Performance*** and ***Standards***).

To meet the participation requirement, 95 percent of the grade 8 enrollment in each accountability group with 40 or more students must be tested. To meet the Effective AMO, the Performance Index for each group with 30 or more continuously enrolled students must equal or exceed the Effective AMO. To make safe harbor, the Performance Index of each of these groups must equal or exceed its math safe harbor target *and* the group must meet the middle-level science qualification for safe harbor. (See the middle-level science page of this report for further information on meeting the science qualification for safe harbor.)

Math Safe Harbor Targets: The middle-level 2002–03 Math Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2001–02 PI + (200 – the 2001–02 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 Math Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2002–03 PI + (200 – the 2002–03 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 target is provided for groups whose PI was below the Effective AMO in 2002–03.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Participation		2002–03 Performance*		2002–03 Standards			Made AYP in Math in 2002–03	2003–04
	Grade 8 Enrollment	Percent of Enrollment Tested	Count of Continuously Enrolled Students	Performance Index	Effective AMO	Math Safe Harbor Target	Met the Science Qualification for Safe Harbor		**Math Safe Harbor Target**
All Students	219	99%	217	160	73			**Yes**	
Students with Disabilities	27		26						
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1		1						
Black	1		1						
Hispanic	1		1						
Asian or Pacific Islander	1		1						
White	215	99%	213	160	73			**Yes**	
Limited English Proficient	1		1						
Economically Disadvantaged	64	98%	63	156	69			**Yes**	
Final AYP Determination								**Yes**	

*For schools with fewer than 30 continuously enrolled tested students in 2002–03, data for 2001–02 and 2002–03 were combined to determine counts and PIs.

Groups with a "" are not required to meet the science qualification for safe harbor to make safe harbor in English and mathematics because fewer than 30 students in the group were administered the science test.

State accountability status in middle-level mathematics: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status in middle-level mathematics: District in Good Standing

Middle-Level Science

Definitions of terms, such as Progress Target and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

Made AYP in Science in 2002–03: For a school to make AYP in science, the Performance Index (PI) for the "All Students" group must equal or exceed the State Science Standard or the Science Progress Target.

Qualification for Safe Harbor in Middle-Level ELA and Math: For an accountability group to be considered Qualified for Safe Harbor in Middle-Level ELA and Math, the PI must equal or exceed the State Science Standard or the Science Progress Target in middle-level science for that group. Groups with fewer than 30 students tested in middle-level science are not subject to this qualification criterion.

Science Progress Targets: The middle-level 2002–03 Science Progress Target is calculated by adding one point to the 2001–02 PI. The 2003–04 Science Progress Target is calculated by adding one point to the 2002–03 PI. The 2003–04 target is provided for groups whose PI was below the State Science Standard in 2002–03.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Performance*		2002–03 Standards		Made AYP in Science in 2002–03	2002–03	2003–04
	Count of Continuously Enrolled Students	Performance Index	State Science Standard	Science Progress Target		Qualified for Safe Harbor in Middle-Level ELA and Math	Science Progress Target
All Students	206	183	100		**Yes**	Yes	
Students with Disabilities	23						
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1						
Black	1						
Hispanic	1						
Asian or Pacific Islander	1						
White	202	182	100			Yes	
Limited English Proficient							
Economically Disadvantaged	59	178	100			Yes	
Final AYP Determination					**Yes**		

*For schools with fewer than 30 continuously enrolled students in 2002–03, data for 2001–02 and 2002–03 were combined to determine counts and PIs.

State accountability status in middle-level science: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status in middle-level science: District in Good Standing

Secondary-Level English Language Arts

Definitions of terms, such as Performance Index and Effective Annual Measurable Objective (AMO), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

For a school to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2002–03, every accountability group must make AYP.

For an accountability group to make AYP in 2002–03, it must meet its Effective AMO *or* make safe harbor (***2002–03 Performance*** and ***Standards***). To meet the Effective AMO, the Performance Index for each group with 30 or more cohort members must equal or exceed the Effective AMO. To make safe harbor, the Performance Index of each of these groups must equal or exceed its ELA safe harbor target *and* the group must meet the graduation-rate qualification for safe harbor. (See the graduation-rate page of this report for further information on meeting the graduation-rate qualification for safe harbor.)

ELA Safe Harbor Targets: The secondary-level 2002–03 ELA Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2001–02 PI + (200 – the 2001–02 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 ELA Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2002–03 PI + (200 – the 2002–03 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 target is provided for groups whose PI was below the Effective AMO in 2002–03.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Performance*		2002–03 Standards			Made AYP in ELA in 2002–03	2003–04
	Count of 1999 Accountability Cohort Members	Performance Index	Effective AMO	ELA Safe Harbor Target	Met the Graduation-Rate Qualification for Safe Harbor		ELA Safe Harbor Target
All Students	163	177	134		Yes	**Yes**	
Students with Disabilities	17						
American Indian/Alaskan Native							
Black							
Hispanic							
Asian or Pacific Islander	1						
White	162	177	134		Yes	**Yes**	
Limited English Proficient	1						
Economically Disadvantaged	42	174	127		**	**Yes**	
Final AYP Determination						**Yes**	

*For schools with fewer than thirty 1999 accountability cohort members, 1998 and 1999 cohort data were combined to determine counts and PIs.

Groups with a "" are not required to meet the graduation-rate qualification for safe harbor, because fewer than 30 members in the 1998 graduation-rate cohort were in those groups.

State accountability status in secondary-level English language arts: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status in secondary-level English language arts: District in Good Standing

Secondary-Level Mathematics

Definitions of terms, such as Performance Index and Effective Annual Measurable Objective (AMO), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

For a school to make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2002–03, every accountability group must make AYP.

For an accountability group to make AYP in 2002–03, it must meet its Effective AMO *or* make safe harbor (***2002–03 Performance*** and ***Standards***). To meet the Effective AMO, the Performance Index for each group with 30 or more cohort members must equal or exceed the Effective AMO. To make safe harbor, the Performance Index of each of these groups must equal or exceed its math safe harbor target *and* the group must meet the graduation-rate qualification for safe harbor. (See the graduation-rate page of this report for further information on meeting the graduation-rate qualification for safe harbor.)

Math Safe Harbor Targets: The secondary-level 2002–03 Math Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2001–02 PI + (200 – the 2001–02 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 Math Safe Harbor Target is calculated by using the following equation: 2002–03 PI + (200 – the 2002–03 PI) × 0.10. The 2003–04 target is provided for groups whose PI was below the Effective AMO in 2002–03.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Performance*		2002–03 Standards			Made AYP in Math in 2002–03	2003–04
	Count of 1999 Accountability Cohort Members	Performance Index	Effective AMO	Math Safe Harbor Target	Met the Graduation-Rate Qualification for Safe Harbor		Math Safe Harbor Target
All Students	163	187	124		Yes	**Yes**	
Students with Disabilities	17						
American Indian/Alaskan Native							
Black							
Hispanic							
Asian or Pacific Islander	1						
White	162	187	124		Yes	**Yes**	
Limited English Proficient	1						
Economically Disadvantaged	42	183	117		**	**Yes**	
Final AYP Determination						**Yes**	

*For schools with fewer than thirty 1999 accountability cohort members, 1998 and 1999 cohort data were combined to determine counts and PIs.

Groups with a "" are not required to meet the graduation-rate qualification for safe harbor, because fewer than 30 members in the 1998 graduation-rate cohort were in those groups.

State accountability status in secondary-level mathematics: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status in secondary-level mathematics: District in Good Standing

Graduation Rate

Definitions of terms, such as Progress Target and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), are in the glossary, which is the last page of this report.

Made AYP in Graduation Rate in 2002–03: For a school to make AYP in graduation rate, the Percent Earning a Local Diploma by August 31, 2002 for the "All Students" group must equal or exceed the Graduation-Rate Standard or the Graduation-Rate Progress Target.

Qualification for Safe Harbor in Secondary-Level ELA and Math: For an accountability group to be considered Qualified for Safe Harbor in Secondary-Level ELA and Math, the Percent Earning a Local Diploma by August 31, 2002 must equal or exceed the Graduation-Rate Standard or the Graduation-Rate Progress Target for that group.

Graduation-Rate Progress Targets: The 2002–03 Graduation-Rate Progress Target is calculated by adding one point to the Percent Earning a Local Diploma by June 30, 2002. The 2003–04 Graduation-Rate Target is calculated by adding one point to the Percent Earning a Local Diploma by August 31, 2002. This target is provided for each group whose Percent Earning a Local Diploma by August 31, 2002 is below the Graduation-Rate Standard in 2002–03. Groups with fewer than 30 cohort members are not subject to this criterion.

Accountability Group	2002–03 Performance		2002–03 Standards		Made AYP in Graduation Rate in 2002–03	2002–03	2003–04
	Count of 1998 Graduation-Rate Cohort Members	Percent Earning a Local Diploma by August 31, 2002	Graduation-Rate Standard	Graduation-Rate Progress Target		Qualified for Safe Harbor in Secondary-Level ELA and Math	Graduation-Rate Progress Target
All Students	176	90	55		Yes	Yes	
Students with Disabilities	9						
American Indian/Alaskan Native							
Black	1						
Hispanic	1						
Asian or Pacific Islander							
White	174	90	55			Yes	
Limited English Proficient							
Economically Disadvantaged	26						
Final AYP Determination					Yes		

State accountability status for graduation rate: District in Good Standing

Title I accountability status for graduation rate: District in Good Standing

Glossary

Accountability Cohort: Accountability Cohort: The 1999 school accountability cohort consists of all students who first entered grade 9 in the fall of 1999, and all ungraded students with disabilities who reached their seventeenth birthday in the 1999–2000 school year, who were enrolled on October 3, 2001. Certain students with severe disabilities, new immigrants, and students who transfer to programs leading to a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma were not included in the 1999 school accountability cohort. The 1999 district accountability cohort consists of all students in each school accountability cohort plus students who transferred within the district after BEDS day *plus* students who were placed outside the district by the CSE or district administrators and who met the other requirements for cohort membership. Cohort is defined in Section 100.2 (p) (8) of the Commissioner's Regulations.

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP): Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) indicates satisfactory progress by a district/school toward the goal of proficiency for all students.

Annual Measurable Objective (AMO): The Annual Measurable Objective (AMO) signifies that an accountability group is making satisfactory progress toward the goal that 100 percent of students will be proficient in the State's learning standards for English language arts and mathematics by 2013–14. The AMO will be increased in regular increments beginning in 2004–05 until it reaches 200 in 2013–14. (See Effective AMO for further information.)

Continuously Enrolled Students: Students enrolled in the school on BEDS day (usually the first Wednesday in October) of the school year and until the day of testing.

Effective Annual Measurable Objective (Effective AMO): The Effective Annual Measurable Objective (Effective AMO) is the PI value that each accountability group within a school or district is expected to achieve to make AYP. The Effective AMO is the lowest PI that an accountability group of a given size can achieve in a subject for the group's PI not to be considered significantly different from the AMO for that subject. If an accountability group's PI equals or exceeds the Effective AMO, it is considered to have made AYP. A more complete definition of Effective AMO and a table showing the PI values that each group size must equal or exceed to make AYP are available at www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts.

Graduation-Rate Cohort: Graduation-rate cohort for each year includes all students in the accountability cohort in the previous year plus all students excluded from that accountability cohort solely because they transferred to a general education development (GED) program.

Graduation-Rate Standard: The criterion value that represents a minimally satisfactory percentage of cohort members earning a local diploma. The State Graduation-Rate Standard is 55 percent. The Commissioner may raise the Graduation-Rate Standard at his discretion in future years.

Performance Index (PI): A Performance Index is a value from 0 to 200 that is assigned to an accountability group, indicating how that group performed on a required State test (or approved alternative) in English language arts, mathematics, or science. Student scores on the tests are converted to four achievement levels, from Level 1 (indicating no proficiency) to Level 4 (indicating advanced proficiency). ***At the elementary and middle levels, the PI is calculated using the following equation: (Count of Continuously Enrolled Tested Students Performing at Levels 2, 3, and 4 + the Count at Levels 3 and 4) ÷ Count of All Continuously Enrolled Tested Students. At the secondary level, the PI is calculated using the following equation: (Count of Cohort Members Performing at Levels 2, 3, and 4 + the Count at Levels 3 and 4) ÷ Count of All Cohort Members.*** A list of tests used to measure student performance for accountability is available at www.emsc.nysed.gov/irts.

Progress Target: For accountability groups below the State Standard in science or graduation rate, the Progress Target is an alternative method for making AYP or qualifying for safe harbor in English language arts and mathematics based on improvement over the previous year's performance.

Safe Harbor: Safe Harbor provides an alternative means to demonstrate AYP for accountability groups that do not achieve their Effective AMOs in English or mathematics.

Science Standard: The criterion value that represents a minimally satisfactory performance in science. In 2002–03, the elementary-level Science Standard was 40 percent of tested students scoring at or above the State Designated Level. In 2003–04 and future years, with the introduction of the new science test, the elementary-level science standard is a PI of 100. In 2002–03 and future years, the middle-level Science Standard is a PI of 100. The Commissioner may raise the State Science Standard at his discretion in future years.