

LET'S GROW TOGETHER



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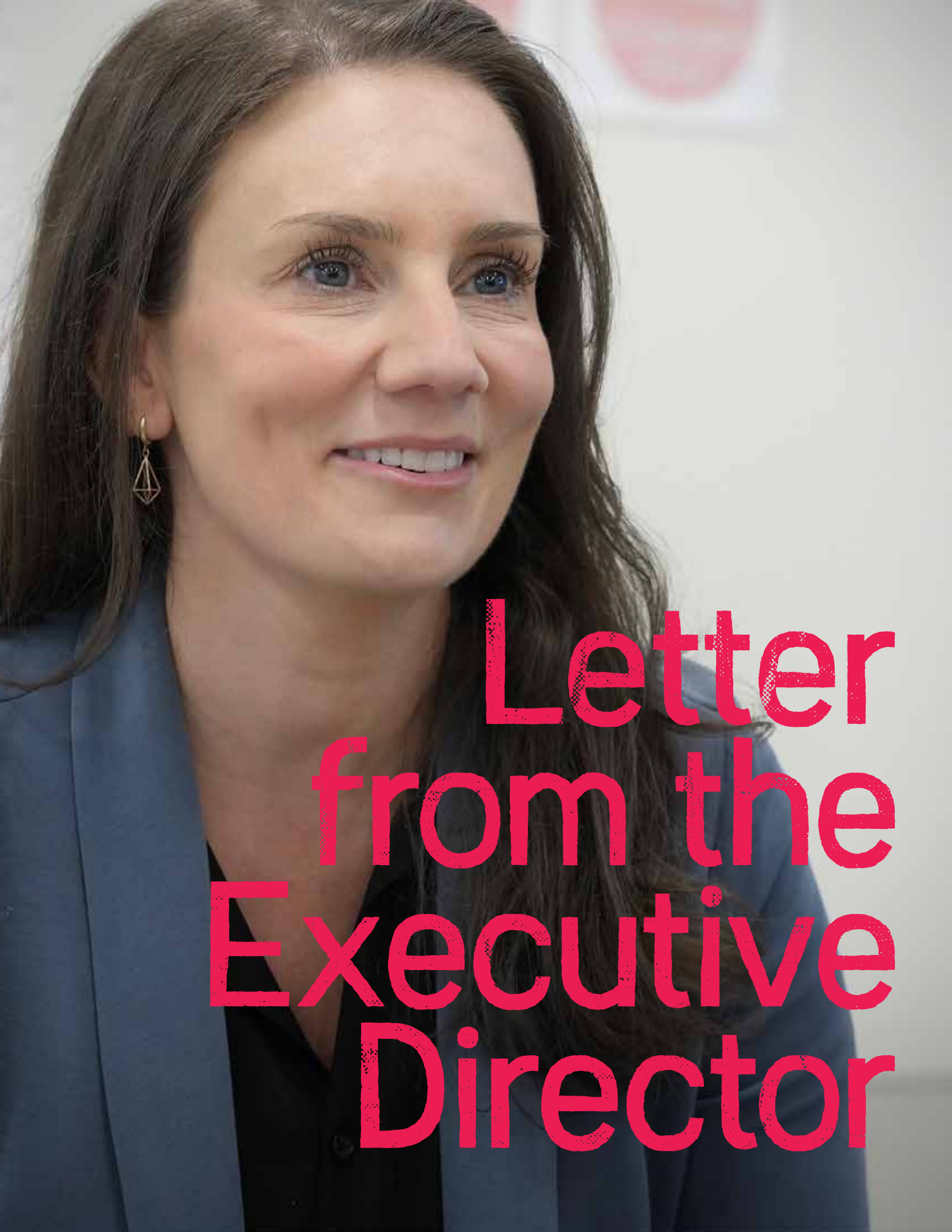
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MEMBER

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MEMBER





Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Equality Charter School Family,

This year marks an extraordinary chapter in our journey—one defined by growth, unity, and the fulfillment of a vision we've long shared: providing a continuous, high-quality, and joyful education for every scholar from kindergarten through graduation. With our expansion into the elementary grades, we are now on the path to becoming a true K-12 community, where our youngest learners begin their educational path with the same sense of purpose, belonging, and opportunity that defines our middle and high schools.

This expansion is more than a milestone; it is a commitment. A commitment to cultivating curiosity and confidence from the very start. A commitment to ensuring that every child, regardless of background, is seen, challenged, and supported. And a commitment to deepening the partnerships that make our organization thrive: families, educators, scholars, and community members, all working together toward growth and achievement.

Across all grade levels, our work continues to be grounded in the values of Responsibility, Integrity, and Self-Knowledge—the principles that guide how we learn, lead, and care for one another every day.

As I reflect on this past year, I am most inspired by the spirit of collaboration that runs through every classroom and conversation. Our scholars continue to impress us with their resilience and their drive to make a difference. Our staff shows, every day, what it means to lead with both heart and skill.

At the heart of my work is a deep belief in the power of seeing and supporting people. When we recognize each person's strengths and meet them with empathy and high expectations, remarkable things happen. Our community continues to show that when people feel seen, they rise, and together, we're redefining what's possible.

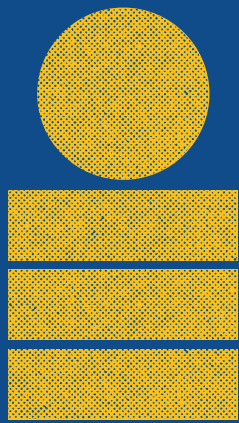
With gratitude and pride,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caitlin Franco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Caitlin" and last name "Franco" clearly distinguishable.

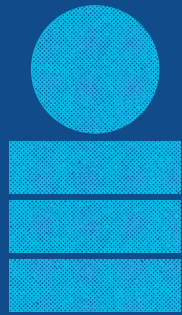
Caitlin Franco

Founder & Executive Director

CURRENT APPROXIMATED
SCHOLAR DEMOGRAPHICS



BLACK OR
AFRICAN AMERICAN
75%



HISPANIC
OR LATINO
30%



WHITE
12%



ASIAN OR
AMERICAN INDIAN
8%



OTHER /
MULTIRACIAL
3%

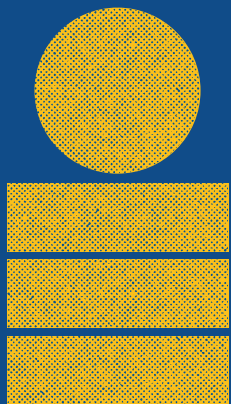


PACIFIC
ISLANDER
<1%

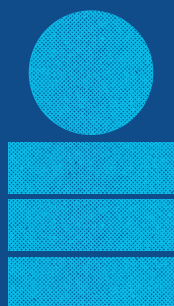
The heart of Equality

At Equality, racial equity informs all our practices, policies, and approaches to teaching and learning. Our staff recruitment and retention efforts aim to reflect our student demographics.

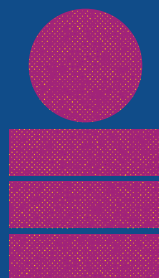
CURRENT APPROXIMATED
STAFF DEMOGRAPHICS



BLACK OR
AFRICAN AMERICAN
45%



HISPANIC
OR LATINO
25%



WHITE
22%



ASIAN OR
AMERICAN INDIAN
6%



OTHER/
MULTIRACIAL
2%



PACIFIC
ISLANDER
<1%

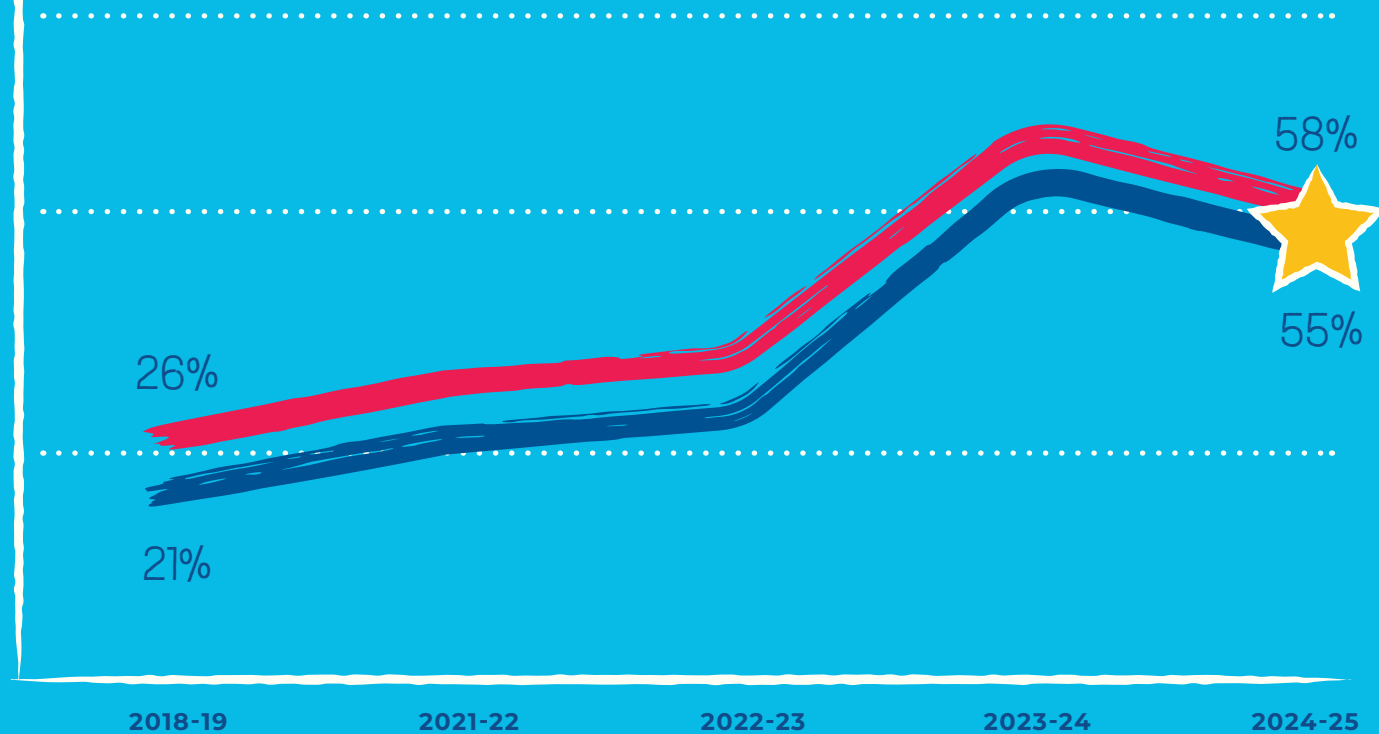


Success worth celebrating

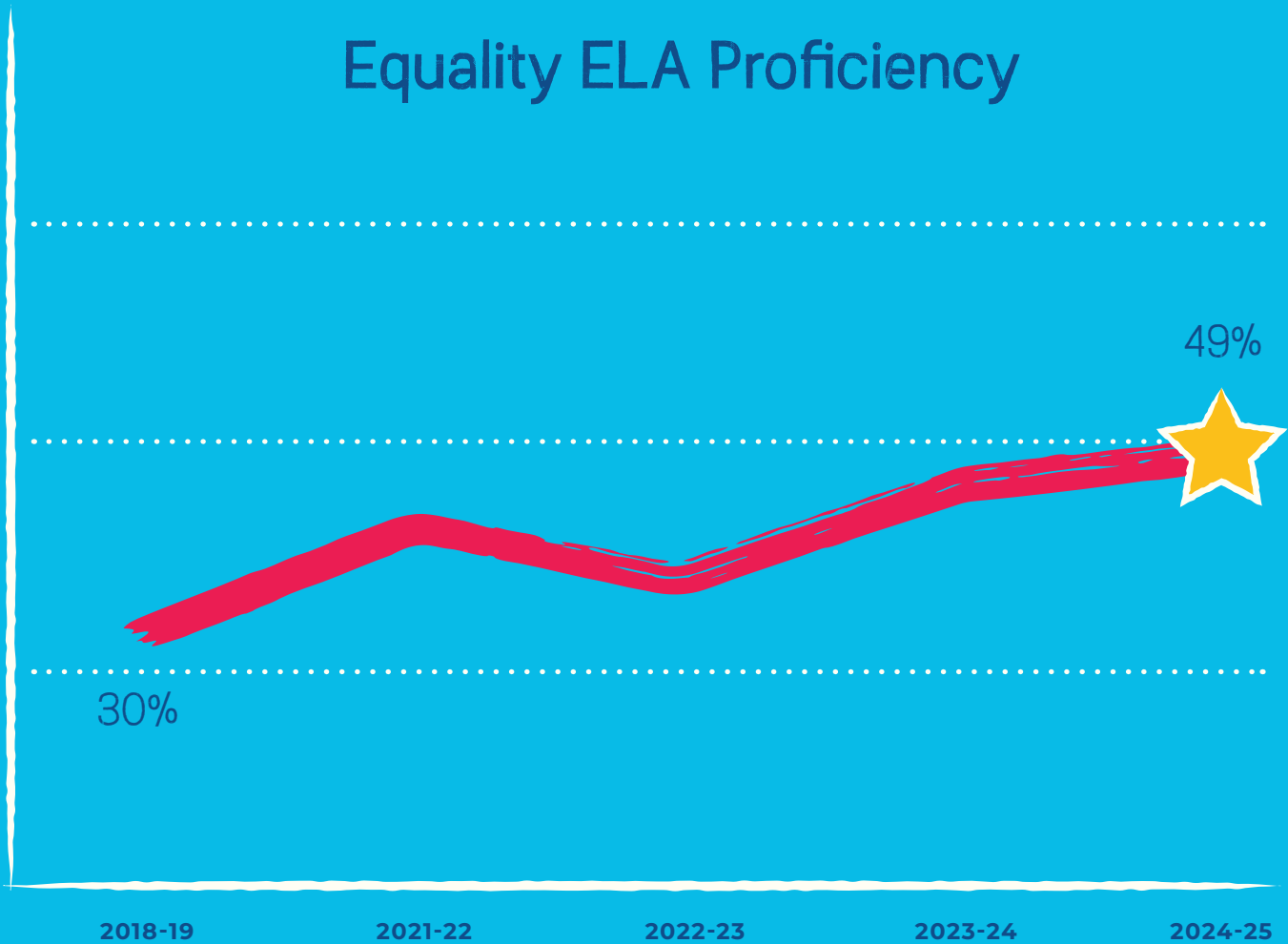
in Middle School Standardized Test Scores

Equality Math Proficiency

■ 6-8 MATH ■ 6-8 MATH + ALGEBRA

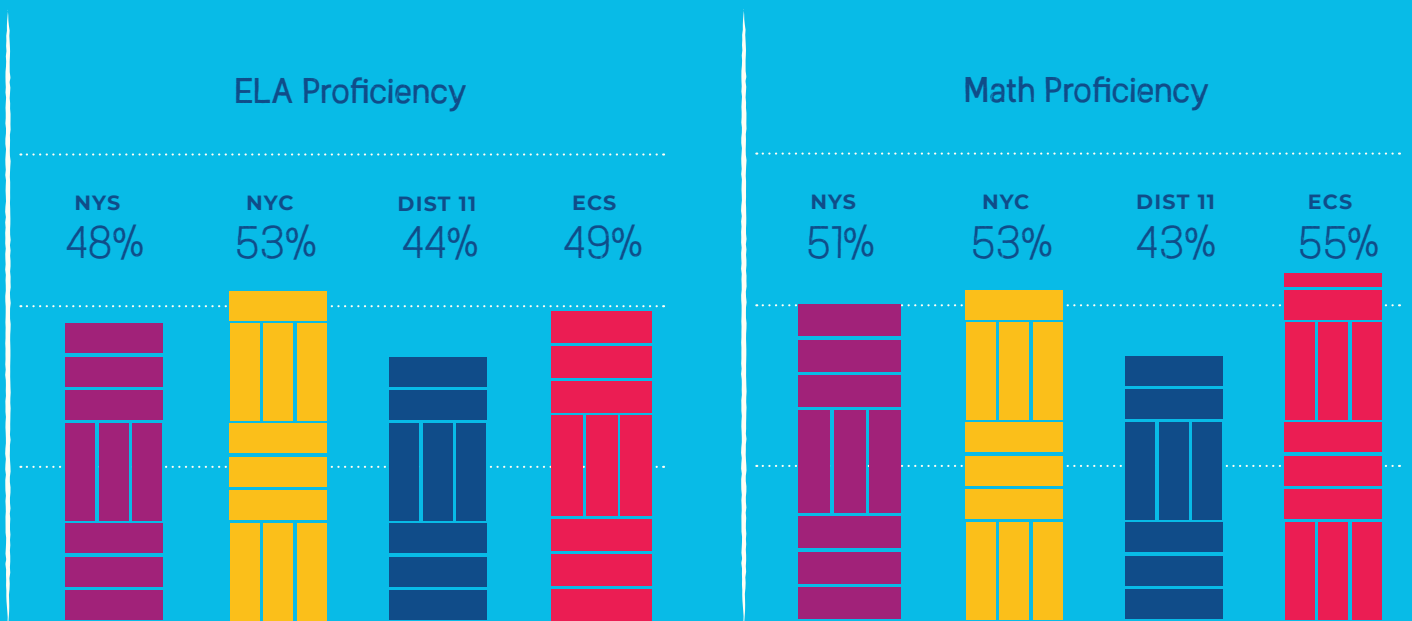


Equality ELA Proficiency



How Our Scores Stack Up

ECS COMPARED TO NYS, NYC, AND DIST 11 IN 2023-24





Strong graduation rates. Bright futures.

ECHS 5-Year Average for Graduation Surpasses City and State

GRADUATION RATES (5-YEAR AVERAGES)



Equality serves Students With Disabilities (SWD) and English Language Learners (ELL). ECHS special population 2024 graduation rates exceeded all comparison groups. Data collected from NYS and NYC for 2021–2024, and 2021–2024 for ECHS.



zero

EXPULSIONS
IN 2024-25

Money well spent

FUNCTIONAL
EXPENSE
ANALYSIS
FY 2024-25

SPECIAL
EDUCATION

\$7,741,925

FUNDRAISING

\$174,848

MANAGEMENT
& GENERAL

\$3,072,911

GENERAL EDUCATION

\$15,232,566

Friends Equality

Since 2018, the Friends of Equality Scholarship, created by Loretta Piscatella and Sherman Reid, has celebrated scholars who truly embody our school's values.

Each year, graduating seniors apply for the scholarship by submitting poetry, video, and personal essays that reflect on the ways ECS's core values are part of their daily lives. Winners are honored with a college scholarship to recognize their exceptional commitment to these ideals.

Congratulations
to our deserving
graduates who
received the
Friends of Equality
Scholarship and
the Franco Family
Scholarship!

of



Franco Family
Scholarship Winner

**Gabrielle
Frank**

ONEONTA STATE
UNIVERSITY



**Jahzara
Armah**

MEDGAR EVERS
COLLEGE



**Dominic
Torres**

LEHMAN
COLLEGE



**Gertrude
Amoako**

NYU



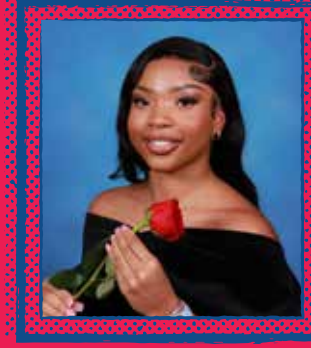
**Issac
Urena**

CONNECTICUT
COLLEGE



**Jayda
Bainbridge**

LEHMAN
COLLEGE



**Trudy Ann
Young**

GEORGIA STATE
UNIVERSITY



Together, we thrive

Ensuring that success and a sense of belonging are accessible to all students



HIGH SCHOOL

Our school community has deepened its commitment to celebrating all cultures, drawing from the values and morals represented across multiple holidays and traditions to create an inclusive environment that reflects and honors our diversity.

EXPANDED ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

- Teach It Back program
- 3 new Advanced Placement courses
- College coursework for 10th and 11th graders
- Mac Lab for creative learning in Digital Media Arts

WELL-BEING

- More comprehensive and responsive supports from the counseling department
- Self-care book club for educators

SCHOOL SPIRIT

- Deepened commitment to celebrating all cultures
- Inaugural school pep rally recognizing athletes and performers
- Production of "The Wiz"



MIDDLE SCHOOL

Our culture work this year is grounded in accountability, consistency, and clarity – with systems and routines framed not as rules but as tools that build independence, self-discipline, and ownership.

ATHLETICS & WELL-BEING

- Klinik Kids: mental-health-through-sports experience led by professional athletes and licensed mental health professionals
- Expanded internal and external sports development leagues

CULTURE

- Systems and routines built independence, self-discipline, and ownership
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- Unity Day: a collective stand against bullying

FAMILY VOICE

- Bites & Insights with Mr. Johnson: conversations with school leadership

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

This year marks a milestone – our family has grown! We welcomed a new class of kindergarteners and expanded to include 2nd grade.

STRONG LEARNING FOUNDATIONS

- New kindergarten class and expansion
- Small-group instruction, early literacy and math interventions, and Teach It Back
- Hands-on and real-world learning: a dedicated science teacher, library visits, Green Meadow Farm, and guest librarians

JOYFUL COMMUNITY

- Fall and Winter Festivals
- Family-inclusive events like Back2School Night and the Gift of Music Winter Showcase
- New recess materials, Dance Party Fridays, and Latin American Heritage Month celebrations





Creating safer spaces

ECS Invests in New Security Guard Funding

To enhance campus security, two new security guard positions have been established. They help maintain a safe and secure environment by monitoring access points, supporting arrival and dismissal procedures, enforcing visitor protocols, and assisting during school events as needed.

THE GOAL:

Ensure the safety of scholars and staff through proactive monitoring, rapid response, and a visible presence throughout all campuses.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:

1

HIRING AND TRAINING

Security guards are hired following school and network policies, including background checks and safety training.

2

ROLE INTEGRATION

Guards will collaborate with Operations and Administrative teams to enforce safety protocols.

3

SCHEDULING

Coverage will focus on high-traffic times, including arrival, lunch, and dismissal.

4

EVALUATION

The Operations Coordinator will monitor effectiveness and provide updates to the safety committee.



Keeping a
good thing
growing



Our recent five-year full renewal stands as a powerful testament to the dedication and excellence of our entire community.

It reflects our hard work and the deep trust and recognition we've earned from the authorizers and educational partners who see the strength of our mission in action.

Moving on UP!



We cannot wait to get the keys to our new “forever home” at 801 Bartholdi, which will welcome our Elementary and High School scholars in the Fall of 2026!





Building skills for what's next

Introducing the ECS AI Committee

Artificial Intelligence is transforming the world, and ECS is diving in. This year, we're piloting the use of Gemini, Khanmigo, and Canva with our high school scholars. Guided by our AI Committee, this initiative empowers our community to explore AI's possibilities while ensuring students use it safely, responsibly, and ethically. We're not just preparing scholars to adapt to the future, we're preparing them to lead it.





ELEMENTARY SCHOOL









M I D D L E S C H O O L





HIGH SCHOOL







Our 2025 Annual Appeal raised

\$43,248

Growth isn't just about getting bigger
– it's about expanding what's possible.
Thank you to our Board, families,
staff, and supporters who are
helping Equality continue to grow.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

3901 White Plains Rd
Bronx, NY 10466
718-459-9597

MIDDLE SCHOOL

4140 Hutchinson River Pkwy E
Bronx, NY 10475
718-517-3169

HIGH SCHOOL

2141 Seward Ave
Bronx, NY 10473
718-459-9597



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