

For Immediate Release

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**RESPONDING TO STRONG COMMUNITY DEMAND, SUCCESS
ACADEMY TO APPLY FOR 14 ADDITIONAL CHARTERS**

June 9, 2014 (New York, NY) — Success Academy Charter Schools announced today that it is submitting applications to SUNY Charter Schools Institute to establish 14 new public charter schools in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Bronx, and Queens. Community demand for these high-performing schools reached an all time high this year, with more than 14,400 families applying for fewer than 3,000 open seats. An outgrowth of the charter-friendly legislation championed by Governor Cuomo and other state leaders this spring, the planned schools will provide educational equity to thousands of families in communities currently without viable school options for their children.

“Chancellor Fariña recently noted that it is important to listen to the community. That is what we are doing in applying for these charters because the community is demanding more high quality charter schools,” said CEO Eva Moskowitz. “These families — representing more than a dozen neighborhoods — are desperate for great schools. Even with 14 more schools, we will not make a dent in the demand we are seeing.”

Ranked in the top 1% of all New York State schools in math, and the top 7% in English Language Arts on last year’s state exams, Success Academy has reversed the achievement gap for African American and Hispanic students, which are about 86% of its enrollment. On the 2013 state exams, 80% of Success Academy’s African American students and 88% of its Hispanic students were math proficient, compared with 50% and 47% for the city’s white students.

Applications for the 14 new schools are based on community demand from parents residing in these districts, as well as the districts’ scarcity of high quality schools. Even in so-called good school districts, the best schools are over-crowded and enroll primarily white children. In those same districts, minority children are often segregated in schools where achievement is low. If approved, four of the new schools would open in 2015 and ten in 2016.

Success Academy opens new schools with a kindergarten and first grade class, typically enrolling between 150-200 children in the first year, and expanding the school in subsequent years with new kindergarten classes. With few exceptions, there

are district school buildings where existing vacancies would make co-location a cost-effective option for siting the new schools.

Applications for four schools to open in August 2015 are in the following Community School Districts:

CSD 9

- There is significant interest from families in CSD 9 seeking high-quality school options for their children. Last year, not one of the 50 district schools in CSD 9 had both math and ELA proficiency ratings above 50%.
- At 28 schools (more than half of all schools), fewer than 10% of kids passed ELA.
- Community demand is very strong: Success Academy received 1,232 unique applications from families living in CSD 9 last year.

CSD 27

- Out of 46 district schools in CSD 27, only 4 had a math proficiency rating of more than 50%. Only 1 had an ELA proficiency rating above 50%.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 27: In 2013, 16% of African American students and 23% of Hispanic students were proficient in English, compared to 43% of white students and 39% of Asian students. Similarly, white and Asian students met state math standards at a rate three times that of African American students.
- Success Academy received 586 unique applications from the CSD 27 community last year.

CSD 3

- At 20 out of 30 elementary/middle schools in the district, less than half of all students passed the 2013 ELA exam.
- The same is true at 21 out of 30 schools for math. At 9 of the 30 schools — nearly 1 in 3 — fewer than 10% of students achieved math proficiency.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 3: In 2013, 18% of African American students and 21% of Hispanic students were proficient in English, compared to 74% of white students and 76% of Asian students. Similarly, white and Asian students met state math standards at a rate more than three times that of African American and Hispanic students.
- Success Academy received 815 unique applications from the CSD 3 community last year.

CSD 2

- At more than 1 out of 3 schools (grades K-8) in the district, less than half of all students passed the 2013 ELA exam.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 2: In 2013, only 27% of African American students and 30% of Hispanic students were proficient in

math, compared to 71% of white students and 74% of Asian students. Similarly, white and Asian students met state English standards at a rate more than double that of African American and Hispanic students.

- Success Academy received 682 unique applications from families living in CSD 2 last year.

Applications for ten schools to open in August 2016 are in the following Community School Districts:

CSD 17

- Out of 36 schools in CSD 17, only 1 had an ELA pass rate over 50% and only 2 had a math pass rate above 50%.
- Community support is very strong in CSD 17: Success Academy received 917 unique applications from this community last year.

CSD 18

- In both ELA and math, 19 out of 20 schools had a proficiency rating of below 50%.
- Success Academy received 532 unique applications from families living in CSD 18 last year.

CSD 13

- Only 2 out of 31 schools in CSD 13 had a pass rate higher than 50% in math or ELA.
- 8 out of 31 schools had a math pass rate of less than 10%
- Success Academy received 472 unique applications from families living in CSD 13 last year.

CSD 22

- 27 out of the 31 district schools in CSD 22 had an ELA proficiency rating of less than 50%.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 22: In 2013, 20% of African American students and 24% of Hispanic students were proficient in math, compared to 52% of white students and 57% of Asian students. Similarly, white and Asian students met state English standards at double the rate of African American and Hispanic students.
- Success Academy received 741 unique applications from families living in CSD 22 last year.

CSD 23

- CSD 23 has a high concentration of low-performing schools: Only 1 out of 27 schools had a proficiency rating above 50% in either math or ELA last year.
- 13 schools had a math proficiency rating of less than 10%
- 15 schools had an ELA proficiency rating of less than 10%

- Success Academy received 319 unique applications from families living in CSD 23 last year.

CSD 14

- There is strong need for high-quality schools in CSD 14: 27 of 28 schools had an ELA pass rate below 50%.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 14: In 2013, 13% of African American students and 18% of Hispanic students were proficient in math, compared to 50% of white students and 66% of Asian students. Similarly, white and Asian students met state English standards at more than double the rate of African American and triple the rate of Hispanic students.
- Success Academy received 412 unique applications from families living in CSD 14 last year.

CSD 15

- Even in CSD 15, which includes Park Slope and Cobble Hill, one-fourth of all schools had a math proficiency rate of less than 10%.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 15: In 2013, 25% of African American students and 22% of Hispanic students were proficient in math, compared to 65% of white students and 57% of Asian students. Similarly, white students met state English standards at double the rate of African American and triple the rate of Hispanic students.
- Success Academy received 300 unique applications from families living in CSD 15 last year.

CSD 24

- 31 out of 34 schools in CSD 24 had an English proficiency rate of below 50%.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 24: In 2013, 19% of African American students and 23% of Hispanic students were proficient in math, compared to 46% of white students and 61% of Asian students. Similarly, white and Asian students met state English standards at double the rate of African American and Hispanic students.
- Success Academy received 152 unique applications from families living in CSD 24 last year.

CSD 28

- 31 of 36 district schools in CSD 28 had an ELA proficiency rate below 50%.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 28: In 2013, 16% of African American students and 24% of Hispanic students were proficient in math, compared to 46% of white students and 52% of Asian students. Similarly, white and Asian students met state English standards at double the rate of African American and Hispanic students.
- Success Academy received 444 unique applications from families living in CSD 28 last year.

CSD 30

- 30 out of 33 schools in CSD 30 had an English proficiency rate below 50%.
- There is an enormous racial achievement gap in CSD 30: In 2013, 15% of African American students and 25% of Hispanic students were proficient in math, compared to 49% of white students and 58% of Asian students. Similarly, white and Asian students met state English standards at more than double the rate of African American and Hispanic students.
- Success Academy received 49 unique applications from families living in CSD 30 last year, without a school.