



Grad Tracker

Young Scholars' Academy for Discovery and Exploration, New York

Topic: Increased Learning Time: Beyond the Regular School Day

Practice: Evaluate Program

The After School Corporation (TASC) measures expanded learning time elementary and middle schools' progress toward the long-term goal of increasing high school graduation rates and college readiness through evaluating both the process and the impact of the increased learning time work. TASC has developed its own measurement tool, the *Grad Tracker*, to assess year-to-year student progress on school attendance, behavior and academic achievement. This tool measures how many students in elementary and middle schools are on track to graduate; how many are closing in on that status; and how many are not on track to graduate, putting them at risk for dropping out.

Students who meet these three benchmarks are considered to be fully on track to graduate:

- They are proficient in math and English as measured by standardized test scores and grades
- Their school attendance is excellent
- They have experienced no school suspensions

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When students fall short in just one way — they fail a course, have less than excellent attendance, or score just below proficiency in English or math — they are closing in on the goal of being on track to graduate, according to this benchmarking system. Students who fail to achieve proficiency in math or English, have at least one suspension, or are chronically absent are considered to be at risk for dropping out.

TASC has developed benchmarks for four age groups: grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8 (middle school), and 9-12 (high school).

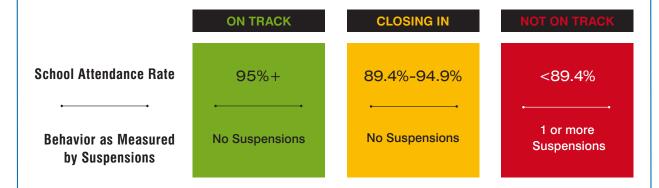




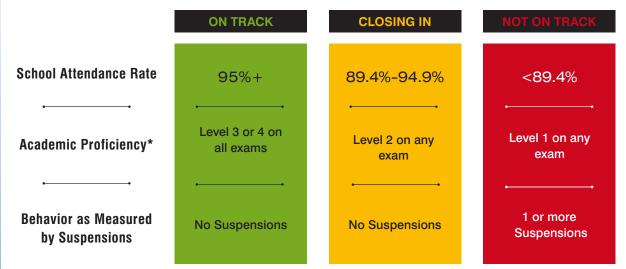
GRAD TRACKER

Grad Tracker is an evidence-based student data monitoring tool TASC created. We use this tool to gauge students' progress toward graduation by analyzing three categories of student data: academic proficiency, school attendance and behavior in school. Through Grad Tracker, TASC measures how many students are on track to graduate; how many are closing in on that status; and how many are not on track to graduate, and therefore at risk of dropping out. There are four sets of grade-specific benchmarks for Grad Tracker as outlined below.

KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 2ND GRADE



3RD THROUGH 5TH GRADE



^{*}Standardized assessment scores in English Language Arts (ELA), math, science (administered only in 4th grade) and social studies (administered only in 5th grade)



6TH THROUGH 8TH GRADE ON TRACK CLOSING IN School Attendance Rate 95%+ 89.4%-94.9% <89.4% Level 1 on Level 3 or 4 on Level 2 on any math or all exams exam English exam Academic Proficiency* AND passed OR failed math OR failed math math and English and English OR failed English courses courses **Behavior** as Measured 1 or more No Suspensions No Suspensions Suspensions by Suspensions * Standardized assessment scores in ELA, math, science (administered only in 8th grade) and social studies (administered only in 8th grade) AND passing math and ELA courses 9TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE **ON TRACK CLOSING IN**

School Attendance Rate 95%+ 89.4%-94.9% <89.4% Failed math and Passed math Passed math or and English **English** English (including algebra OR not enrolled in OR some. in 9th grade) any grade-relevant but not all, math math and science AND all math and science Academic Proficiency* and science courses courses are courses are grade-appropriate OR behind more grade-appropriate than 5 credits **OR** missing AND timely credit between 1 and 5 OR failed at least accumumulation credits one Regents exam **Behavior as Measured** 1 or more No Suspensions No Suspensions Suspensions by Suspensions

Note: As more data become available, we will amend these metrics. The metrics presented are designed for New York City public schools, but can be adapted for other localities.

^{*} Passing math and ELA courses, course selection and credit accumulation





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The markers in this Grad Trackers are evidence-based. Relevant research is listed below.

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