



**ELIMINATING THE LEARNING GAP
FOR DISADVANTAGED URBAN CHILDREN**

April 26, 2024

Jennifer Marshall and LaToya Johnson
New York State Education Department
Charter School Office
89 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12234

Dear Jennifer and LaToya:

I want to thank you for your comprehensive renewal site visit report and thoughtful overview of Rosalyn Yalow's accomplishments these past four years. We accept the report as drafted.

Separately, I'd like to comment on Benchmark 9, Enrollment, Recruitment, and Retention. During the site visit leadership meeting, our higher student turnover was mentioned, and I pointed out that we visit a nearby Department of Homeless Services (DOH) intake center and a homeless shelter to recruit students. Currently we have 19.5% of such students, including a sub-group of recent migrant students (c. 5%). Although we embrace these students as full members of the Yalow family, we also recognize that their welfare is often improved when the DOH finds such families permanent housing in another NYC borough (e.g., Queens, Brooklyn). We accept this turnover as part of our mission serving the south Bronx community, trusting that we have given those students the social-emotional security and educational foundation to build on at their new schools.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alec Diacou', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

CC: Dr. R. Lyon