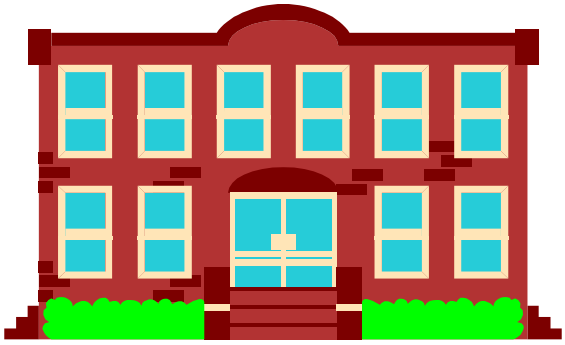
442115-02-0001

The New York State School Report Card
for
S.S. Seward Institute
in
Florida Union Free School District

An Overview of Academic Performance



February 2001

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

March 18, 2001

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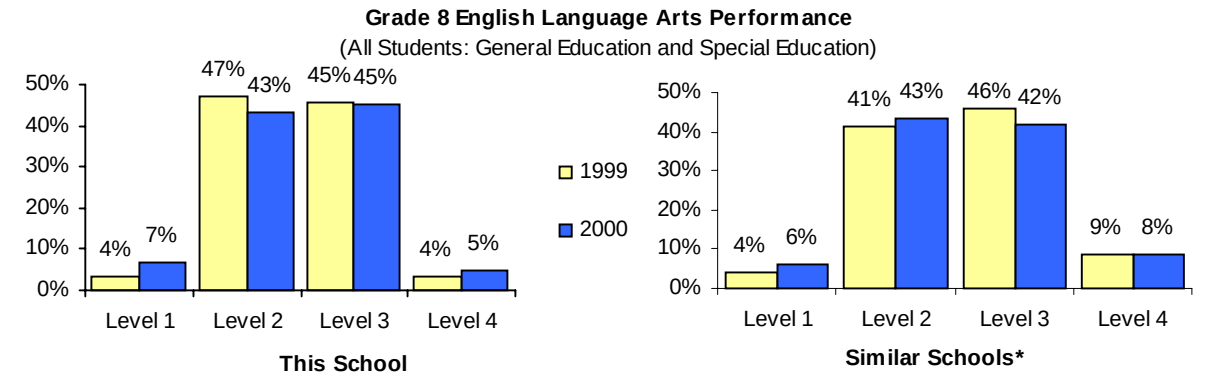
Grade 8

English Language Arts



Performance at This School		Counts of Students								Mean Score
		Not Tested			Tested					
		IEP[1]	ELL[2]	Absent[3]	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total	
June 1999	General Education		0	1	1	19	25	2	47	703
	Special Education	1	0	1	1	7	0	0	8	679
	All Students	**1**	**0**	**2**	**2**	**26**	**25**	**2**	**55**	**700**
May 2000	General Education		0	0	2	23	24	3	52	701
	Special Education	1	0	1	2	3	3	0	8	686
	All Students	**1**	**0**	**1**	**4**	**26**	**27**	**3**	**60**	**699**

Grade 8 English Language Arts Levels – Listening, Reading, and Writing Standards

Level 4 (739-830)	**These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.** They show superior knowledge and skill for each standard for intermediate students and are proficient at some commencement-level skills in listening, reading and writing. Students show thorough understanding of intermediate-level written and oral text. Students' writing is consistently well organized, insightful, and thoroughly developed with sophisticated and effective language and few or no errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation.
Level 3 (701-738)	**These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination.** They show knowledge and skill for each standard for intermediate students and some commencement-level skills in listening, reading and writing. Students show general understanding of intermediate-level written and oral text. Students' writing is generally organized and developed with minor errors that do not interfere with readability.
Level 2 (662-700)	**These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination.** They show some knowledge and skill for each standard for intermediate students. Students show partial understanding of intermediate-level written and oral text. Students' writing has some focus and basic organization and uses simple sentences and vocabulary. Errors sometimes interfere with comprehension.
Level 1 (527-661)	**These students have serious academic deficiencies.** They show no evidence of proficiency in one or more of the standards for intermediate students and incomplete proficiency in all three of the standards. Students show minimal understanding of intermediate-level written and oral text. Students' writing is brief, general, or uses repetitive statements, and reveals difficulty in organizing thoughts. Errors interfere with both readability and comprehension.

Performance of English Language Learners (ELL)

ELL are students for whom English is a second language. Schools teach these students English so they can participate effectively in the academic program. ELL students without sufficient proficiency in English are not required to take the grade 8 ELA test. Their progress in learning English is measured, using standardized tests, and reported.

Grade 8	English Proficiency Below Effective Participation Level	Making Appropriate Progress
June 2000	0	0

* Similar Schools are schools grouped by district and student demographic characteristics. Further explanation is available at http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/repcrd2001/similar.html.

1 These students were exempt from this test because of disability as stated in their Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

2 These students were not required to take the grade 8 ELA test because they were English Language Learners (ELL) who performed below the 30th percentile on another appropriate English reading assessment.

3 These students were enrolled at the time of testing, but were not present to complete some part of the ELA assessment.

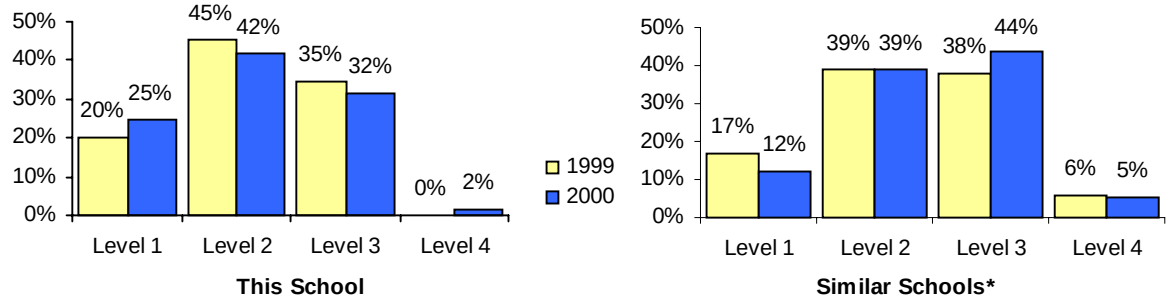
\# To protect student confidentiality, the pound character (#) appears when fewer than five students in a group were tested. If fewer than five were tested in one subgroup, then counts appear only in the "All Students" category.

Grade 8

Mathematics

Grade 8 Mathematics Performance

(All Students: General Education and Special Education)



Performance at This School		Counts of Students								Mean Score
		Not Tested			Tested					
		IEP[1]	ELL[2]	Absent[3]	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Total	
June 1999	General Education		0	2	7	21	18	0	46	708
	Special Education	1	0	0	4	4	1	0	9	666
	All Students	**1**	**0**	**2**	**11**	**25**	**19**	**0**	**55**	**702**
May 2000	General Education		0	0	12	22	17	1	52	702
	Special Education	1	0	1	3	3	2	0	8	691
	All Students	**1**	**0**	**1**	**15**	**25**	**19**	**1**	**60**	**700**

Grade 8 Mathematics Levels – Knowledge, Reasoning, and Problem-Solving Standards

Level 4 (760-882)	**These students exceed the standards and are moving toward high performance on the Regents examination.** They show superior knowledge and skill for each key idea for intermediate students and are proficient at some commencement-level skills. They consistently demonstrate proficiency and accuracy in processes and solutions. They clearly communicate mathematical insights, use a wide range of mathematical problem-solving strategies, and identify the most efficient means to a solution.
Level 3 (716-759)	**These students meet the standards and, with continued steady growth, should pass the Regents examination.** They show knowledge and skill for each key idea for intermediate students and some commencement-level skills. They use prime numbers, factors, rational numbers; apply formulas; visualize three dimensional shapes; understand and use the Pythagorean theorem and trigonometric functions.
Level 2 (681-715)	**These students need extra help to meet the standards and pass the Regents examination.** They show some knowledge and skill for each key idea for intermediate students. They use basic reasoning, understand percentages, visualize two-dimensional shapes, understand properties of polygons and use patterns.
Level 1 (517-680)	**These students have serious academic deficiencies.** They show no evidence of proficiency in one or more of the key ideas for intermediate students and incomplete proficiency in all seven key ideas. They can use variables and make and use simple measurements. They may use simple operations and understand simple graphical displays. They can identify some patterns and functions.

* Similar Schools are schools grouped by district and student demographic characteristics. More information is on the **School** Profile page of this report. Further explanation is available at http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/repcrd2001/similar.html

1 These students were exempt from this test because of disability as stated in their Individualized Educational Program (IEP).

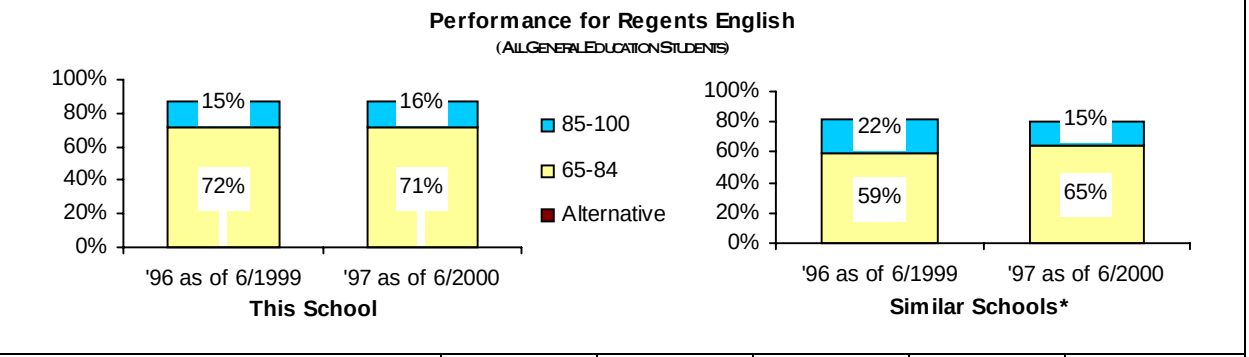
2 These students are not required to take this test because they are English language learners (ELL) who perform below the 30th percentile on an appropriate English reading assessment and there is no test form available in their native language. Other ELL students must take this test, but may take an alternative language form if such is available.

3 These students were enrolled at the time of testing, but were not present to complete some part of the mathematics assessment.

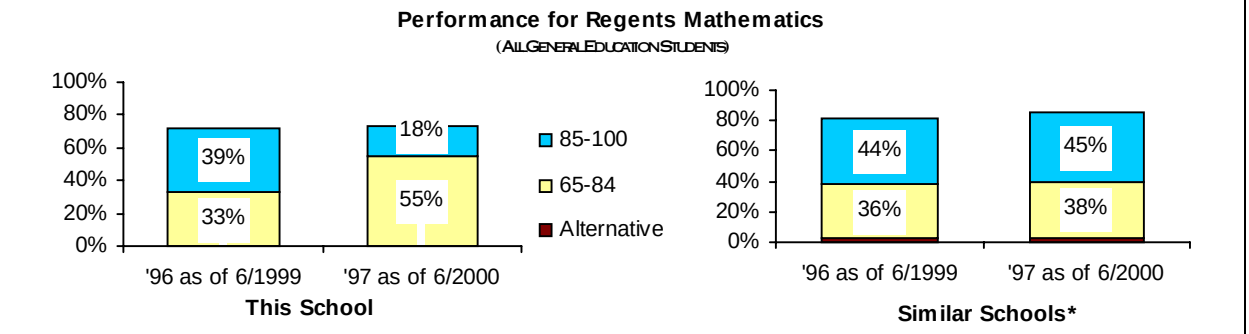
\# To protect student confidentiality, the pound character (#) appears when fewer than five students in a group were tested. If fewer than five were tested in one subgroup, then counts appear only in the "All Students" category.

Cohort Performance

This section presents the success of students in this school on Regents examinations after three years of high school. The first block presents information about success on the Regents examination in comprehensive English. The second block presents information about success on any Regents examination in mathematics. A cohort[1] is identified by the year in which the member students first entered grade 9.



Counts of Students		Cohort[1] Membership	Highest Score[2] From 55 To 64	Highest Score[2] From 65 To 84	Highest Score[2] From 85 To 100	Credit For An Approved Alternative Assessment
1996 Cohort[1]	**General Education**	**46**	**5**	**33**	**7**	**0**
	Special Education	16	1	0	0	0
	All Students	62	6	33	7	0
1997 Cohort[1]	**General Education**	**38**	**5**	**27**	**6**	**0**
	Special Education	5	2	0	0	0
	All Students	43	7	27	6	0



Counts of Students		Cohort[1] Membership	Highest Score[2] From 55 To 64	Highest Score[2] From 65 To 84	Highest Score[2] From 85 To 100	Credit For An Approved Alternative Assessment
1996 Cohort[1]	**General Education**	**46**	**2**	**15**	**18**	**0**
	Special Education	16	0	0	0	0
	All Students	62	2	15	18	0
1997 Cohort[1]	**General Education**	**38**	**3**	**21**	**7**	**0**
	Special Education	5	0	0	0	0
	All Students	43	3	21	7	0

* Similar Schools are schools grouped by district and student demographic characteristics. Further explanation is available at http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/repcrd2001/similar.html.

[1] The cohort is defined in Section 100.2 (p) (8) (iii) of Commissioner's Regulations as of July 2000.

[2] Only the highest score of each student is counted, regardless of how many times the student may have taken the examination.

\# To protect student confidentiality, the pound character (#) appears when there are fewer than five students in a group. If fewer than five special-education students were reported, then counts appear only in the "General-Education" category.

School Profile

Principal: Mr. Thomas Dougherty			Phone: (845)651-4038
Organization 1999-2000		School Staff[1] (both full- and part-time)	
Grade Range	Student Enrollment	Count of Teachers	Count of Other Professionals
6-12	397	39	5

1998-99 School District-wide Total Expenditure per Pupil	$10,650

Student Enrollment			
Grade Level	October 1999	Grade Level	October 1999
Pre-Kindergarten	0	Grade 7	43
Kindergarten	0	Grade 8	64
Grade 1	0	Grade 9	61
Grade 2	0	Grade 10	52
Grade 3	0	Grade 11	47
Grade 4	0	Grade 12	59
Grade 5	0	Ungraded Elementary with Disabilities	0
Grade 6	71	Ungraded Secondary with Disabilities	0

Student Demographics Used To Determine Similar School Groups	1997-98		1998-99		1999-2000	
	Count	Percent	Count	Percent	Count	Percent
English Language Learners	12	3.2%	12	2.9%	20	5.0%
Eligible For Free Lunch	56	14.8%	40	9.8%	37	9.3%

Similar Schools Group	This school is in Similar Schools Group 50. All schools in this group are secondary level schools in school districts with average student needs in relation to district resource capacity. The schools in this group are in the middle range of student needs for secondary level schools in these districts.

[1] Some district-employed staff serve in more than one school. These shared people are not reported here.

System of Accountability for Student Success (SASS)

This section presents this school's results relative to Commissioner's standards for school performance. To raise performance, the Commissioner has established State standards for schools for each school year through 2002-2003. Each fall the Commissioner will announce State performance standards for schools for one additional school year.

Schools are expected to meet or exceed the Commissioner's standards. School districts must develop and implement local assistance plans (LAP) to bring every public school up to these levels. Schools that fall below a standard are assigned adequate yearly progress (AYP) targets. This school-specific program of attainable goals is intended to allow schools below standard to "compete against themselves" by showing adequate progress towards closing the gap between their baseline performance and the State standard.

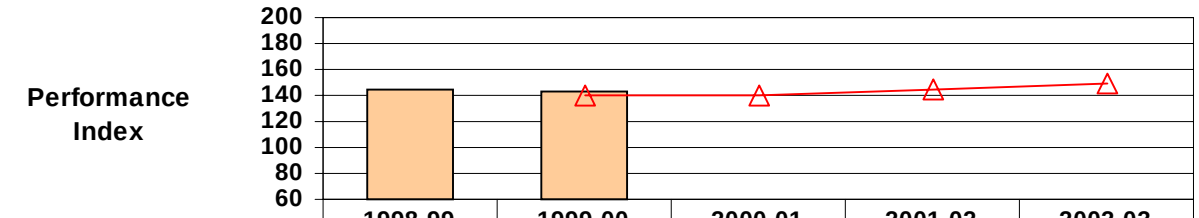
A Performance Index is used to assess school performance relative to elementary- and middle-level State standards for English language arts and for mathematics. The Performance Index credits each school for the students demonstrating some of the Learning Standards (Level 2) and for the students demonstrating all of the assessed Learning Standards (Level 3 and Level 4). Students at the higher levels contribute more to the Performance Index than do Level 2 students. Level 1 performance gives no credit. In its simplest form, the Performance Index is the sum of the percentage of students performing at or above Level 2 plus the percentage of students performing at or above Level 3.

More information about these accountability statistics is available at the State Education Department Web site (http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/repcrd2001). There you can find the rules for which students' results are included in the Performance Index, for how the performance of English language learners is included, for how the baseline numbers are calculated, for accountability for very small schools, and for when and how adequate yearly progress targets are assigned.

Middle-Level School Performance

The Performance Index used to measure elementary school performance is computed using aggregate results of continuously enrolled students on the State Grade 8 assessments.

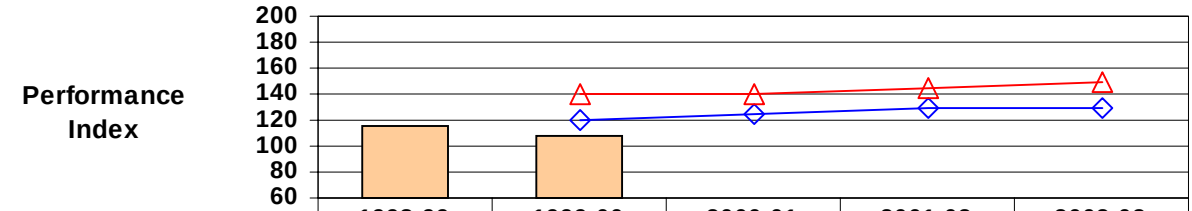
English Language Arts Performance of Students in Grade 8



	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
School Performance	145	143			
School AYP Target					
State Standard		140	140	145	150
School Baseline	145	144			

This school achieved the State standard. The 1999-00 school performance index is based on results for 60 students. The 1999-00 school baseline combines results for 1998-99 and 1999-00 and so reflects the performance of 115 students.

Mathematics Performance of Students in Grade 8



	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
School Performance	115	108			
School AYP Target		120	124	129	130
State Standard		140	140	145	150
School Baseline	115	111			

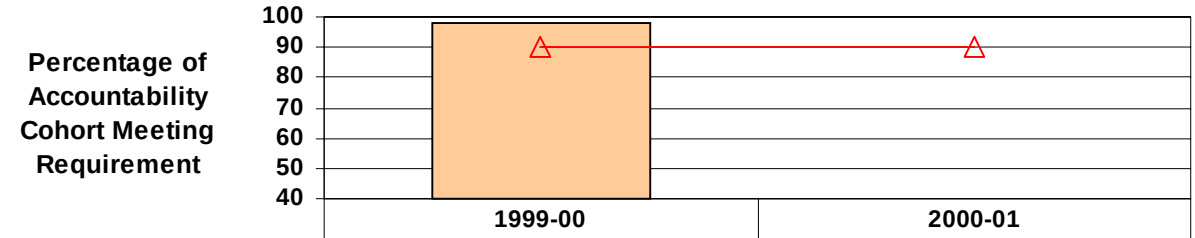
This school did not achieve the State standard, and has not made adequate yearly progress. The 1999-00 school performance index is based on results for 60 students. The 1999-00 school baseline combines results for 1998-99 and 1999-00 and so reflects the performance of 115 students.

Secondary-Level School Performance

At the high school level, school performance is assessed based on the accumulated performance of students in the most recent four-year cohort. The Commissioner's standard is that 90 percent of the cohort meet graduation requirements for English and mathematics. Schools below these standards are assigned Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets. Because of the increasing graduation requirements, maintaining current rates of achievement is considered AYP for the next year. After the requirements are fully "phased-in," there will be increasing AYP targets.

For this year, the cohort is defined as all students who first entered grade 9 in 1996-97, who entered a NY State school before October 1998 and who were enrolled at this school for the time from June 19, 1999 through June 16, 2000. Commissioner's Regulations allow certain students to be excluded from the cohort.

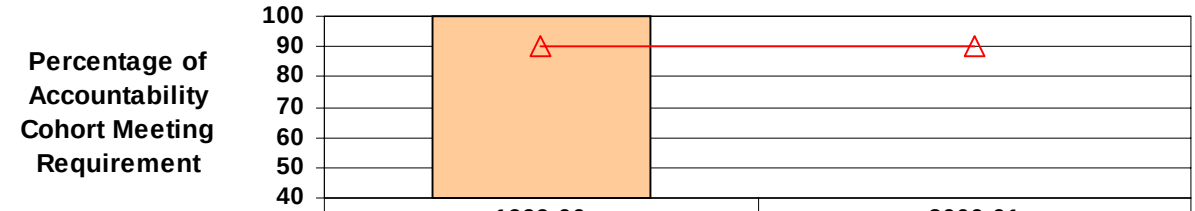
English Graduation Requirement Performance of High School Cohort After Four Years



	1999-00	2000-01
School Performance	98	
School AYP Target		
State Standard	90	90
School Baseline	98	

This school achieved the State standard. The 1999-00 school performance measure is based on results for 50 students.

Mathematics Graduation Requirement Performance of High School Cohort After Four Years

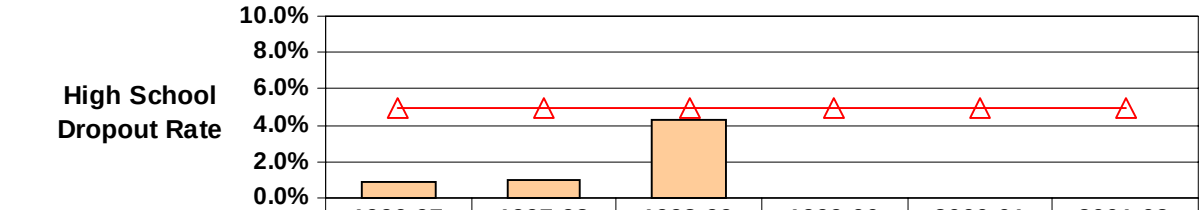


	1999-00	2000-01
School Performance	100	
School AYP Target		
State Standard	90	90
School Baseline	100	

This school achieved the State standard. The 1999-00 school performance measure is based on results for 50 students.

High School Dropout Rate

A dropout is any student who left school prior to graduation for any reason except death and did not enter another school or approved high school equivalency preparation program. The dropout rate is calculated by dividing the total number of students who dropped out in a given year by the total fall enrollment in grades 9-12, including that portion of the ungraded secondary student enrollment that can be attributed to grades 9-12.



	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
School Performance	0.9%	1.0%	4.2%			
School AYP Target						
State Standard	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
School Baseline	1.0%	0.9%	2.7%			

This school achieved the State standard.