

CONTRACT FOR EXCELLENCE

The Ossining Union Free School District is mandated by the State Education Department to develop a Contract for Excellence (C4E) plan that is committed to directing foundation aid funding to students requiring greatest academic needs, implementing proven instructional programs, and ensuring that all students make yearly adequate progress by setting targets for improvement. Approved legislation regarding contract requirements applies to districts receiving an additional \$15 million or a 10% increase of the funding received in the base year and has one school requiring academic progress.

The Ossining Union Free School District was identified as a C4E district last year because of the increase in funding and because some students at Ossining High School did not achieve expected yearly progress in English Language Arts. We are required to spend \$356,059, 50% of funding, to support existing initiatives and \$356,059, 50% of funding, to support new initiatives.

The proposed C4E initiatives listed below for the 2008-2009 school year will provide all students and targeted populations with the necessary support and enrichment to ensure academic success.

- **Class Size Reduction**
An additional first Grade Teacher will be assigned to Park School to reduce class size.
Park School allocation: \$84,192
- **Increased Time on Task**
The Earth Science for All: Summer Expansion Program for AMD Middle School eighth grade students requiring additional academic support will be provided during the summer.
AMD allocation: \$47,146
- **Middle and High School Restructuring**
The addition of a .4 F.T.E. American Sign Language Teacher will be assigned to Ossining High School to enhance the overall World Language Program and provide additional opportunities for High School students.
OHS allocation: \$31,505
- **Model Programs for English Language Learners**
The Two Way Bilingual/ Dual Language Program will provide Spanish and English instruction to second grade students at Brookside School and fourth grade students at Claremont School, in addition to students in grades Pre K – 4.
Brookside School allocation: \$96,608
Claremont School allocation: \$96,608

The following programs and initiatives were components of the 2007-2008 C4E plan and will continue to be implemented during the 2008-2009 school year:

- The hiring of a secondary literacy coach to work with teachers across the curriculum
- A new kindergarten teacher was hired for Park School to reduce class size
- Two teachers were hired for the Two Way Bilingual Program, which provided the district the opportunity to expand the program both horizontally and vertically
- Two additional Earth Science teachers were hired to implement the middle school Regents Earth Science program for all 8th grade students
- The AMD middle school STARS extended day program was initiated for instructional and enrichment opportunities

The performance targets for all students are to raise grades 3-8 ELA scores, grade 11 English Regents scores, and to increase students' academic achievement in all subject areas.

Comments should be forwarded to: Angela White, Assistant Superintendent, Roosevelt School, 190 Croton Avenue, Ossining, N.Y. 10562