

# THE SUNY CHARTER SCHOOLS INSTITUTE

*RENEWAL RECOMMENDATION REPORT  
GREEN TECH CHARTER SCHOOL*

*REPORT DATE: MARCH 31, 2026*

*VISIT DATE: NOVEMBER 19 – 20, 2025*



**Charter Schools Institute**  
The State University of New York

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## SCHOOL BACKGROUND

# GREEN TECH CHARTER SCHOOL

99 Slingerland Street, Albany, New York 12202 | Grades: 6-12 | Albany City School District



### MISSION

*Green Tech Charter School empowers young men to earn a Regents diploma, paving the way for college or career success. Through a comprehensive curriculum and culture, we foster essential skills, technological literacy, and environmental awareness for a sustainable future.*

### CURRENT CHARTER INFORMATION

Year Opened: 2008

Serves: 6<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup>

Chartered Enrollment: 505

Charter Expires on: July 31, 2026

### FUTURE CHARTER INFORMATION

Serves: 6<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup>

Chartered Enrollment: 407

Charter Expiration: July 31, 2031

### GREEN TECH CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES<sup>1</sup>

#### CHAIR

Dona S. Bulluck

#### VICE CHAIR

Tony T. Kelley

#### TRUSTEES

Izabella Martin

Thomas E. Mueller

Vinay Pai

Barry D. Walston

### KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS

Single gender model	+	Extensive literacy instruction	+
College preparatory curriculum and class offerings	+	Teachers as advisors throughout a student's career	+
Safe, small school setting	+	Particular emphasis on technology and environment	-
Extended school day and year	+		

1. Source: The Institute's board records at the time of report finalization.

"+" : This indicator is generally present.

"-" : This indicator is generally not present.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### FULL-TERM RENEWAL WITH CONDITIONS

*The SUNY Charter Schools Institute (the “Institute”) recommends the SUNY Trustees’ Charter Schools Committee approve the Application for Charter Renewal of Green Tech Charter School (“Green Tech”) for a period of five years and subject to the conditions listed below with authority to provide instruction to students in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade in such configuration as set forth in its Application for Charter Renewal with a projected total enrollment of 407 students. The Institute makes this recommendation as Green Tech meets the requirements for renewal set forth in the Policies for Renewal of Not-For-Profit Charter School Education Corporations and Charter Schools Authorized by the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York (the “SUNY Renewal Policies”).<sup>2</sup>*

#### **THE SCHOOL IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:**

Green Tech must meet or exceed the targets set forth in the majority of the Accountability Plan measures for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade under its mathematics goal in at least three of five years of the upcoming Accountability Period. The Institute and the education corporation will work together to codify the conditions in the school’s Accountability Plan before the end of the first year of the Accountability Period.

By July 1, 2026, the education corporation must provide a Corrective Action Plan, to be approved by the Institute, to come into compliance with teacher certification requirements under the New York Charter Schools Act of 1998 (as amended, the “Act”), inclusive of methods to assist uncertified teachers in obtaining certification, an identified system of monitoring certification status, and administrative or monetary supports offered to teachers. The education corporation must demonstrate significant improvement regarding compliance with teacher certification requirements in accordance with the Act by the conclusion of the education corporation’s next proposed renewal term.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Green Tech provides a single-gender educational model for young men in the Albany area serving 6<sup>th</sup>– 12<sup>th</sup> grade students after expanding to serve middle school grades during the previous charter term. The school leverages multiple local partnerships to provide internships and opportunities for its students including the New York State Legislature Senate Internship, Albany Medical College Career Pathway Program, and “I Can Achieve A Nursing Degree” Program (“ICAN”). Green Tech also engages students with high quality athletics and extracurricular programming. The school added multiple new college credit bearing courses over the charter term through a partnership with Fulton-Montgomery Community College to better prepare students for post-secondary success.

Although Green Tech is well established in its 18<sup>th</sup> year of operation, the school struggled with consistent leadership and staffing during the current charter term following the departure of a longstanding leader in 2022. The board of trustees appointed an interim leader for one year before hiring a chief executive officer (“CEO”) who transitioned out abruptly in the fall of 2024. In an effort to stabilize the school, the board appointed two veteran Green Tech instructional leaders in a co-principal model, eliminating the CEO role. With the support of an administrative team that includes a director of student support and community partnership, chief information officer, director of operations and human resources, deans of students, and instructional coaches, the principals have worked in the final years of the charter term to strengthen school culture and improve academic outcomes in English language arts (“ELA”). At the time of the renewal visit, staff member and student culture demonstrated clear improvement,

2. SUNY Renewal Policies (p. 14) are available on the [Institute’s website](#).

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

as evidenced by the school's warm, welcoming atmosphere and decreased rates of suspensions. Green Tech's 23 percentage point decline in suspension rates from 2022-23 to 2024-25 further evidences the school's improvements to safety and discipline.

While culture and staffing at Green Tech have stabilized since the Institute's two evaluation visits in spring 2023 and spring 2025, mathematics instruction continues to be an area of development and focus for school leadership. Green Tech has clear systems in place to support the delivery of the academic program such as consistent curriculum and lesson planning structures. However, leaders recognize that staff member and leader turnover has hindered instructional quality assurance over the term particularly in mathematics courses. Current leaders have responded to instructional gaps by adopting a new tutoring curriculum, overhauling the mathematics curriculum, and increasing professional development over the summer. The school produced uneven results on New York State mathematics exams and Regents attainment over the term, but has posted commendable ELA and graduation outcomes, demonstrating the capacity to deliver a strong academic program. The Institute will enhance its monitoring of Green Tech's Accountability Plan targets in the upcoming Accountability Period to ensure the school maintains its effective program elements while urgently addressing deficiencies in the areas of mathematics performance.

### FINDINGS & INFORMATION

#### *Is the school an academic success?*

Green Tech demonstrates success in some areas of its Accountability Plan goals, and is developing its capacity to implement a stronger academic program across all subjects. In 2025-26, the school added one full time and one part time instructional coach and was seeking a third coach at the time of the renewal visit. The instructional coaches observe new teachers regularly, review lesson plans, and conduct coaching meetings. With the support of the co-principals, instructional coaches also work to provide teachers with more consistent, effective professional development. To improve mathematics performance, Green Tech implemented a set commercial curriculum across grade levels. The school previously relied on teacher-created materials in mathematics classrooms, and ongoing staffing changes led to inconsistencies in curricular content and pacing. The implementation of a single curriculum across classrooms supports the development of consistency and rigor in mathematics instruction. However, the school's record of low performance throughout the term requires conditions to ensure students receive a high quality academic program that produces durable academic improvements in a subsequent charter term. Green Tech's record of quantitative results is summarized as follows:

- In ELA, Green Tech increased its proficiency rates for tested students enrolled in at least their second year by 31 percentage points from 2021-22 to 2024-25. The school met or exceeded the district performance in the final three years of the Accountability Period.
- In mathematics, the school posted middle school proficiency rates that fell below the local district in the majority of years of the term.
- Green Tech met its graduation goal over the charter term posting four-year graduation rates that exceeded the absolute target of 75% as well as the district rate from 2020-21 through 2024-25.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### ***Is the school an effective, viable organization?***

After multiple leadership and staffing challenges during the current charter term, Green Tech is working to redevelop its capacity as an effective, viable organization. The abrupt departure of the CEO in fall 2024 created a lack of stability and negatively affected culture and morale at the school. The board and current school leaders' efforts have led to improved culture among both teachers and students as evidenced by higher teacher retention and stronger classroom management across the school since the Institute's previous visit in March 2025.

With continued efforts to improve instruction and academic outcomes at the school, Green Tech has the capacity to meet the goals set forth in its Accountability Plan. Leaders have made recent and planned additions to the instructional coaching team, which have helped increase the school's capacity to support teachers with delivering effective instruction. While conditions are necessary to improve the school's academic program, Green Tech demonstrates operational, financial, and organizational health.

### ***Is the school fiscally sound?***

Green Tech is fiscally adequate based on the Institute's review of the renewal documentation. The education corporation establishes strong methods of budget creation that consider all departments of the school to develop accurate revenue and expense projections. The school's finance team meets with the board monthly to present an enrollment report and discuss financial results. The 2024-25 annual financial audit did not present any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses over financial reporting. Green Tech maintains a separate bank account with the established amounts for dissolution as required by the charter agreement.

Green Tech demonstrates a positive financial performance during the current charter term with net assets of \$5.6 million and 3.4 months of cash on hand as of the 2024-25 financial audit. Green Tech endured a slight decrease in enrollment during the charter term. Although this decrease did not result in worsening fiscal performance metrics, the education corporation's proposed budget includes adjusted enrollment projections to align with trends from the current charter term. The education corporation has maintained adequate teacher-to-student ratios and adjusted accordingly to reflect enrollment fluctuation.

### ***If the SUNY Trustees renew the school, are the education corporation's plans for the school reasonable, feasible, and achievable?***

With ongoing urgent action from school leaders and board members, Green Tech's plans for the future are reasonable, feasible, and achievable. The school plans to continue to maintain the current leadership and staff member structure in place, which has produced a safe, supportive school culture. Green Tech will further improve its academic program through the hiring of a third instructional coach. This role will provide additional capacity for teacher support and development. The high school plans to continue offering college courses with the goal of increasing students' college and career readiness. The Institute's analysis found the school's proposed future budgets to be reasonable and feasible. Green Tech currently occupies one facility and has no plans to move during the proposed charter term.

3. The U.S. Department of Education has established fiscal criteria for certain ratios or information with high – medium – low categories, represented in the table as blue – gray – orange. The categories generally correspond to levels of fiscal risk, but must be viewed in the context of each education corporation and the general type or category of school.



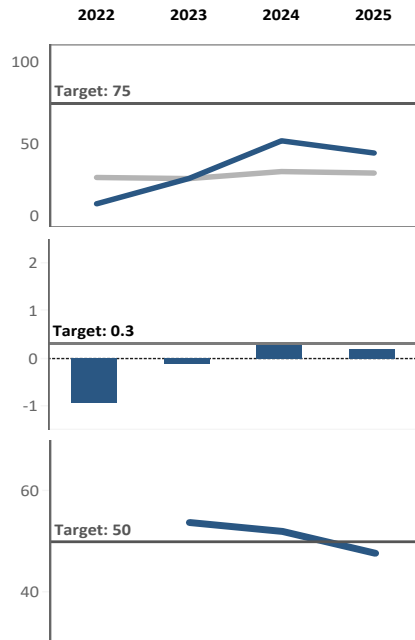
# ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

## GREEN TECH CHARTER SCHOOL

Albany City School District

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN GOAL

**District Comparison.** The percentage of tested students enrolled in at least their second year at **the school** performing at or above proficiency in ELA compared to the district.



Test Year	Comp Grades	District %	School %
2022	7-8	30	14
2023	7-8	30	30
2024	7-8	34	52
2025	7-8	33	45

Test Year	Test Grades	ED %	Effect Size
2022	6-8	90.7	-0.95
2023	6-8	85.2	-0.13
2024	6-8	89.5	0.28
2025	6-8	88.0	0.20

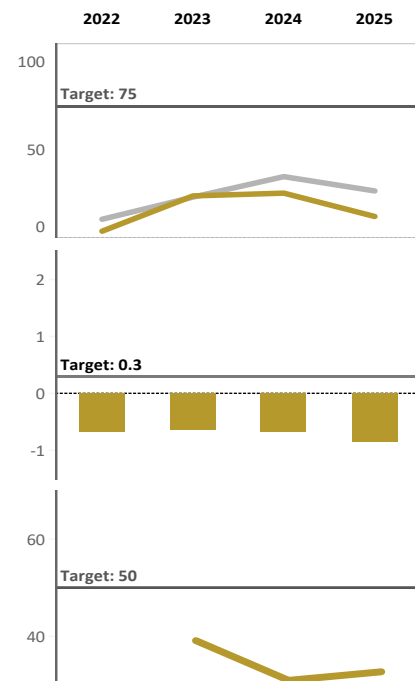
Test Year	School Mean Growth
2022	N/A
2023	53.8
2024	52.1
2025	47.7

**Effect Size.** The chart shows school's **effect size** compared to its predicted level of performance in ELA according to a regression analysis controlling for economically disadvantaged students among all public schools in New York State.

**Comparative Growth Measure: Mean Growth Percentile.** The school's **unadjusted mean growth percentile** for all students in grades 4-8 will be above target of 50 in ELA.

### MATHEMATICS ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN GOAL

**District Comparison.** The percentage of tested students enrolled in at least their second year at **the school** performing at or above proficiency in mathematics compared to the district.



Test Year	Comp Grades	District %	School %
2022	7	11	4
2023	7	23	24
2024	7	35	26
2025	7	27	13

Test Year	Test Grades	ED %	Effect Size
2022	6-7	91.0	-0.68
2023	6-7	86.0	-0.62
2024	6-7	91.4	-0.68
2025	6-7	85.3	-0.84

Test Year	School Mean Growth
2022	N/A
2023	39.2
2024	31.1
2025	32.8

**Comparative Growth Measure: Mean Growth Percentile.** The school's **unadjusted mean growth percentile** for all students in grades 4-8 will be above target of 50 in mathematics.



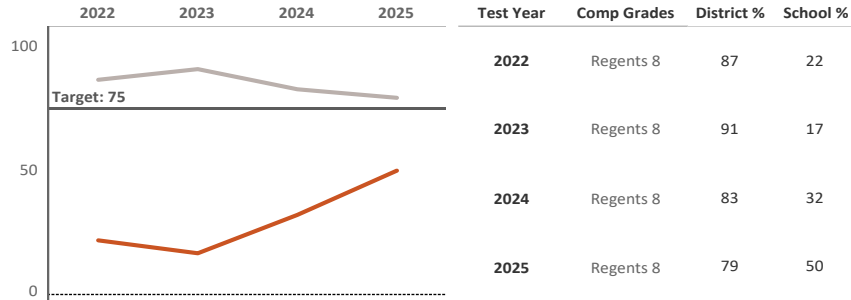
# ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

## GREEN TECH CHARTER SCHOOL

Albany City School District

### SCIENCE ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN GOAL

Science: Comparative Measure. The percentage of tested students at the school in at least their second year performing at or above proficiency in science compared to the district.



### TESTED PERCENTAGES

	2022		2023		2024		2025	
	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math
School Tested Number (N)	119	113	114	113	125	123	106	107
School Tested %	94.4	91.1	98.3	97.4	94.0	92.5	93.0	93.9
District Tested %	74.2	66.6	81.4	83.4	82.5	84.7	85.7	88.8

### PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS\*

	2022		2023		2024		2025	
	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math	ELA	Math
Students with Disabilities Tested on State Exam (N)	0	0	4	2	7	6	7	3
School % Proficient on Exam	N/A	N/A	s	s	14.3	0.0	0.0	s
District % Proficient	2.4	0.0	2.7	1.2	8.2	2.9	5.3	7.0

	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Tested on NYSESLAT Exam (N)	0	0	1
School % Making Progress	N/A	N/A	s	s

\*Academic outcome data describing the performance of students with disabilities and English language learners ("ELLs") are not tied to separate goals in the school's formal Accountability Plan. The New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test ("NYSESLAT") is a standardized New York State assessment given annually to students classified as ELLs. Student scores are categorized into five proficiency levels: Entering, Emerging, Transitioning, Expanding, and Commanding (the highest proficiency level). For elementary and middle school students, "Making Progress" is defined as: testing at the Commanding level, or moving up at least one proficiency level from the prior year, or testing at the Expanding level and testing proficient on the NYS ELA exam in that same year. For high school students, "Making Progress" is defined as: testing at the Commanding level, or moving up at least one proficiency level from the prior year. To comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") regulations on reporting education outcome data, the Institute does not report assessment results for groups containing five or fewer students, and indicates such instances with an "s".

\*\*The district of comparison for Capital Prep Harlem was Manhattan CSD 4 in 2021-22 and 2022-23, and Manhattan CSD 5 in 2023-24 and 2024-25.



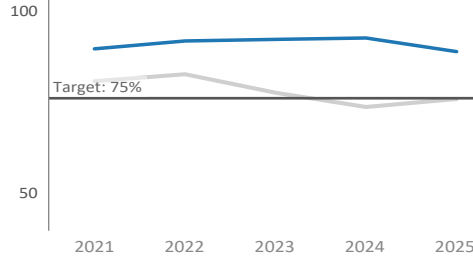
# ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

## GREEN TECH CHARTER SCHOOL

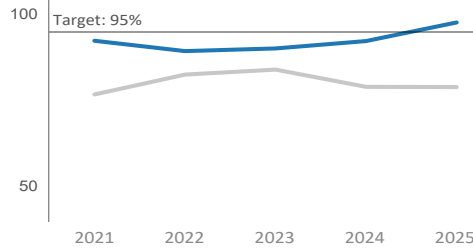
Albany City School District

### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE

**Comparative Measure: Graduation Rate.** Each year, the percentage of **the school's students graduating** after completion of their fourth year will exceed the **District**.

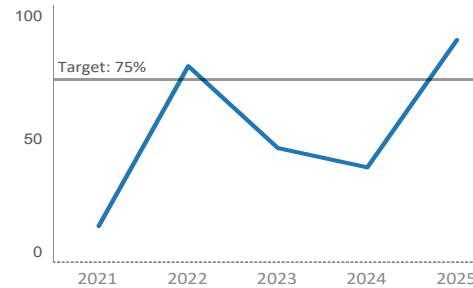


**Absolute Measure: Graduation Rate.** Each year, 95 percent of students will **graduate** after the completion of their fifth year.

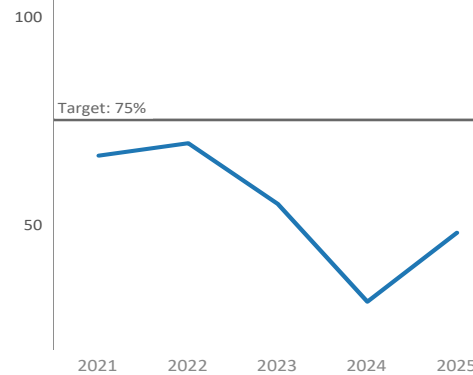


### COLLEGE PREPARATION AND ATTAINMENT

**College Preparation Measure:** Each year, 75 percent of **graduates** will demonstrate college preparation through one or more indicators including passing an AP exam or earning an advanced diploma.



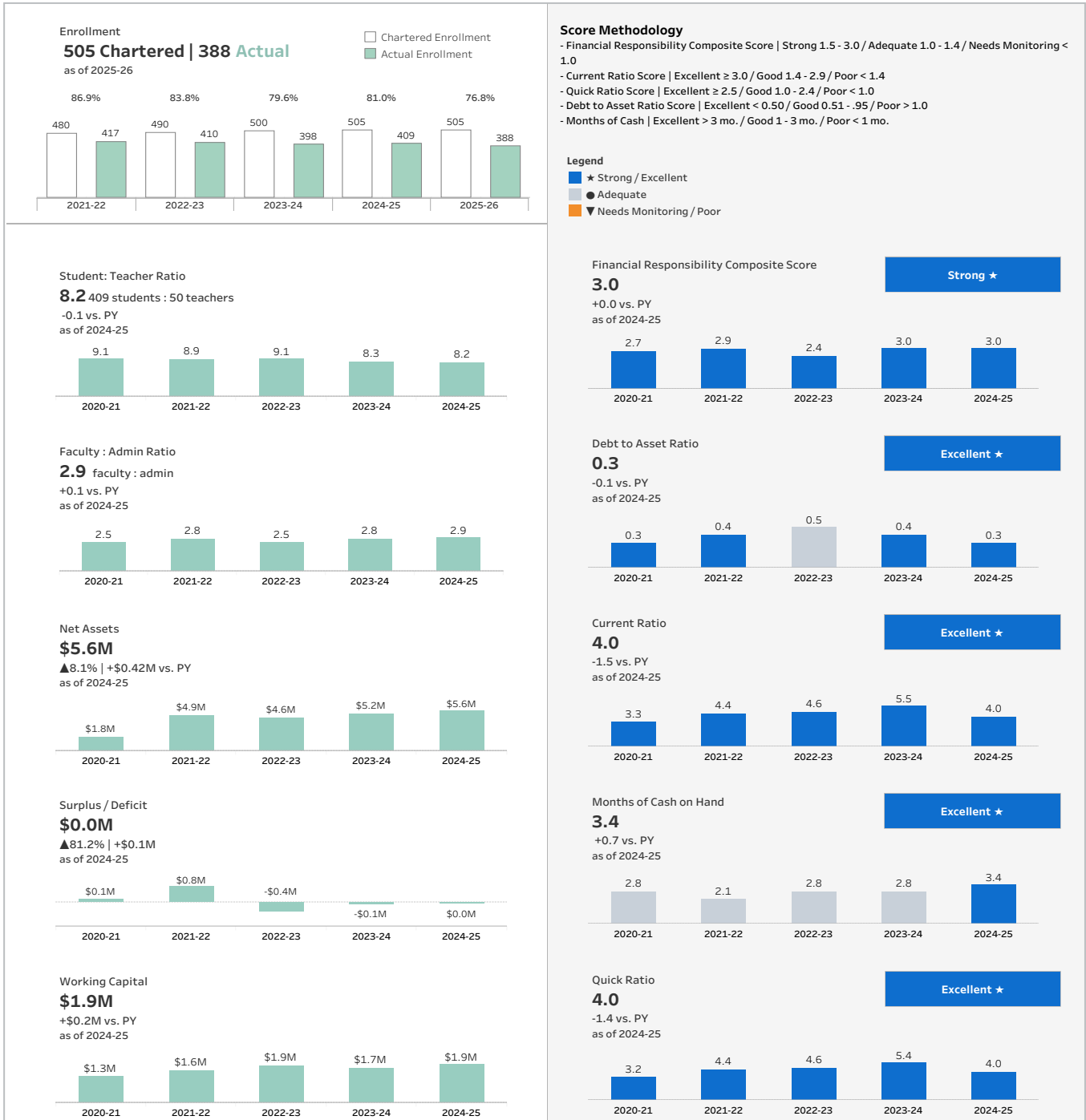
**College Attainment Measure: Matriculation into College.** Each year, 75 percent of **graduating students** will enroll in a college or university.



2024-25 high school outcome data is pending final validation by the Institute.

# FISCAL DASHBOARD

## GREEN TECH CHARTER SCHOOL



Schools report actual enrollment on a quarterly basis to the Institute, and the actual enrollment for 2025-26 reflects the most recently submitted quarterly submission.

## COMPLIANCE REPORTING

### HAS THE SCHOOL SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLIED WITH APPLICABLE LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS, AND PROVISIONS OF ITS CHARTER?

*The education corporation substantially complies with applicable laws, rules and regulations, and provisions of its charter. During the current charter term, the education corporation demonstrates a clear record of compliance with the terms of its charter including the timely submission of required reporting to the Institute.*

#### **Annual Reports**

While Green Tech submitted the annual report in a timely manner to the Institute and the New York State Education Department (“NYSED”), the most recent 2024-25 annual report, comprised of the August 1<sup>st</sup> submission, Accountability Plan Progress Report, and financial audit, must be posted to the school’s website. The Institute will work with the education corporation to ensure compliance prior to the start of the next charter term.

#### **Board Minutes**

Most of the board meeting minutes from the past year are posted on the education corporation’s website, but most recent board meeting minutes have not been posted in the requisite timeframe. The Institute will work with the education corporation to ensure compliance prior to the start of the next charter term.

#### **Child Abuse Posting**

On its website, the education corporation must post in English and in Spanish the toll-free telephone number operated by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (“OCFS”) to receive reports of child abuse or neglect and directions for accessing the OCFS website. The Institute will work with the education corporation to ensure compliance prior to the start of the next charter term.

#### **Title IX Notice**

The education corporation must post a Title IX notice to its website pursuant to 34 C.F.R. § 106.8(b)(2)(i). The Institute will work with the education corporation to ensure compliance prior to the start of the next charter term.

#### **Teacher Certification**

The Act allows charters to hire up to 15 uncertified lead teachers contingent upon those teachers meeting certain requirements including: two years of Teach for America experience; three years of teaching experience; status as a higher education professor; exceptional experience in a subject; or, teaching science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (“STEM”) or career and technical education courses.

Green Tech prioritizes hiring teaching candidates that are certified and expects teachers to maintain all certification statuses. The school recently implemented individual certification support plans for teachers, which detail the requirements remaining for certification, the deadlines for completion, and lists the school supports provided. The school also recently developed a certification resource toolkit, which serves as a centralized system of resources for teachers and an internal certification tracker for leadership. In addition, leaders pair uncertified teachers with experienced, certified mentor teachers who provide ongoing instructional support and professional guidance.

## COMPLIANCE REPORTING

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At Green Tech, 32 out of the 44 teachers are uncertified, which is 17 teachers over the allowable limit under the Act. Out of the 32 uncertified teachers, eight meet the additional qualifications under the Act.

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## COMMUNITY SATISFACTION & ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

To report on parent satisfaction with the school’s program, the Institute used satisfaction survey data, information gathered from a focus group of parents representing a cross section of students, and data regarding persistence in enrollment.

### ***Parent Survey Data***

The Institute compiled data from Green Tech’s annual family survey. The school conducts at least an annual survey to gauge family satisfaction. In 2024-25, 18% of families responded to the survey. Of those respondents, 79% indicated satisfaction with the school. The Institute recognizes that the low response rate may not be representative of the whole community.

### ***Parent Focus Group***

The Institute asks all schools facing renewal to convene a representative set of parents for a focus group discussion. A representative set includes students in attendance at the school for multiple years, students new to the school, students receiving general education services, students with disabilities, and ELLs.

The 15 caregivers in attendance at the focus group highlighted the importance of the school culture and community and said staff members are welcoming, supportive, and caring toward the students. Parents report the school has strong communication practices and that staff members reach out to parents regularly and respond quickly when they reach out. One point of concern was the timeliness of submitting grades. A number of families raised concerns of timeliness and accuracy of grading practices, which has created a barrier to quality student support at home. Parents praised the whole child approach to school culture highlighting the support for students academically, socially, and cognitively. Parents also praised the school’s lunchtime tutoring to students. Families shared that the school provides students with individualized attention and extra assistance when needed.

### ***Public Comments***

In accordance with the Act, the Institute notified the district in which the charter school is located regarding the school’s Application for Charter Renewal. A summary of any district and public comment appears below.

The City School District of Albany held its required hearing regarding the renewal application for Green Tech on October 9, 2025. No one spoke in support of or in opposition to the renewal application.

### ***Enrollment and Retention***

Green Tech makes good faith efforts to meet its enrollment and retention targets. The school meets its enrollment target for economically disadvantaged students, but it does not meet the targets for ELLs and students with disabilities. The school does not meet its retention targets for any subgroup.

## COMMUNITY SATISFACTION & ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

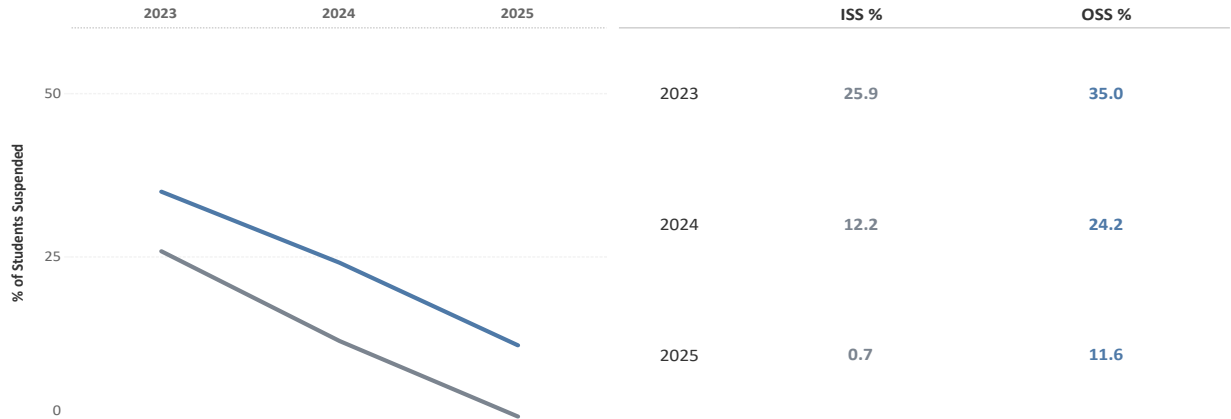
### ***Persistence in Enrollment***

An additional indicator of parent satisfaction is persistence in enrollment. In 2024 –25, 77% of Green Tech students returned from the previous year. Student persistence data from previous years of the charter term is available in the student demographics section of the report.

*The Institute derived the statistical information on persistence in enrollment from its database. No comparative data from the NYCDOE or the NYSED is available to the Institute to provide either district or statewide context.*

# COMMUNITY SATISFACTION & ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION

## Green Tech Charter School



Data suitable for comparison are not available. The percentage rate shown here is calculated using the method employed by NYCDOE: the total number of students receiving an in school or out of school suspension at any time during the school year is divided by the total enrollment, then multiplied by 100.

**Persistence in Enrollment:** The percentage of students eligible to return from previous year who did return



**Expulsions:** The number of students expelled from the school each year

Year	2023	2024	2025
Expulsions	0	0	0

### Green Tech Charter School's Enrollment and Retention Status: 2024-25

		Target %	School %
Enrollment	Economically Disadvantaged	68.0	90.9
	English Language Learners	11.6	2.2
	Students with Disabilities	10.0	6.4
Retention	Economically Disadvantaged	91.4	83.7
	English Language Learners	93.0	
	Students with Disabilities	91.7	65.4

Discipline data reported above reflect information reported by the education corporation and validated by the Institute. Enrollment and retention data reported in these charts reflect available BEDS day information as reported by the NYSED. The Institute cannot report the school's ELL retention data due to data quality issues.



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