

# Yonkers Free Press

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ONE OF NEW YORK'S BEST: Among select group of "exemplary public schools that demonstrate that all students can achieve at high levels with the right supports and resources," Regents Chancellor says

## YONKERS STRONG: New York State Board Of Regents Names CSEE As A "Recognition School" For The 6th Straight Year

By BRIAN HARROD

YONKERS, NY The Charter School of Educational Excellence (CSEE) serves children in #Yonkers, the Bronx and Westchester County, and already is one of the region's highest performing tuition-free, public schools.

Now the Charter School of Educational Excellence been recognized

by the New York State Board of Regents as a "recognition school" for the sixth straight year. CSEE is continuing to accept applications from outside Yonkers for the 2020-21 school year.

"These are exemplary public schools that demonstrate that all students can achieve at high levels with the right supports and resources," Board of Regents Chancellor Betty Rosa said in a news release late last week.

"Recognition Schools help to ensure equity for all children across New York State. The Regents and I are grateful to all of the teachers and administrators who, in concerted effort with their school communities, are guiding our students toward success."

"Recognition schools are the highest performing and rapidly improving schools across the state," Interim Commissioner Shannon Tahoe said in the same news release.

"Recognition Schools across the state demonstrate the relentless com-

mitment of teachers, administrators, staff and parents, without whom this growth would not have been possible."

This is the 6th straight year the Regents have recognized CSEE in this select group. (Note: the designation was changed this year from Reward School to Recognition School.)

The award comes as CSEE continues to deliver strong remote teaching and learning during the COVID-19 shutdown, with average student attendance at 95 percent.

All academic and extracurricular programs are continuing, including CSEE's unique partnerships with the Giants, Jets, Knicks and the nation's top orthopedics and sports medicine hospital, the Hospital for Special Surgery in Manhattan.

CSEE has ensured that all students have access to educational technology, including laptops and WiFi.

"We thank the Board of Regents, Chancellor Rosa and Interim Commissioner Tahoe for this honor,"

CSEE Board Chair and Founder Eduardo LaGuerre said.

"It's a tribute to our hard-working teachers, school leaders, coaches, board members and all our staff, and of course to our scholars, their parents and entire families. Everyone in the CSEE family is dedicated to learning, growth and development of the whole child."

CSEE Superintendent Cindy Lopez, in an email to staff, said: "It is because of you and your dedication and unwavering faith in our work as a team, faith in our students and families that CSEE has once again received recognition from the state as being a highly effective school. I cannot wait for us to be together, back in our buildings so that we may celebrate."

To be identified as a Recognition School under the federal Every Student Succeeds Act, a school must:

have an accountability status of Good Standing;

have a Level 4 for the Combined Composite Performance and Growth indicator for elementary and middle schools or a Level 4 for the Combined Composite Performance and Graduation Rate for high schools for the All Students group;

not have a Level 1 for any accountability indicator (English language arts (ELA) and mathematics progress; Chronic Absenteeism; English language Proficiency; College, Career, and Civic Readiness for High Schools) for the All Students group;

not have any subgroups that were identified as Potential Targeted Sup-

port and Improvement (PTSI) based on 2018-19 school year results; and

not have a 2018-19 Participation Rate for ELA or Math for the All Students group that is less than 95%. If a school did not have enough students to receive a participation rate, the school is still eligible to be identified as a Recognition School.

CSEE educates some 850 students in grades K-9 and will grow to K-12 in the next three years.

Upon completion of its new, privately funded high school campus, CSEE will be serving approximately 1,150 students.

Parent demand is very high, with some 500 students on CSEE's waiting list.