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## **City School District of Albany Recognized by Standard & Poor's for Narrowing Achievement Gap**

### ***Albany Public Schools One of 44 New York State Districts to Receive Recognition***

(ALBANY) The City School District of Albany was recognized as one of only 44 New York State school districts that has significantly narrowing the gap in achievement between Hispanic students and their higher-performing classmates, while also raising the average proficiency rates of student groups being compared. The Albany Public Schools were also recognized for narrowing achievement gaps for two consecutive years. Albany narrowed the gap between Hispanic and white students by 7.9 percent.

“The City School District of Albany is proud to be recognized by Standard & Poor’s as one of only 44 districts in New York State to narrow the achievement gap between Hispanic and white students,” said Superintendent Eva Joseph. “Our purpose is to ensure that each and every one of our students receive a high quality education. Measurable academic improvement and recognition for the hard work of Albany’s principals and educators is a great way to start the 2005-06 school year.”

To be recognized in Standard & Poor’s report, school districts must:

- Serve grades K through 8;
- Enroll 30 students, on average, per student subgroup being compared, per grade;
- Reduce the achievement gap in overall reading and math proficiency (RaMP) rates by at least five percentage points between the 2002-03 and 2003-04 school years; and
- Simultaneously raise the RaMP rates of both of the subgroups being compared over this same period.

Standard & Poor’s analysis recognizes school districts that have made significant improvements in reducing achievement gaps. These districts may then serve as benchmarks for other educators searching for ways to narrow their own gaps while raising the overall performance of students. For the report, academic achievement was determined by review of RaMP, which is the aggregate percentage of students within school districts scoring proficient or better on the state’s reading and math tests.

Standard & Poor’s conducted its research using data attained at [www.schoolmatters.com](http://www.schoolmatters.com). Schoolmatters.com is a free public service sponsored by the National Education Data Partnership, a collaboration among the Council of Chief State School Officers, Standard & Poor’s School Evaluation Services, and the CELT Corporation.

For more information about the City School District of Albany, please visit [www.albanyschools.org](http://www.albanyschools.org), or call 475-6000.