

Four More Buffalo Schools Achieve “Good Standing” SED Promises to Amend Flawed System

Four Buffalo elementary schools have met Federal benchmark standards in math and English for two years and are now schools in good standing. They are Stanley Makowski Early Childhood Center #99, Grabiarz School of Excellence #79, Roosevelt Early Childhood Center #65 and Houghton Academy #69. They join eleven other schools in Buffalo that are also in good standing.

Because Buffalo is a focus district, it is eligible for additional federal money. In a flawed system, Houghton Academy was eligible to move off of the list of “failing schools” in 2014. The stakeholders there had to wait an additional year to be removed. The delay was because Buffalo must maintain its quota of focus schools to remain eligible for the extra money. When a school is removed from the list, one has to be added. There wasn’t a school to add, so Houghton had to wait. Assurances have been made by the State that the swapping requirement will be changed in the coming year.

The administrators in the schools removed from the list have found a way, in spite of all the obstacles in Buffalo, to improve enough to come to the positive attention of the SED. They will tell you that they and their teachers are pleased to be moving in the right direction. There is celebration in success. It comes with the acknowledgement that the work is never done and the challenges remain enormous. The BCSA congratulates the administrators and their staffs for their achievement.