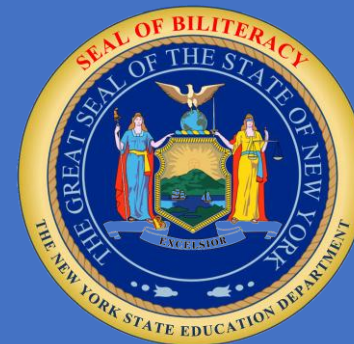




NYSSB Recognition Ceremony

Newburgh ECSD
Thursday, May 21, 2026

Elisa Alvarez – Associate Commissioner
<http://www.nysed.gov/bilingual-ed>



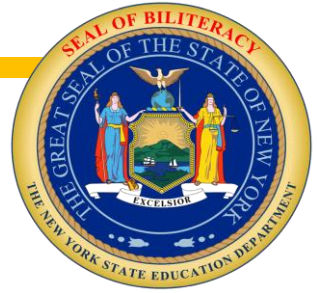
Vision & Mission

NECSD Vision: Creating **voice**, choice, and opportunity for **impacting** the future of all Goldbacks.

NECSD Mission: As the Goldback community, we will educate and **empower** our students to build their futures and support **their community**.

OBEWL's vision and mission align directly with Newburgh's goals to ensure that all learners as we see language learning as the vehicle for **empowering** scholars with an **impactful voice** in the **local and global communities**.





The NYS Seal of Biliteracy

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award that recognizes students who have attained a high level of proficiency in two or more world languages (one of which must be English) by high school graduation.

Acknowledging the importance of being biliterate in today's global society, the Seal highlights the hard work and achievement of students and encourages them to pursue language study while in school, including the continued development of one's home language. The recognition of attaining biliteracy is also a statement of accomplishment for future employers and for college admission.

While over 12,000 students earned the NYS Seal of Biliteracy in 2025, that represents less than 4% of the entire graduating cohort in that year.



NYSSB Earner from Newburgh CSD

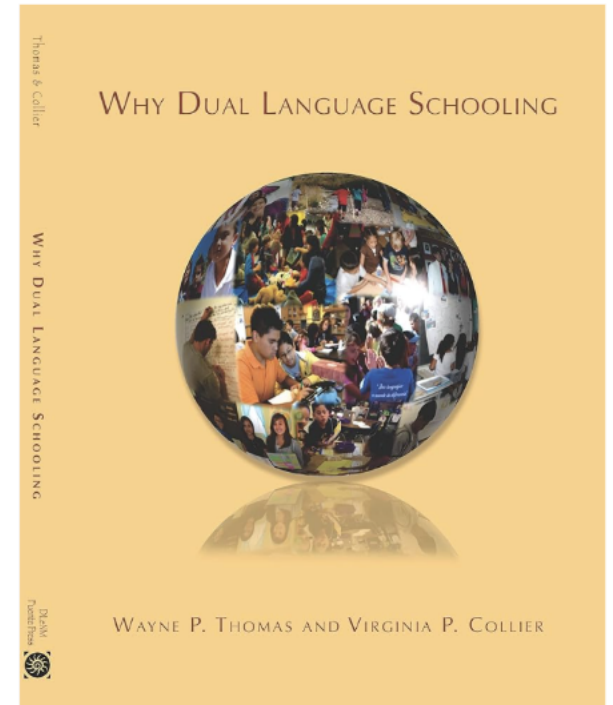
NYSSB earners exemplify the characteristics of the NYS Portrait of a Graduate.



The NYSSB carries the highest weight on a school’s “Readiness Measures”, on par with the NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation and Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate exams.

Why this matters for your child

- ❑ Global impact
- ❑ Diplomatic, international and intercultural collaboration
- ❑ Stronger academic outcomes
- ❑ Improves innovation and creativity in complex environments
- ❑ Better career opportunities
- ❑ Stronger brain development
- ❑ Deeper family and cultural connections
- ❑ Promotes inclusion of historically marginalized communities



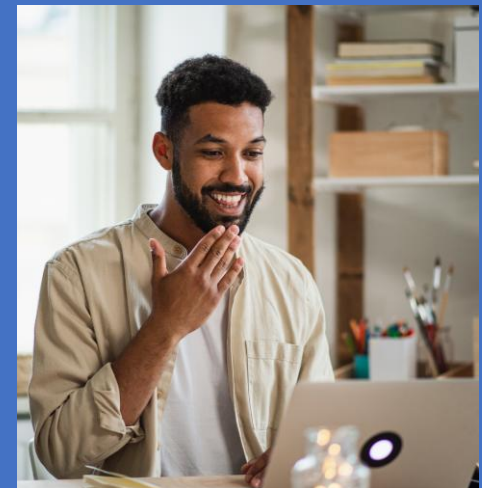
College and Career Ready



Being proficient in English and another world language will boost your career prospects.

All 58 CUNY schools will award between three 3-8 credits for students who have earned the NYSSB.

NYSED is continuing its outreach efforts to other public and private NYS colleges and universities.



LANGUAGE SKILLS IN HIGH DEMAND!

The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and its Lead with Languages campaign, conducted a survey of 1,200 U.S. employers, and the resulting 2019 report, [Making Languages Our Business: Addressing Foreign Language Demand Among U.S. Employers](#), indicates an urgent and growing demand for language skills in the workplace.



2025 NYSSB Stats

12,800 students from 568 schools in 88 languages earned the NYS Seal of Biliteracy in 2025.



NYSSB graduates from Newburgh HS

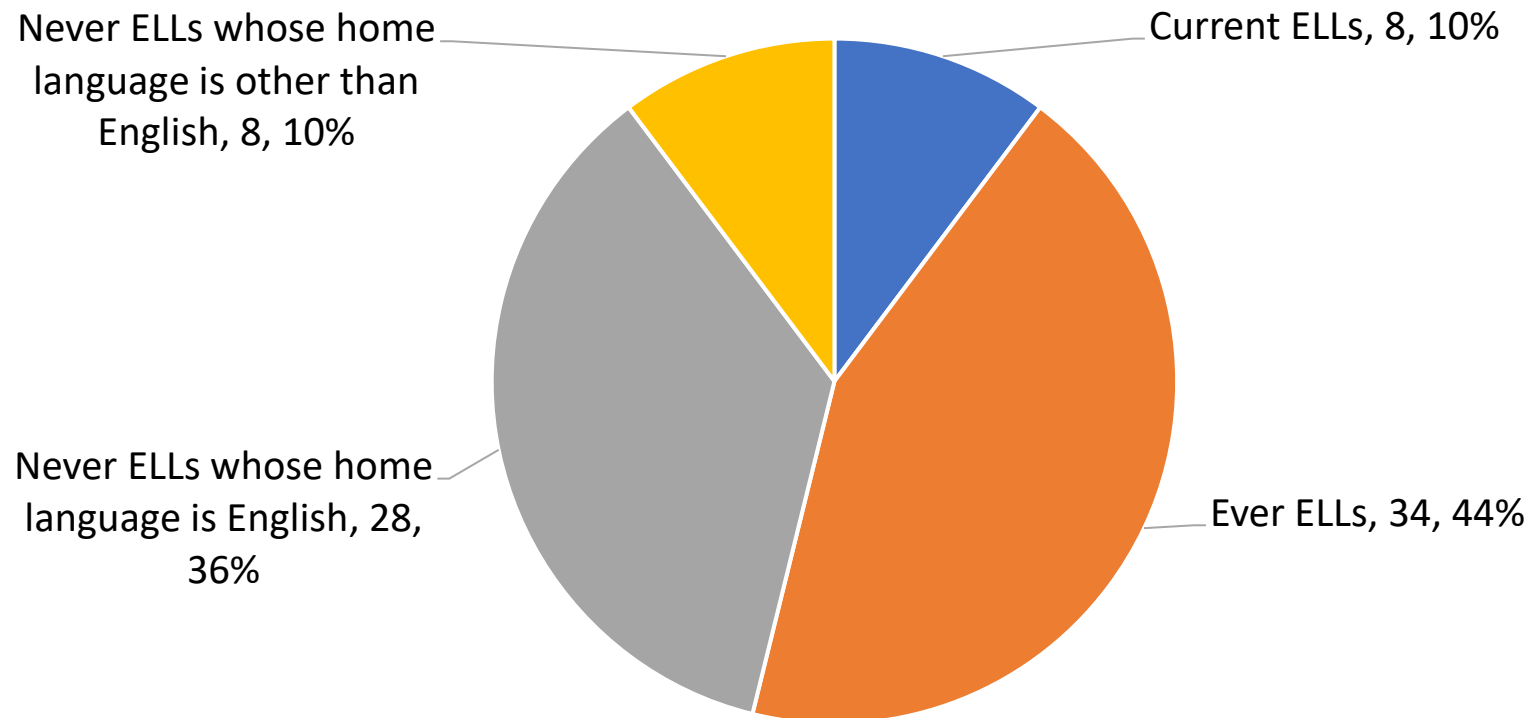
**Newburgh joins
over 700
schools this
year in offering
the Seal.**

2025 NYSSB Languages

Akan Twi	Estonian	Kinyarwanda	Seneca
Albanian	Farsi	Korean	Serbo-Croatian
American Sign Language	French	Kurdish	Sinhala
Amharic	Fulani	Kurdish Kurmanji	Somali
Amuzgo	Fuzhounese	Kyrgyz	Soninke
Arabic	Georgian	Latin	Spanish
Bambara	German	Lithuanian	Swahili
Bangla	Greek	Macedonian	Swedish
Bosnian	Gujarati	Mandarin	Tagalog
Bulgarian	Haitian Creole	Mandinka	Tamil
Burmese	Hebrew	Matu	Telugu
Cantonese	Hindi	Mossi	Thai
Cebuano	Hungarian	Nepali	<u>Tigriniya</u>
Chin	Ilocano	Norwegian	Tsonga
Chin-Mara	Indonesian	Onondaga	Turkish
Chizigula	Italian	Pashto	Tuscarora
Croatian	Jamaican Creole	Polish	Twi
Czech	Japanese	Portuguese	Ukrainian
Dakota	Kare	Punjabi	Urdu
Danish	Karen	Q'eqchi'	Vietnamese
Dari	Kazakh	Romanian	Wolof
Dutch	K'Chò	Russian	Yoruba

Newburgh CSD students earned the NYSSB in the following languages in 2024-25: French, Italian, and Spanish.

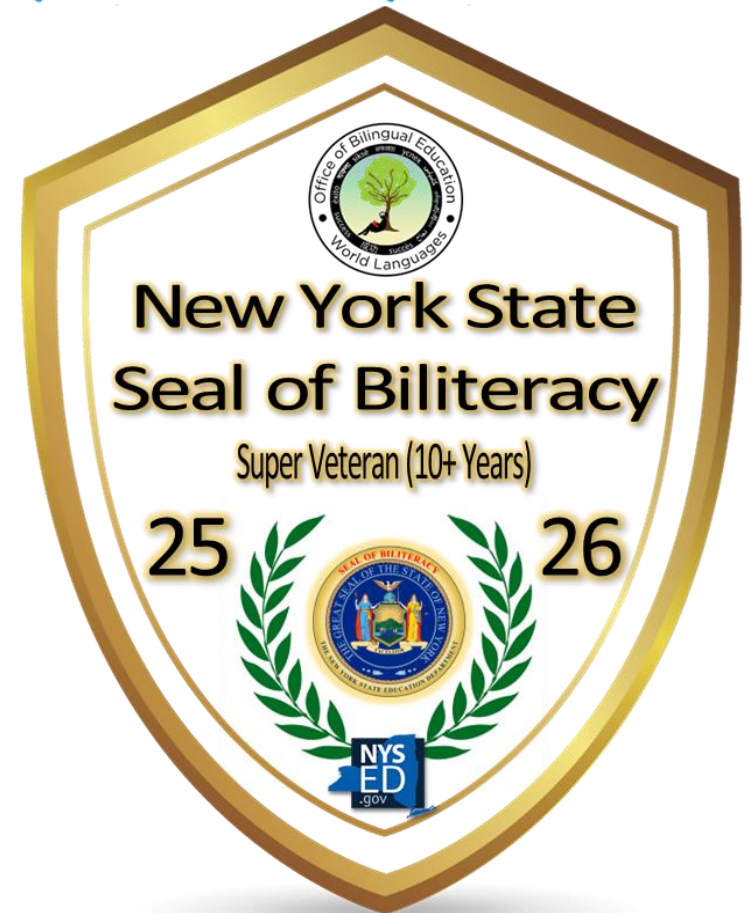
Newburgh's NYSSB Candidates by ELL Status (2024-25)



Congratulations, Newburgh!

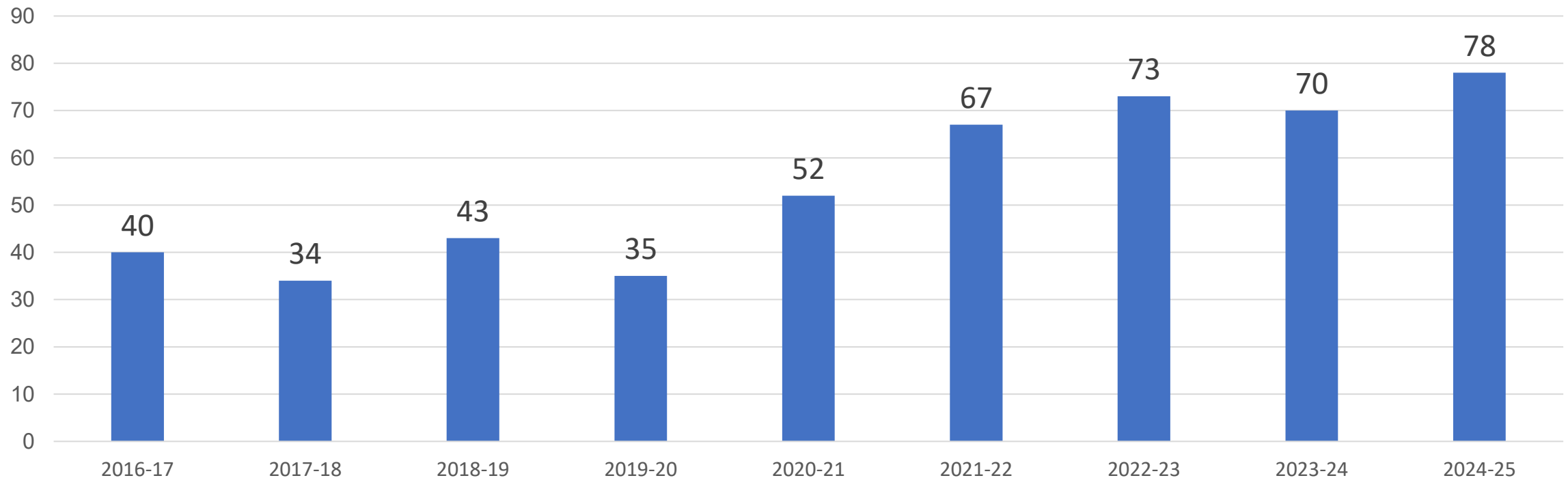
Newburgh has offered the Seal every year since 2016-17.

It is one of only 53 schools across the state that has earned the 10-year "super veteran" badge for the NYSSB.



The NYSSB at Newburgh

NYSSB Earners at Newburgh CSD (2017-2025)



From 2016-17 up until last year, Newburgh has had 492 NYSSB earners!
2025-26 will be a special year as Newburgh surpasses the 500 mark!

Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute (PRHYLI)

The Angelo Del Toro Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute is an innovative collaboration with the NYS Assembly/Senate Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force in conjunction with the annual SOMOS, Inc. conference, the New York State Education Department, Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages and other agencies.



PRHYLI participant and NYSSB graduate from Newburgh HS

Puerto Rican/Hispanic Youth Leadership Institute (PRHYLI)

Newburgh was one of 23 high schools in the Hudson Valley to offer the PRHYLI program to students of Hispanic origin.



16 students from Newburgh CSD were selected to participate in this program during 2025-26.

16 PRHYLI participants who are also graduating with the NYSSB from Newburgh HS

How is OBEWL supporting the NYSSB?



**Webinars &
Resources**



**NYSSB Task
Force & NYSSB
Forum**



**Technical
Assistance &
School Visits**



Elisa Alvarez, Associate Commissioner
OFFICE OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND WORLD LANGUAGES

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/biling/bilinged/>
OBEWL@NYSED.GOV

ELL Parent Hotline at 1-800-469-8224

nysparenthotline@nyu.edu

REGIONAL BILINGUAL EDUCATION RESOURCE NETWORKS

<http://www.nysed.gov/bilingual-ed/regional-supportrberns>

