

# The Class of 1987: Percentage of students in class who graduated by June, 1987

Manhattan		Brooklyn		Queens		Staten Island		Alternative	
Art & Design	69.9	Alfred E. Smith	30.9	Brooklyn Technical	63.5	John Adams	49.8	B'klyn. College Acad.	6.7
A. Phillip Randolph	63.5	Bronx Science	80.9	Bushwick*	3.7	John Bowne	55.3	City-As-School	29.2
Chelsea	46.5	Chris. Columbus	43.9	Canarsie	49.5	Long Island City	38.2	Concord	25.5
Fashion Industries	51.1	DeWitt Clinton	27.8	Clara Barton	63.9	Martin Van Buren	68.8	H.S. Redirection	10.5
F. H. LaGuardia	68.0	Evander Childs	29.8	East New York	25.8	Newtown	47.4	International School	NA
George Washington	21.3	Grace Dodge	44.8	Eastern District	20.5	Queens Vocational	43.6	Liberty	NA
Graphic Arts	35.4	Harry S. Truman	51.9	Edward R. Murrow	78.3	Richmond Hill	45.1	Lower East Side Prep	26.4
Humanities	45.9	Herbert H. Lehman	51.4	Eli Whitney	29.3	Springfield Gardens	35.8	Middle College	34.9
Julia Richman	30.6	James Monroe*	4.5	Erasmus Hall	34.9	Thomas Edison	45.4	Vocational Training	38.2
Louis D. Brandeis	24.3	Jane Addams	51.2	Fort Hamilton	39.8	Townsend Harris	NA	Pacific	6.4
Mabel D. Bacon	50.9	John F. Kennedy	34.2	Franklin D. Roosevelt	42.0	William C. Bryant	44.4	Park East	15.1
Martin Luther King, Jr.	38.0	Morris	20.0	Geo. Westinghouse	45.8	Curtis	50.7	Phoenix School	18.0
Math and Science	68.3	Samuel Gompers	41.0	George W. Wingate	17.8	New Dorp	59.1	Satellite Acad./B'klyn.	38.5
Murry Bergtraum	62.6	South Bronx	17.1	James Madison	51.6	Port Richmond	58.7	Satellite Acad./Man.	28.8
Norman Thomas	62.0	Theodore Roosevelt	20.4	John Dewey	55.6	Ralph McKee*	5.9	Street Acad./B'klyn.	24.6
Park West	28.2	University Heights	NA	John Jay	27.1	S.I. Technical	98.4	West Side	20.0
Seward Park	34.9	Walton	35.2	Lafayette	35.0	Susan Wagner	64.8		
Stuyvesant	83.1	William H. Taft	20.5	Midwood	74.3	Tottenville	68.7		
Washington Irving	39.2			New Utrecht	46.1				
Bronx		Brooklyn		Queens		Staten Island		Alternative	
Adlai E. Stevenson	34.3	Abraham Lincoln	45.5	Paul Robeson	NA			Bronx Regional	11.5
		Automotive	31.6	Prospect Heights	23.5				
		Boys And Girls	19.9	Samuel J. Tilden	45.1				

## Report on Graduation Rate: 'Staggering, Not Surprising'

By Emily Sachar

At twenty-two of the city's academic and vocational high schools, fewer than one-third of the students who were due to graduate in 1987 finished and received their diplomas, according to a new report on the city's dropout problem.

At 40 other high schools, fewer than half the students due to graduate finished. The remainder either dropped out, entered a fifth year of high school, or transferred out of the city school system.

Citywide, only 39.2 percent of those due to graduate in 1987 from the city's 103 academic and vocational high schools did.

This is the second year that the

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Board of Education has performed a head count on high school students scheduled for graduation. But it is the first time that the board released the figures for individual high schools. Forty percent of the students in the Class of 1986 graduated on time.

"These results are not surprising, given our troubled system, but they're staggering," said Robin Willner, staff director of the Educational Priorities Panel, a leading watchdog group that has extensively analyzed the dropout figures. "Quite obviously, we need to

profoundly change our high schools. The question is how."

At 35 high schools, more than 50 percent of the students graduated on time. And at four schools, more than 70 percent graduated on time — they included Stuyvesant in Manhattan, with 83.1 percent; Bronx High School of Science, 80.9 percent; Midwood in Brooklyn, 74.3 percent; and Staten Island Technical, 98.4 percent.

The report, which followed all 81,847 students in the class of 1987, also found that 30 percent of the students enrolling for a fifth year of high school were still in the ninth or tenth grades. Also, 17 percent of that group were at least

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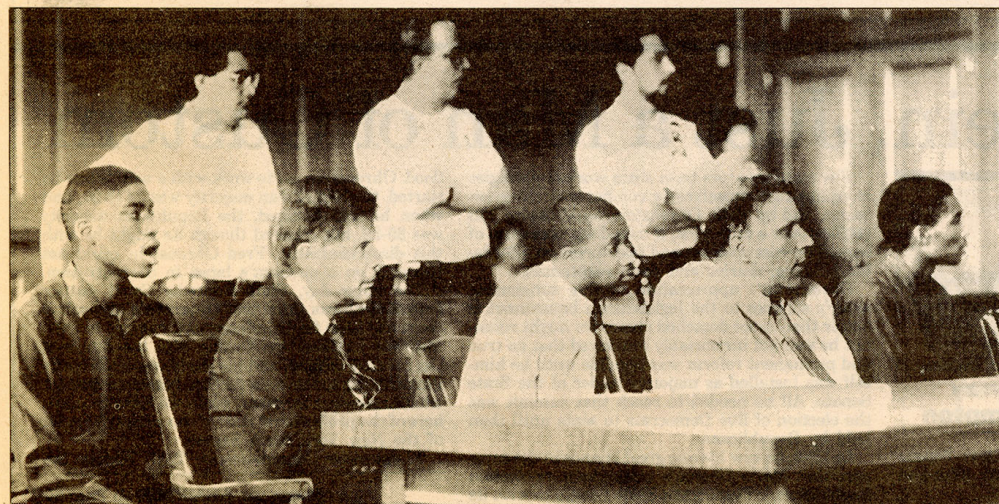
*'These results are not surprising, given our troubled system, but they're staggering.'*

— Robin Willner, staff director of the Educational Priorities Panel, a watchdog group



Robert F. Wagner Jr.

## 3 Guilty of Killing Dispatcher



By Joseph W. Queen

Three Queens men were found guilty yesterday of intentional murder in the shotgun killing of Mildred Greene, a 61-year-old grandmother who had testified before a grand jury about a shoot-out she had witnessed.

Defendants Tracey Middleton, 19; Derrick Kornegay, 22; and Paul King, 18, looked up at the ceiling as the jury, which had deliberated about 14 hours, delivered its verdict shortly after 5:30 p.m. at the State Supreme Court building in Jamaica.

Middleton fought back tears as the verdicts were read, while King rolled his eyes with a blank look on his face. Kornegay was emotionless.

Kornegay and Middleton also were found guilty of felony murder and second-degree burglary for breaking into the Big D Royal Car Service, then located at 150-01 Linden Blvd., in the early morning hours of Oct. 4, 1987. Greene, who worked there as a dispatcher, was shot in the head with a shotgun and a

In court, from left: Paul King, attorney George Sheinberg, Derrick Kornegay, attorney Russell Morea and Tracey Middleton.

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Newsday

NEWSDAY, FRIDAY, JULY 1, 1988 \* NY 5



# City Business to Counsel Students

## Graduation Rates

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20 years old. Nearly 6 percent of them were 21.

Early in the last school year, Board of Education President Robert F. Wagner Jr. suggested carving up several of the city's high schools into mini-schools, each with a separate theme, to create an identity for students and staff that would encourage better attendance and academic performance. That idea is being implemented in the coming school year at Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn and Martin Luther King Jr. High School in Manhattan.

Yesterday, Wagner offered another idea: implementing a curriculum that would take five years to complete at some of the high schools with low graduation rates. Students who wanted to progress more rapidly could do so, Wagner suggested.

"It's quite obvious that five years is the time many of our kids need," Wagner said. "That isn't to say we should lower expectations. It's saying we should make the curriculum more realistic for these kids."

Schools Chancellor Richard Green also has talked about the need to revamp the high schools, but has not suggested ways to do so.

The Board of Education has suggested that the dropout rate has shown modest improvement in recent years. But, said Willner, "What difference does it make what the dropout rate is if we're not graduating more kids?"

She and Wagner suggested a number of reasons for the low graduation rates:

- Students who are not proficient in English often must take several semesters of remedial courses in the basic subject areas, as well as language training, and many of these programs do not count towards graduation. The students then must take a fifth

and, sometimes, sixth year of school to graduate.

- Teenage pregnancy pulls many girls out of school, sometimes for more than a year.

- Students who work often take a reduced course load and take longer to finish high school.

Wagner said that rather than being critical of those students who are enrolled for a fifth year, the school system should embrace them. "These students are making a real effort to finish," he said.

But Wagner said the school system must take much of the blame for the delayed completion. Boring course work, he said, discourages many students. "We often force kids through a routine that not only isn't particularly interesting, it doesn't meet their needs," Wagner said. "If you need basic skills, algebra is going to be way over your head."

According to the report, 22.4 percent of the students due to graduate in 1987 had dropped out of school; 39.2 percent had graduated or received a general equivalency diploma; 11.6 percent had been discharged from the school system, either to local private schools or to schools outside New York City; and 25.2 percent were still enrolled in school. Among the transferees, the board has estimated that 3 or 4 percent eventually graduate.

The new report, called the Cohort Study, predicts that some of those from the class of 1987 who enrolled for a fifth year will drop out eventually; others are expected to graduate. The complete results for the class will not be known for several years, according to board officials who compiled the report.

The Board of Education calculates another dropout rate that predicts the number of students who will leave school after four years. That calculation, released last week, produced a 1987 dropout rate of 26.3 percent.

By Emily Sachar

Six New York City high schools have been selected for an industry-funded career preparation program that will put business leaders in city schools full-time advising students.

Board of Education President Robert F. Wagner Jr. said yesterday that, while the task of career counseling traditionally has been borne by the school system, he welcomes the business community's help because the board has not succeeded. "We are extraordinarily grateful for the input," Wagner said, "because we need it."

Paul Berczeller, a spokesman for the United Federation of Teachers, said the union will support the project "as long as the business leaders don't replace guidance counselors." The union represents the counselors, whose tasks include advising students on career options and job offers.

Called New York Working, the \$1.2-million project will be run by the New York City Partnership, a consortium of 400 major corporations from around the city. It will fund 12 full-time advisers who will train students and staff at each school in how to apply for and search for jobs. Advisers also will seek pledges of job opportunities from local businesses.

According to business leaders devising the program, career counseling efforts at the vast majority of city high schools are fragmented and confusing. For instance, at Julia Richman High School in Manhattan, 22 separate job programs are headed by 22 teachers, with few teachers knowing about the full spectrum of opportunities, according to William Woodside, co-chairman of the School and Business Alliance of New York and a creator of the program.

At a typical high school of 2,000 students, only 500 will receive career counseling during a four-year or five-year high school career, according to Richard deLone, a consultant on the project.

"Most kids in this city have extremely limited horizons about the world of work," deLone said. "They've never been in a downtown office building, let alone thought about what goes on there. They don't see themselves as making it."

Wagner said he hopes the program

will be expanded to every high school in the city. Mayor Edward I. Koch said last year that he would offer \$20 million if the program goes citywide.

Initially, it is to be tried at Andrew Jackson High School in Cambria Heights, Queens; Morris High School in the Morrisania section of the Bronx; George Washington High School in Manhattan's Washington Heights; Westinghouse Vocational High in downtown Brooklyn; New Dorp High on Staten Island; and at Project Redirection, an alternative high school in Brooklyn.

## 3 Found Guilty Of Murder

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pistol. King was acquitted of the felony murder and burglary counts.

On Sept. 2, Greene had witnessed a shootout between suspected drug dealers and a cabdriver in front of the cab service office. One of the men charged in the shootout was Kornegay, an associate of drug dealer Lorenzo Nichols. On Oct. 1, Greene told a grand jury what she had seen.

Kornegay, who at the time was free on bail on an unrelated drug murder for which he later was convicted, learned Greene was a witness and told his friends — including King and Middleton — to kill her, according to witnesses at the trial. Kornegay is serving 25 years to life on the unrelated murder charge.

In a videotaped confession to police, which he later recanted, Middleton described Greene begging for her life, frantically screaming: "I didn't do anything! I didn't do anything!"

But her killers fired away. In the confession, Middleton said the first blast came from a shotgun wielded by Waddell Winston and blew part of her head off. Winston is awaiting trial on the murder charge.

Middleton said he then fired a shot from a 9-mm. handgun.

Justice John Leahy set sentencing for Aug. 17. All face 25 years to life for each murder count. The burglary conviction carries a sentence of 8½ to 25 years. The men's attorneys said the verdicts will be appealed.

On the way out of the courtroom, Middleton's mother, pointing her finger, shouted at the judge and the prosecutor: "You happy now? I hope you're happy."

"Justice was done," said Assistant District Attorney James Quinn, who prosecuted the case. "I hope she can rest in peace. It will be a message to those who would intimidate or harm a witness: Sooner or later we'll get them."

King's lawyer George Sheinberg said of the verdict: "There's not enough evidence to show he did anything. At worst, he was just in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Russell Morea, attorney for Kornegay, said, "I'm shocked that the jury believed Rose Jefferson." Rose, 17, testified that she was a secretary in a South Jamaica crack house and overheard the murder being plotted.

Richard Piperno, a spokesman for the Queens district attorney's office, said that since Greene's murder, detectives have been assigned to the grand jury area of the courthouse to be certain only authorized persons are there.

## 38 Arrested in Car Theft Sting

By Katherine Foran

Police in Queens yesterday arrested 38 people on auto theft and insurance fraud charges as part of a year-long undercover sting operation run out of a nondescript neighborhood garage in South Ozone Park.

Seven other arrest warrants hadn't yet been served yesterday, and evidence against an additional 19 persons is to be presented to a grand jury in Brooklyn, said Richard Piperno, spokesman for Queens District Attorney John Santucci. Law enforcement officials expect 75 people will be indicted.

During the year-long operation, 11 other suspects had been arrested, including twin brothers Ismael and Anibal Maldonado, who were charged with running an illegal auto parts operation in Brooklyn, said Deputy Ray Hanratty, commanding officer of the Auto Crime Division.

Undercover officers opened Ray's Towing Service last June, complete with T-shirts and business cards. The place posed as an illegal garage handling and disposing of stolen cars. People allegedly brought cars in they want-

ed stolen for insurance money, and others brought in stolen cars to be sold for parts, Hanratty said. The garage also took in more than \$1,000 for legal towing services.

Among those arrested yesterday are professional auto thieves, chop-shop operators, and ordinary car owners, including housewives, salesmen, a dentist, and an air conditioner repairman, who are accused of wanting to dump their cars and collect the insurance, Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward said at a press conference yesterday outside Ray's Towing.

Hanratty described how one woman drove up to the shop in her sporty red 1985 Fiero with a middleman to do the negotiating.

"She said, 'This time, I want it done right. Last time, it was recovered and only the wheels were missing.'"

Another man left his 1964 Rolls-Royce Phantom V in an area known as a drop-off for those who want to "lose" their cars.

Police recovered the vehicle before it was stolen, and it was sitting on Ray's lot a week later when the owner finally

reported it stolen.

Many of those arrested yesterday were linked through word of mouth, Hanratty said. There was no formal ring involved in most of the schemes, with the exception of a group of 12 friends who allegedly operated an informal car-theft ring, he said.

The 82 vehicles brought to Ray's that were involved in schemes ranged from a 1974 GMC van valued at \$1,000 to the Rolls-Royce, which Lloyd's of London valued at \$57,725.

Auto theft and related crimes constitute a half-billion-dollar business in New York alone, police and insurance industry officials estimate. Of the 95,000 cars reported stolen in the city last year, one in three was part of an insurance fraud scheme, Hanratty said.

Police decided to focus on Queens because the borough accounts for more than a third of the city's annual auto thefts, Hanratty said.

The investigation was coordinated with the Queens District Attorney's office, the New York State Department of Insurance and the National Auto Theft Bureau.