

EAST RAMAPO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT FAILS KIDS BY EVERY MEASURE

HIGH-NEEDS STUDENT BODY

- East Ramapo schools are the most segregated in the state: 97% of public school students are students of color, and 97% of private school students are white. Uniquely, more than three-fourths of the district's students attend private schools, primarily Yeshivas.
- East Ramapo has the highest proportion of student homelessness of any school district in the state. More than one out of every six (18%) ERCSD students are homeless.
- ERCSD has the highest proportion of English Language Learner (ELL) students of any school district in the state. Sixty percent of East Ramapo students are ELLs.

SHAMEFUL DROPOUT RATES

- East Ramapo's dropout rate in 2024-2025 was 20%, four times the state average.
- The class of 2025 had an official graduation rate of only 70%, compared to the state average of 81%. The district average masks the appalling results at Spring Valley HS, which only graduates 59% of students.

- Only 5% of graduates earn an Advanced Regents Diploma, compared with 31% statewide.
- For English Language Learners, the dropout rate has risen to 35% (vs 16% statewide).
- Almost one-third of students suffer from chronic absenteeism. In the high schools, close to half of students are chronically absent.

STUDENTS FAILING ASSESSMENTS

- Only 21% of students in 3rd-8th grade score "proficient" in math (vs 57% statewide).
- Only 22% of students score proficient in ELA.

INADEQUATE RESOURCES

- East Ramapo voters have rejected more school budgets than any district in the state. Cumulatively, this has cost East Ramapo students almost \$36 million in recurring funds.
- Property tax rates trail the rest of Rockland County, barely 60% of the district with the next lowest rate.
- There has been no improvement in Moody's Baa3 bond rating for East Ramapo Central School District, one level above junk. The credit agency cited

- the district's trend of voter disinvestment, and uncertainty over the future of state oversight, as reasons for this rating.
- With the Baa3 bond rating, the district is unable to obtain short or long-term financing for its operations and capital projects, making it impossible to carry out desperately needed building upgrades.
- The school board has failed to hire a permanent superintendent for 3 years.
- Vacancies abound. Last school year, the district failed to fill 46 positions to serve English Language Learners.

WASTEFUL SPENDING ON TRANSPORTATION

- ERCSD will spend \$67.7 million on transportation in 2025-26. Transportation absorbs 19.4% or almost one out of every 5 dollars in the public school budget.
- Average New York school districts spend less than 5% of their funds on transportation.
- By providing transportation at state-mandated levels, ERCSD could save \$15 million in state aid and nearly \$13 million in local funds.