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ACHIEVEMENT FIRST BUSHWICK EARNS HIGHEST SCORE ON PROGRESS REPORT COMPARED TO ALL K-8 SCHOOLS IN NEW YORK CITY

*Four Achievement First Schools Attain "A" Grade on New York City
Department of Education 2011-12 Progress Reports*

October 9, 2012 – BROOKLYN, N.Y. – Achievement First, a high-performing network of 22 non-profit, K-12, college-preparatory public charter schools in New York and Connecticut, today announced that Achievement First Bushwick is the highest-scoring K-8 school in New York City according to the Department of Education 2011-12 Progress Report. Four of the five evaluated Achievement First schools scored in the top 15 percent of all New York City schools.

- AF Bushwick earned an "A" and scored in the 100th percentile on the New York City Department of Education 2011-12 Progress Report.
- AF Crown Heights and AF Endeavor earned "A"s and scored in the 93rd percentile.
- AF Brownsville earned an "A" and scored in the 86th percentile. The fifth evaluated Achievement First school, AF East New York, earned a "B".

AF Bushwick's success is driven by student progress by earning "full credit" for mathematics improvement and showing substantial improvement in English. AF Bushwick also earned "full credit" for its percentage of eighth graders attaining high school credits.

"We are proud of our strong scores, especially since the single greatest factor that drives a school's assessment is the student progress from one year to the next," said Doug McCurry, co-CEO and superintendent. "While we celebrate our schools' outstanding student improvement gains, we remain focused on the hard work ahead of us to ensure all of our students achieve academic excellence."

About Achievement First

Achievement First is a high-performing network of 22 non-profit, K-12, college-preparatory public charter schools in New York and Connecticut, with additional schools opening in Rhode Island in 2013. The mission of Achievement First is to close the achievement gap and deliver on the promise of equal educational opportunity for all children, regardless of race, economic status or zip code. With its college-preparatory focus, the Achievement First approach is attaining breakthrough academic gains throughout its network of 22 public charter schools. In the 2012-13 academic year, Achievement First is educating more than 7,000 students in historically low-performing and underserved neighborhoods across its network.

Achievement First's approach to teaching and learning enables every student to succeed at the highest levels. This involves:

- Providing students with more time on task and intense intervention when they are struggling so that no child falls through the cracks;

- Recruiting and developing successful teachers and school leaders and empowering them to use student data to strategically drive instruction;
- Creating a joyful school culture where it is “cool to be smart” that emphasizes character education and focuses students on college.

For more information, please visit <http://www.AchievementFirst.org>.

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