



Planning for Failure

How the Department of Education's Capital Plan undermines its own goals for increasing graduation rates



Grier Partnership* projections are based on the assumption that many students will not “survive”** high school:

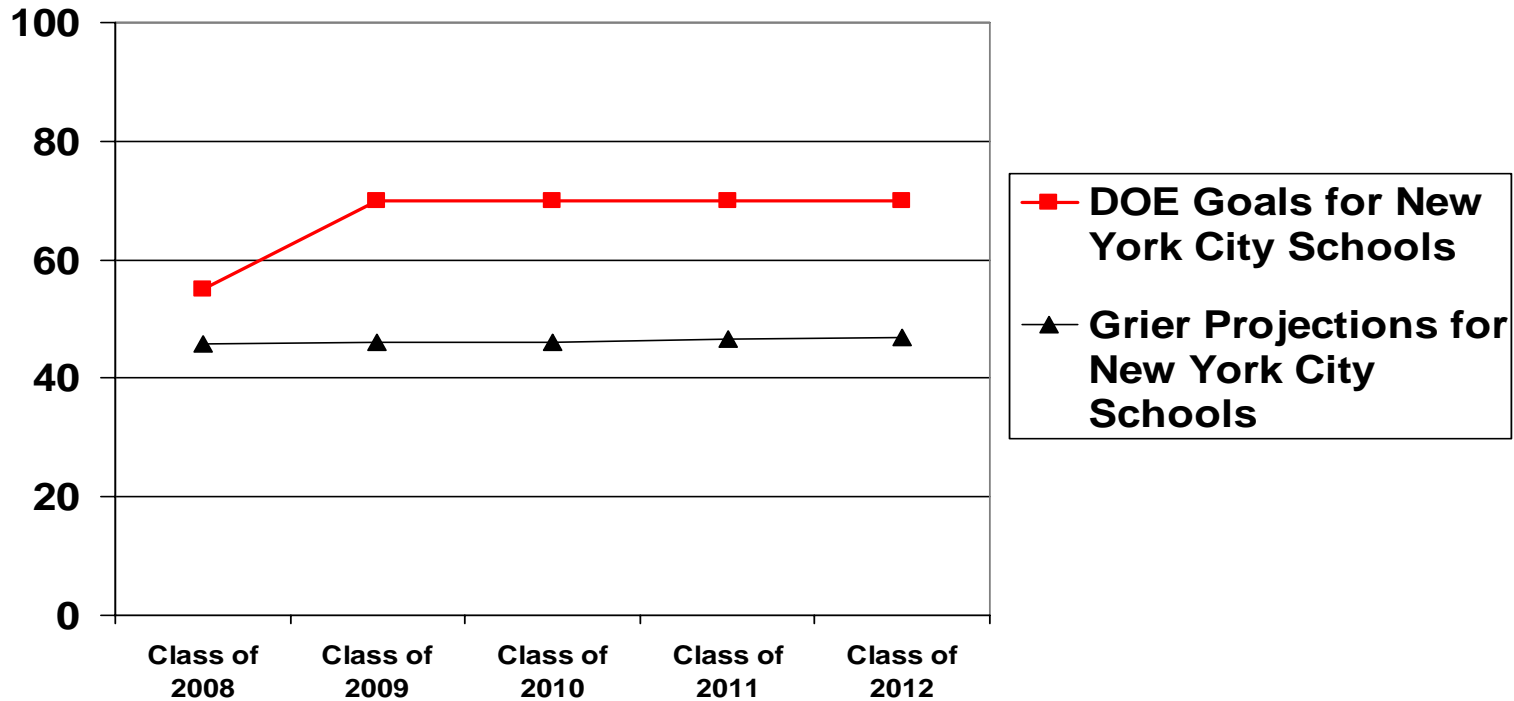
- According to the projections, in all of New York City only 46% of 9th graders will make it to the 12th grade;
- In the Bronx, only 36%;
- In Brooklyn, only 42%;
- In Manhattan, 50%;
- In Queens, 51%;
- And in Staten Island, 64%.

* The Grier Partnership is the name of the firm that performed the enrollment projection analysis for the DOE. The firm is located in Bethesda, Maryland.

** The Grier partnership refers to the rate that students move from one grade to the next as the “Survival Rate.”

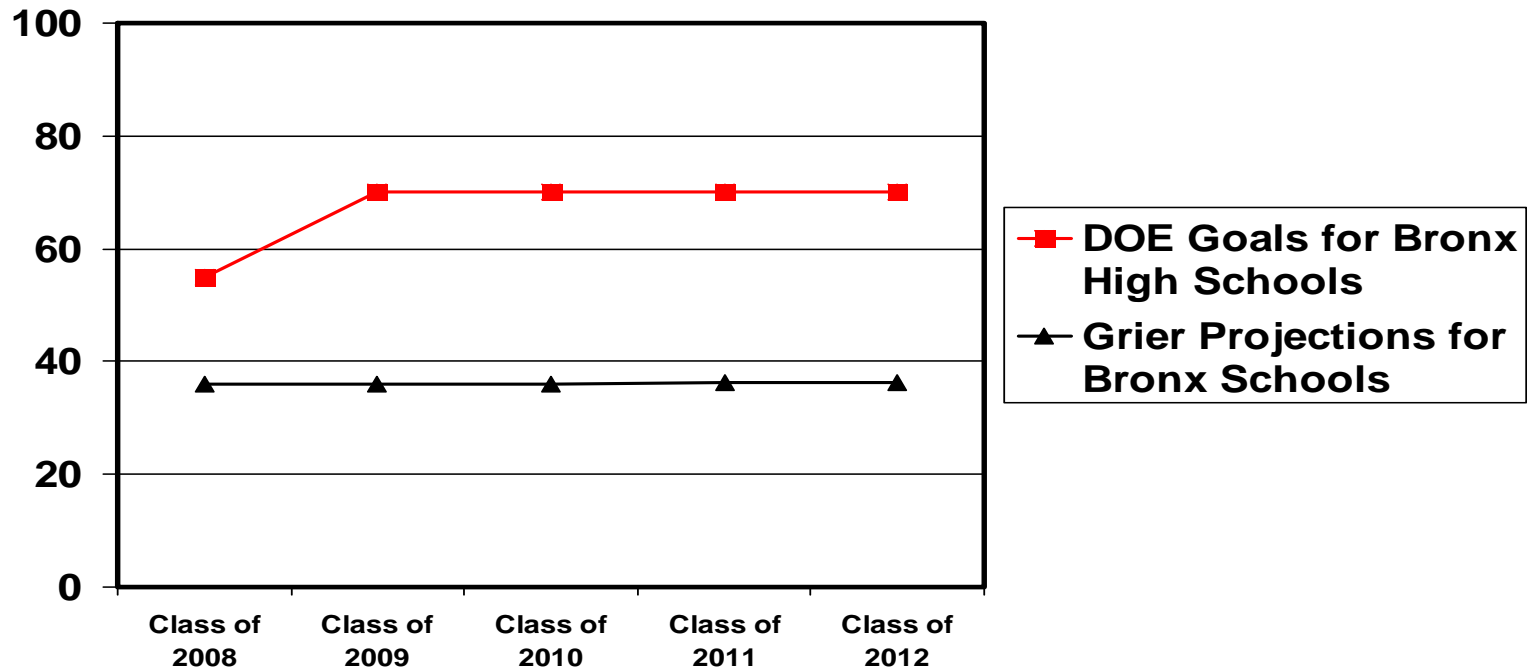
Grier projects that New York City will have a surplus of seats beginning next year, in part because 54% of incoming 9th graders will not make it to 12th grade—in the Bronx it's 64%, 58% in Brooklyn, and 49% in Queens.

The gap between Grier projections for high school “survival” rates and the DOE’s goals for high school graduation in New York City



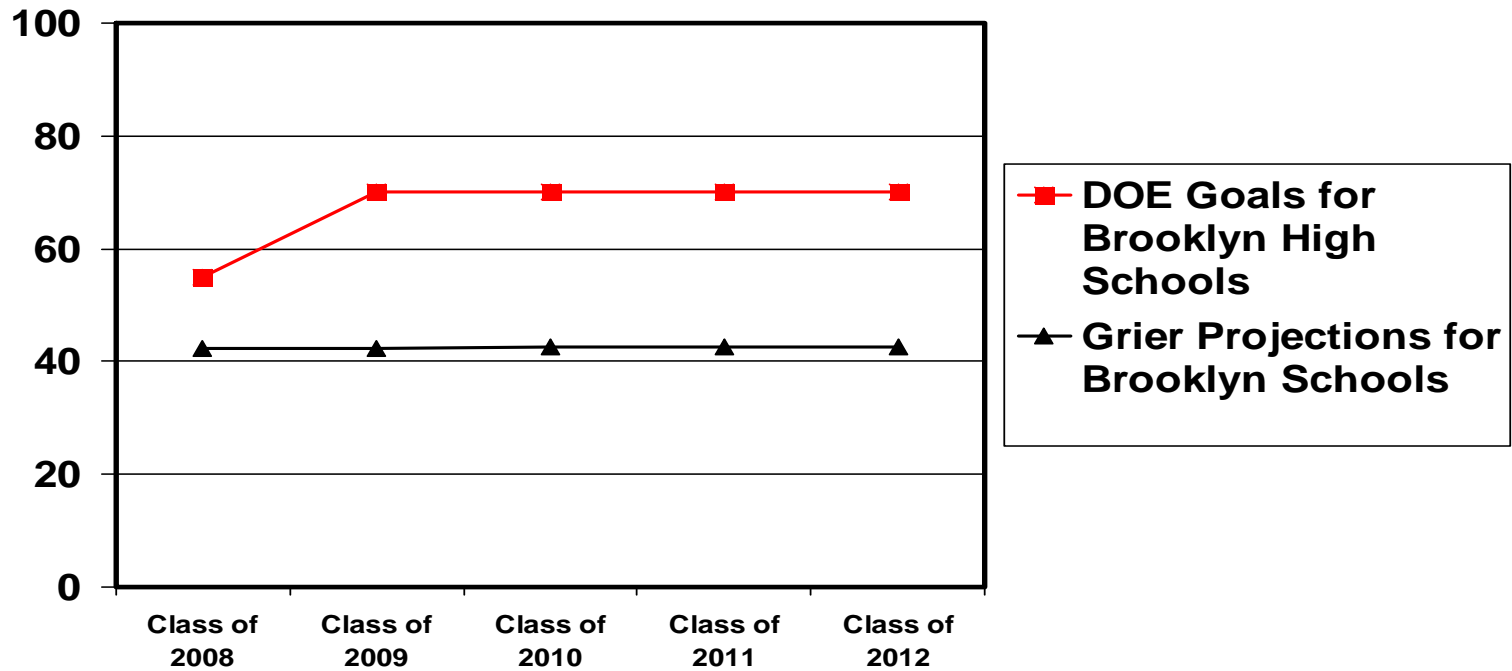
NOTE: Data were calculated utilizing a four year graduation rate of 70% for the class of 2009 and beyond. The DOE’s graduation goals are phased in at a rate 55% for the class of 2008.

The gap between Grier projections for high school “survival” rates and the DOE’s goals for high school graduation in the Bronx



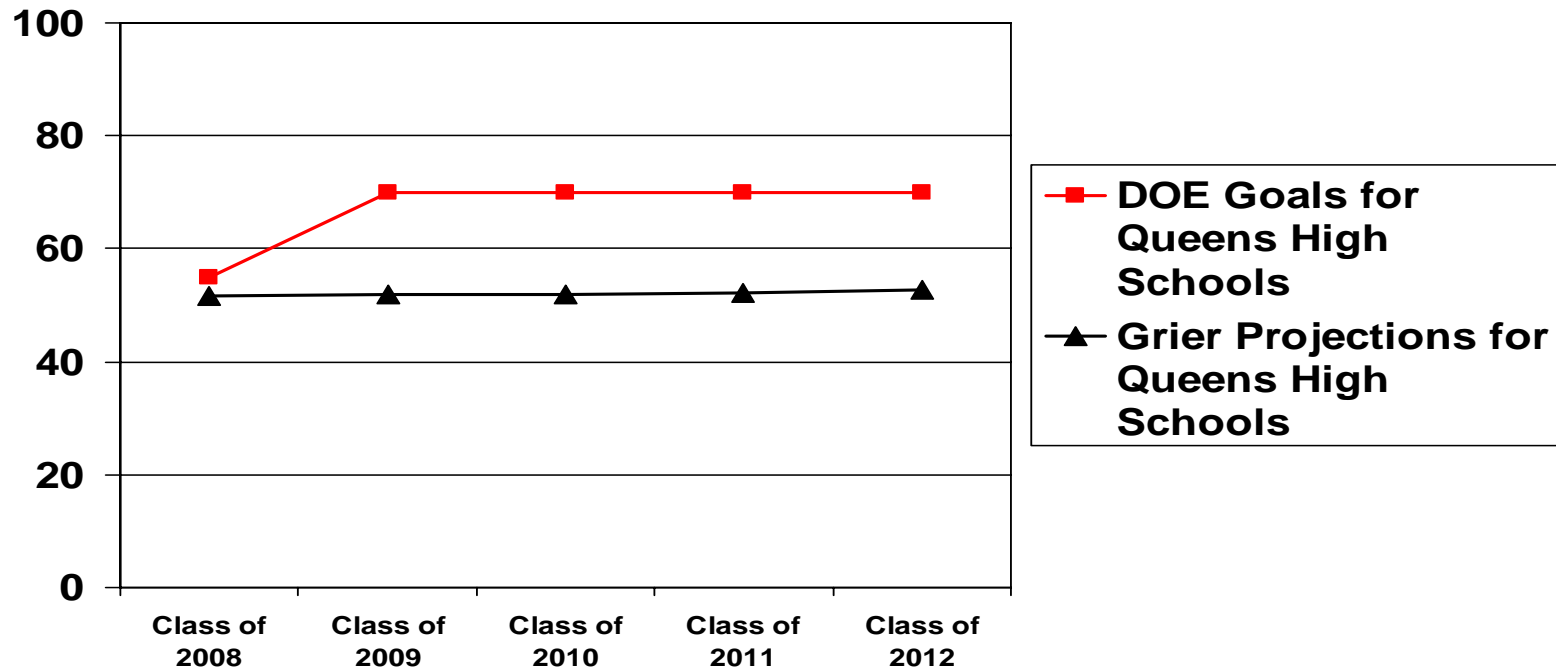
NOTE: Data were calculated utilizing a four year graduation rate of 70% for the class of 2009 and beyond. The DOE’s graduation goals are phased in at a rate 55% for the class of 2008.

The gap between Grier projections for high school “survival” rates and the DOE’s goals for high school graduation in the Brooklyn



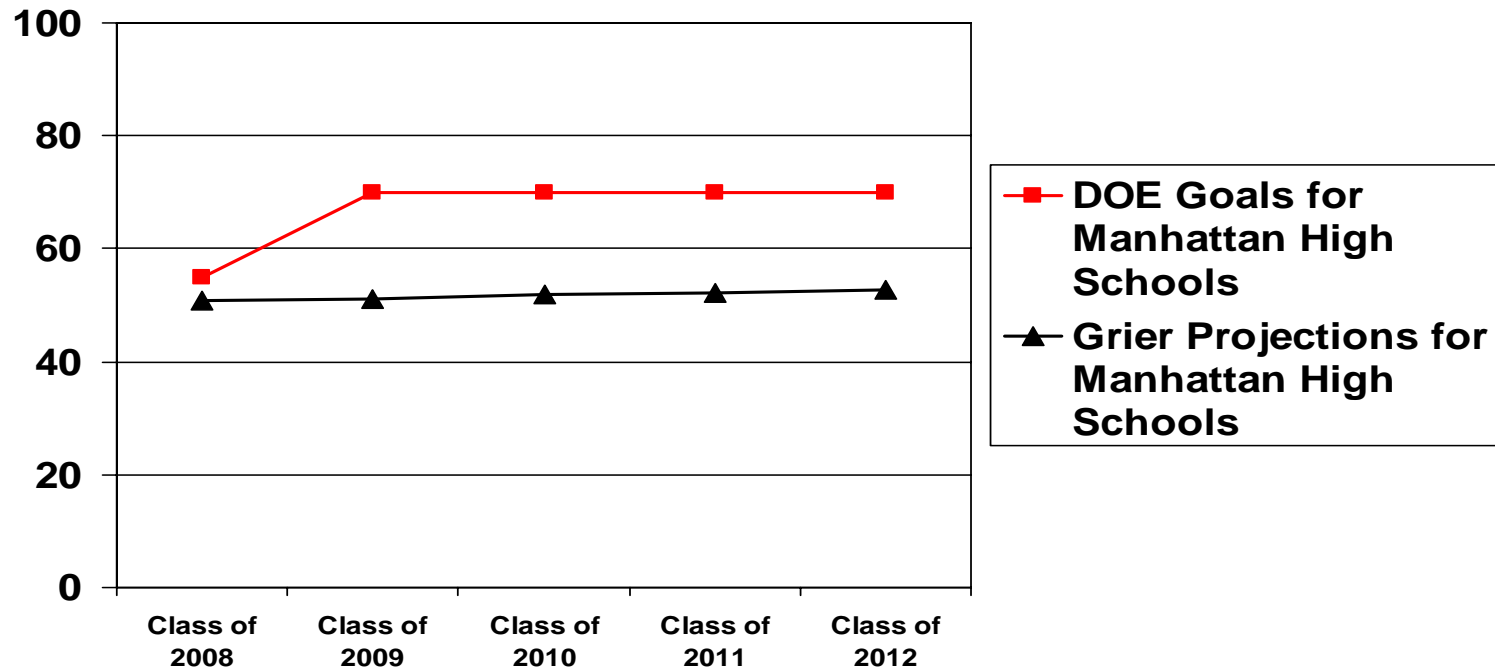
NOTE: Data were calculated utilizing a four year graduation rate of 70% for the class of 2009 and beyond. The DOE’s graduation goals are phased in at a rate 55% for the class of 2008.

The gap between Grier projections for high school “survival” rates and the DOE’s goals for high school graduation in Queens



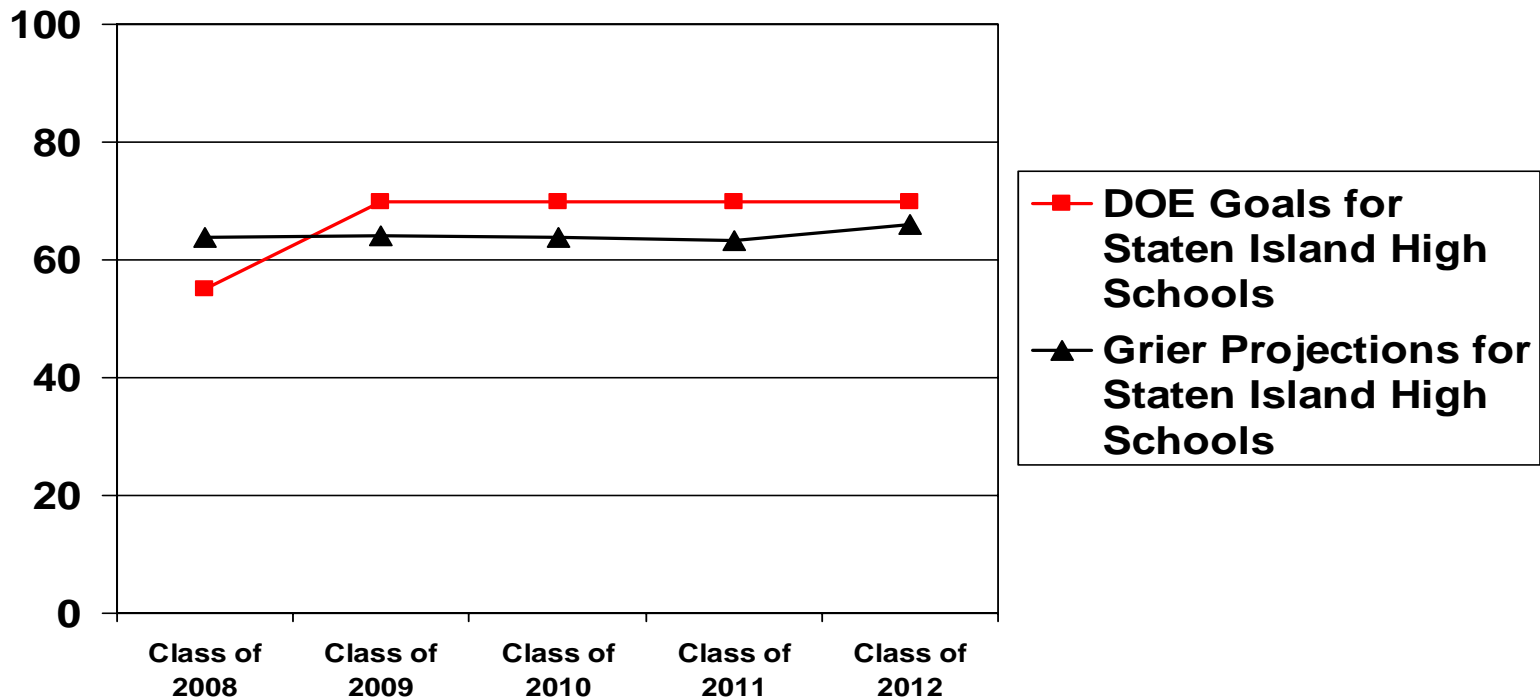
NOTE: Data were calculated utilizing a four year graduation rate of 70% for the class of 2009 and beyond. The DOE’s graduation goals are phased in at a rate 55% for the class of 2008.

The gap between Grier projections for high school “survival” rates and the DOE’s goals for high school graduation in Manhattan



NOTE: Data were calculated utilizing a four year graduation rate of 70% for the class of 2009 and beyond. The DOE’s graduation goals are phased in at a rate 55% for the class of 2008.

The gap between Grier projections for high school “survival” rates and the DOE’s goals for high school graduation in Staten Island



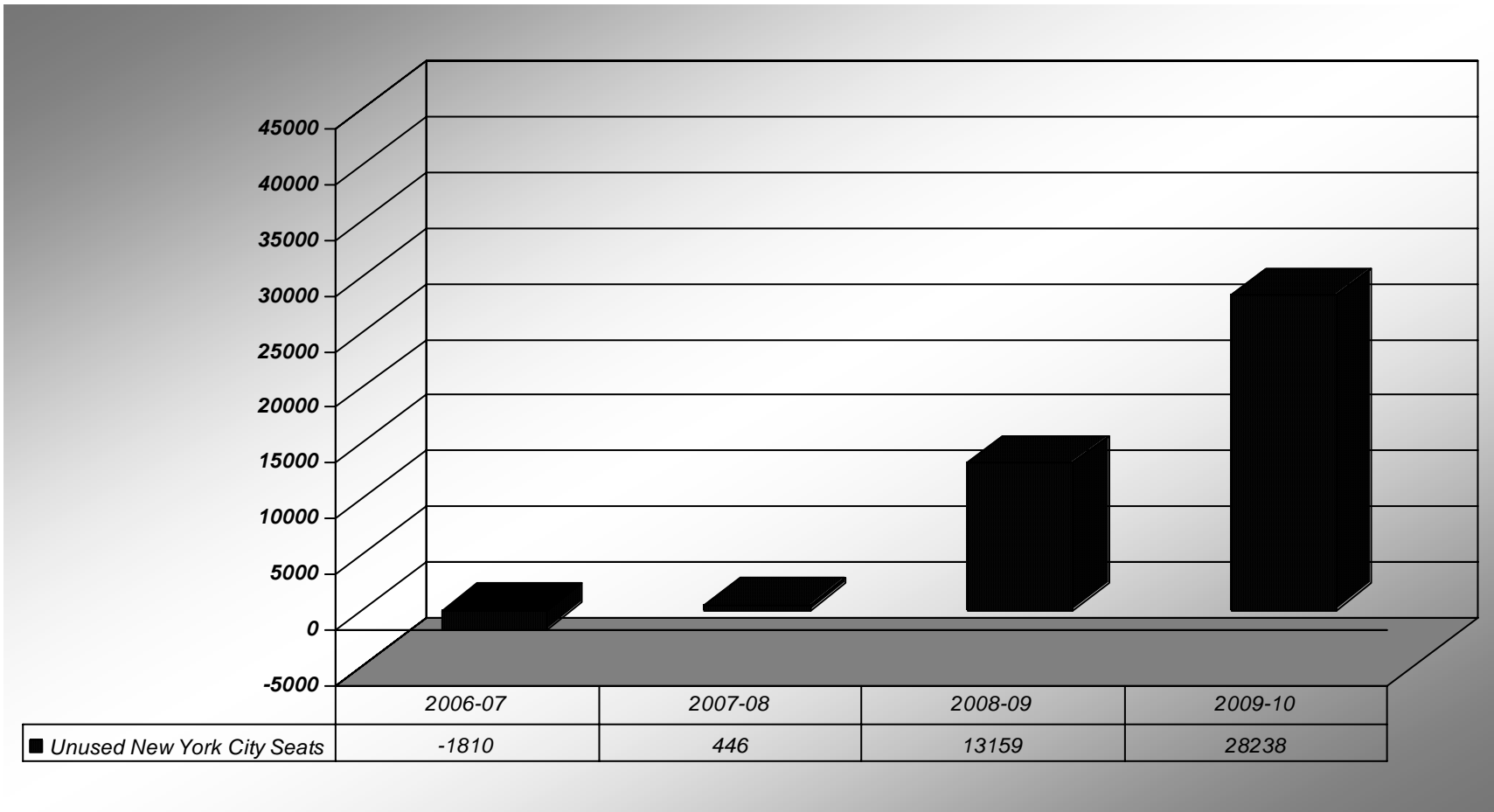
NOTE: Data were calculated utilizing a four year graduation rate of 70% for the class of 2009 and beyond. The DOE’s graduation goals are phased in at a rate 55% for the class of 2008.

The unused seats according to the Grier assessment

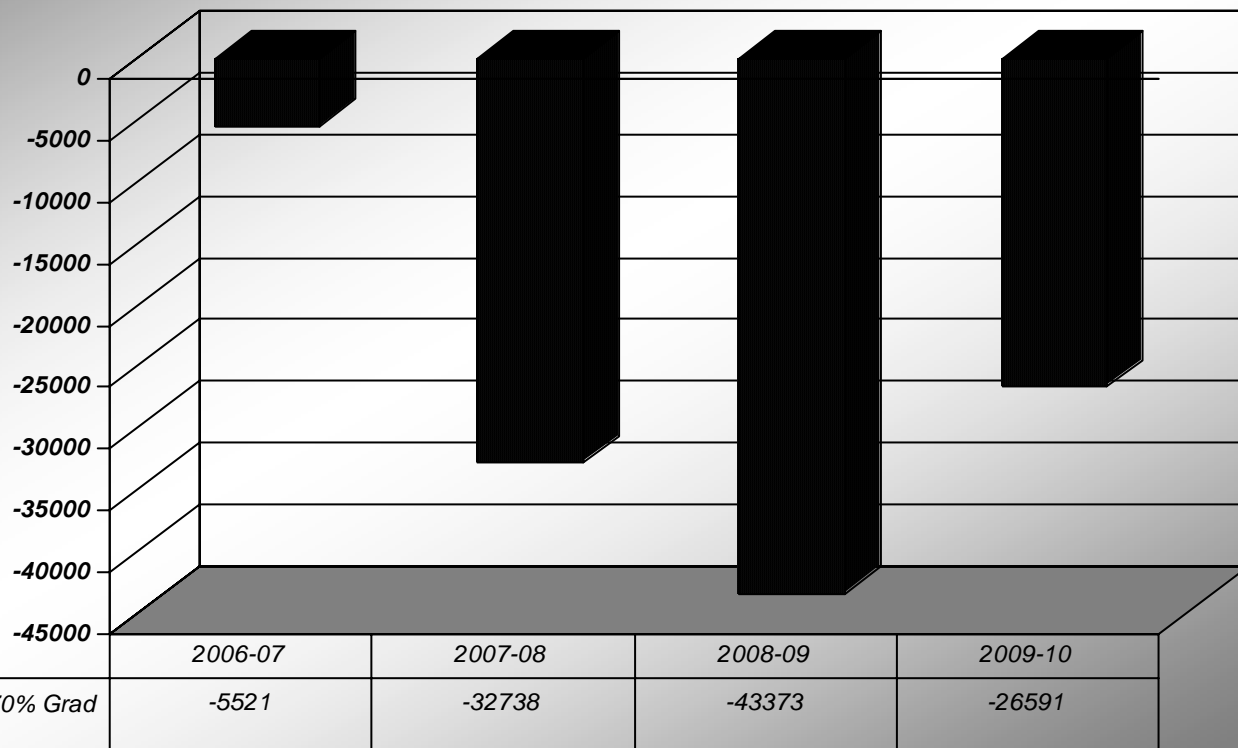
We calculated the number of high school seats needed in New York City and in each borough by adding the unmet seat needs as assessed by the DOE for the start of the 2006-2007 school year to the unmet needs as projected by the Grier report and subtracting any seats created through completion of planned new capacity projects in the year being examined. We did this up to the 2009-10 school year.

The Grier assessment, however, does not take into account the DOE's goal of graduating 70% of its high school students in 4 years. Meeting this goal will require more than 26,000 additional seats in all of New York City, including 10,835 in the Bronx, 5,719 in Brooklyn, and 15,793 in Queens.

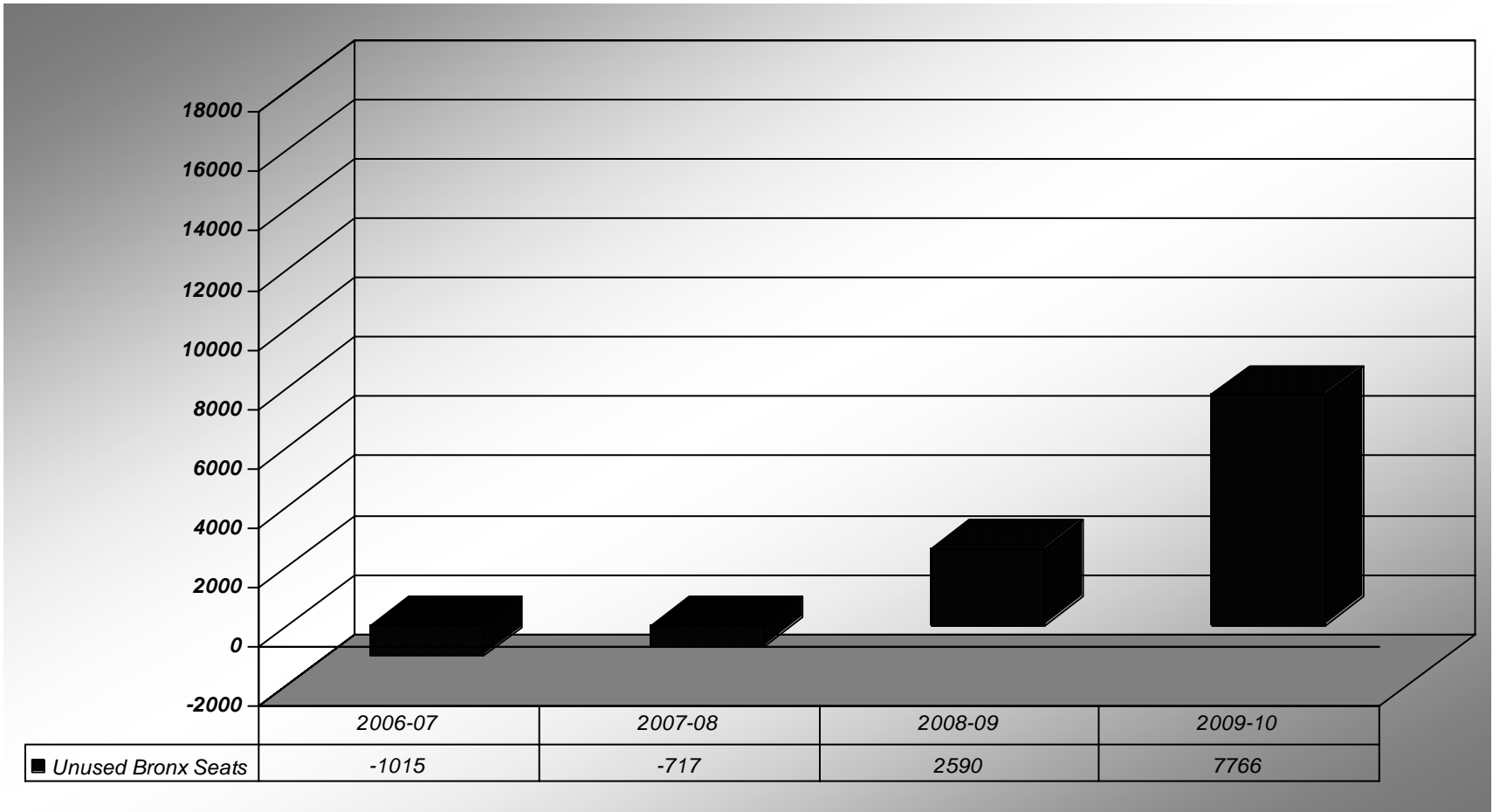
The availability of seats according to Grier assessment in New York City



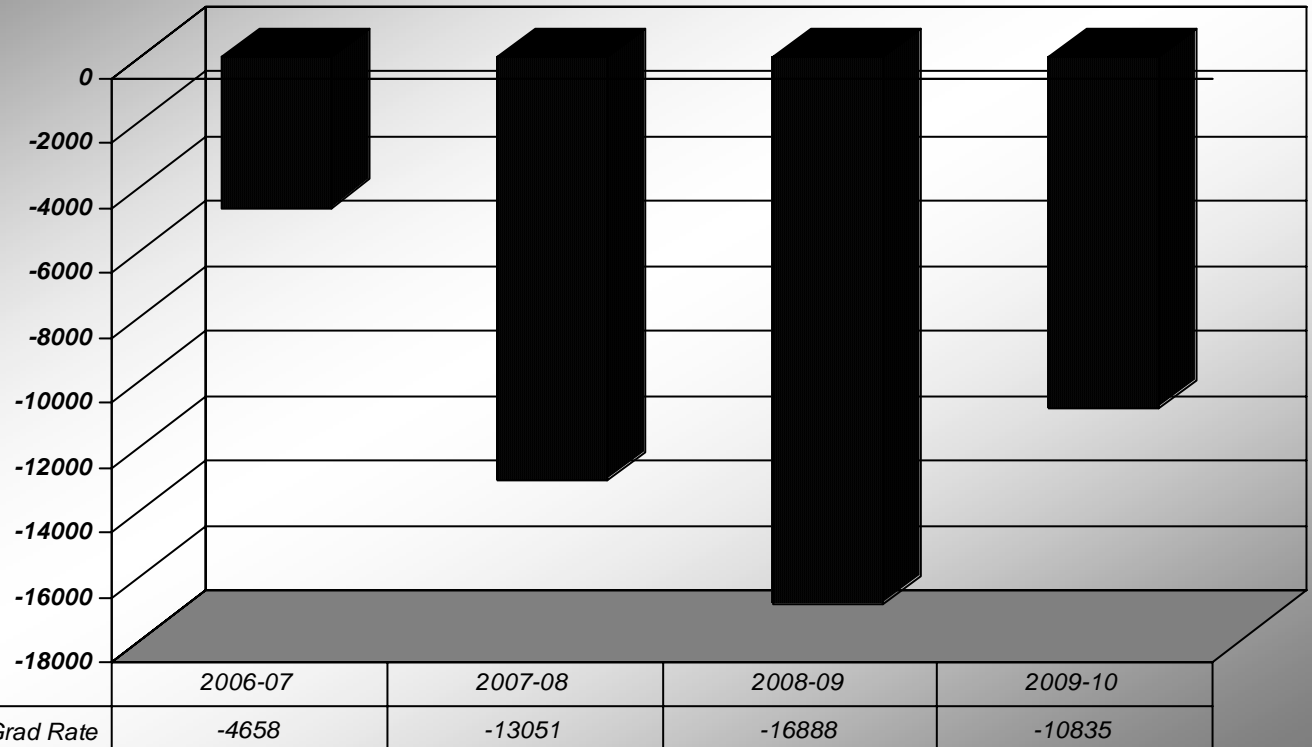
The availability of seats in New York City at a 70% graduation rate



The availability of seats according to the Grier assessment in the Bronx

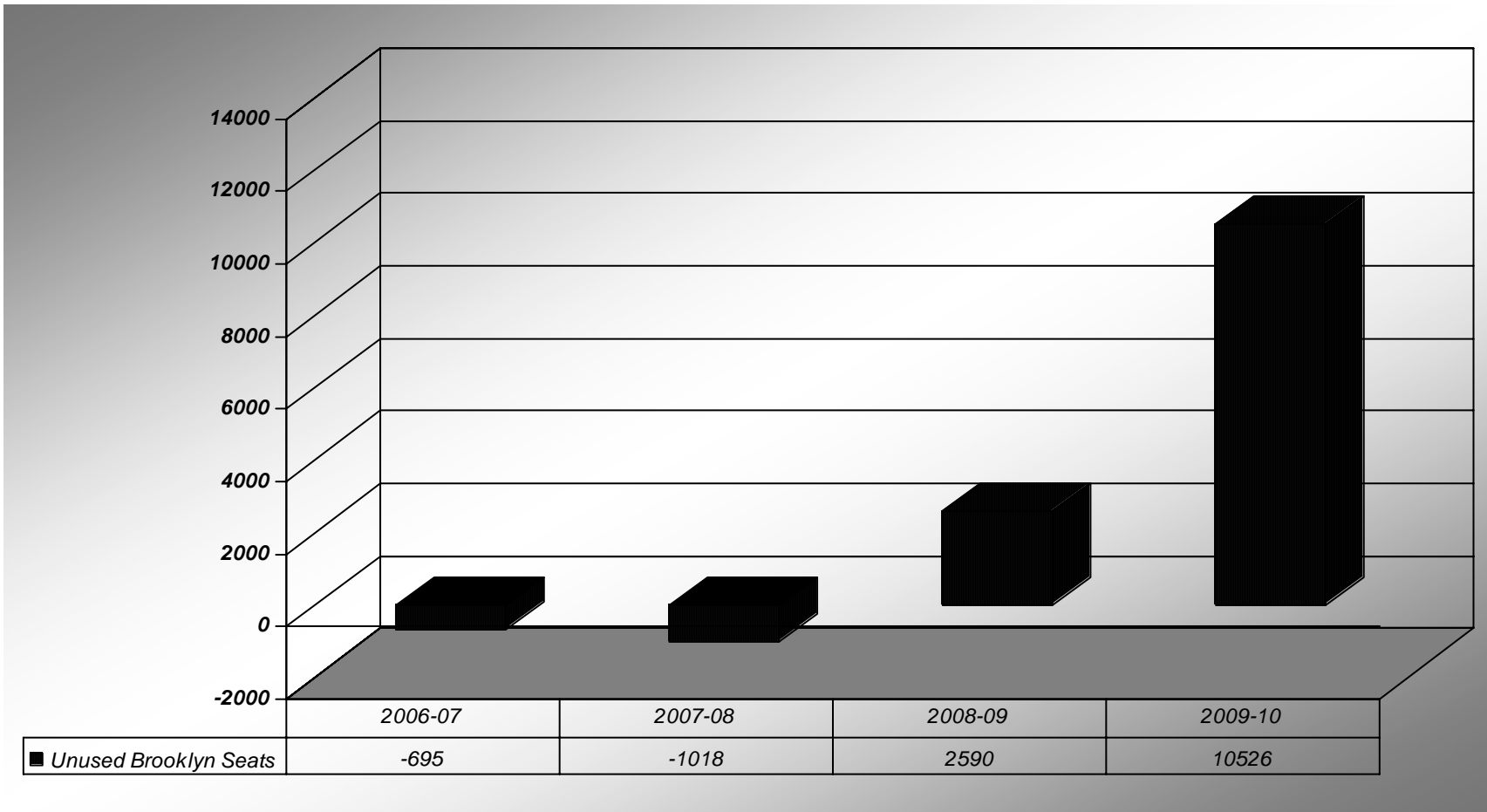


The unused seats in the Bronx at a 70% graduation rate

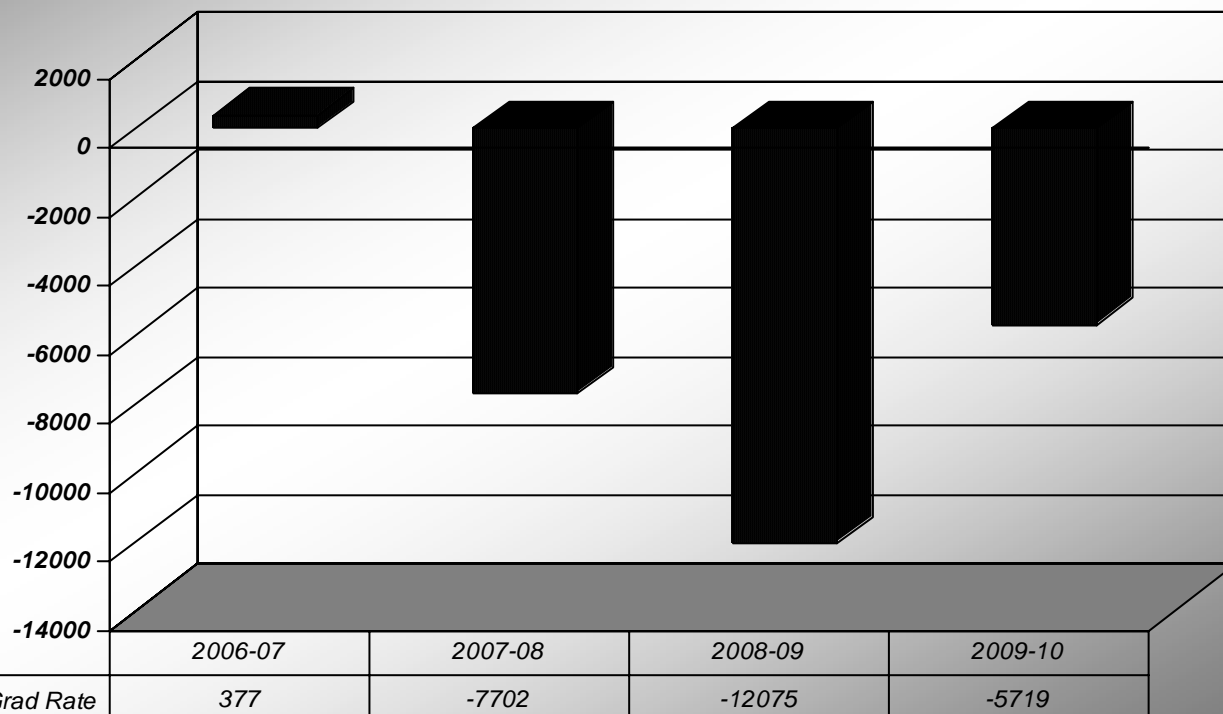


■ Unused Seats Bronx at 70% Grad Rate

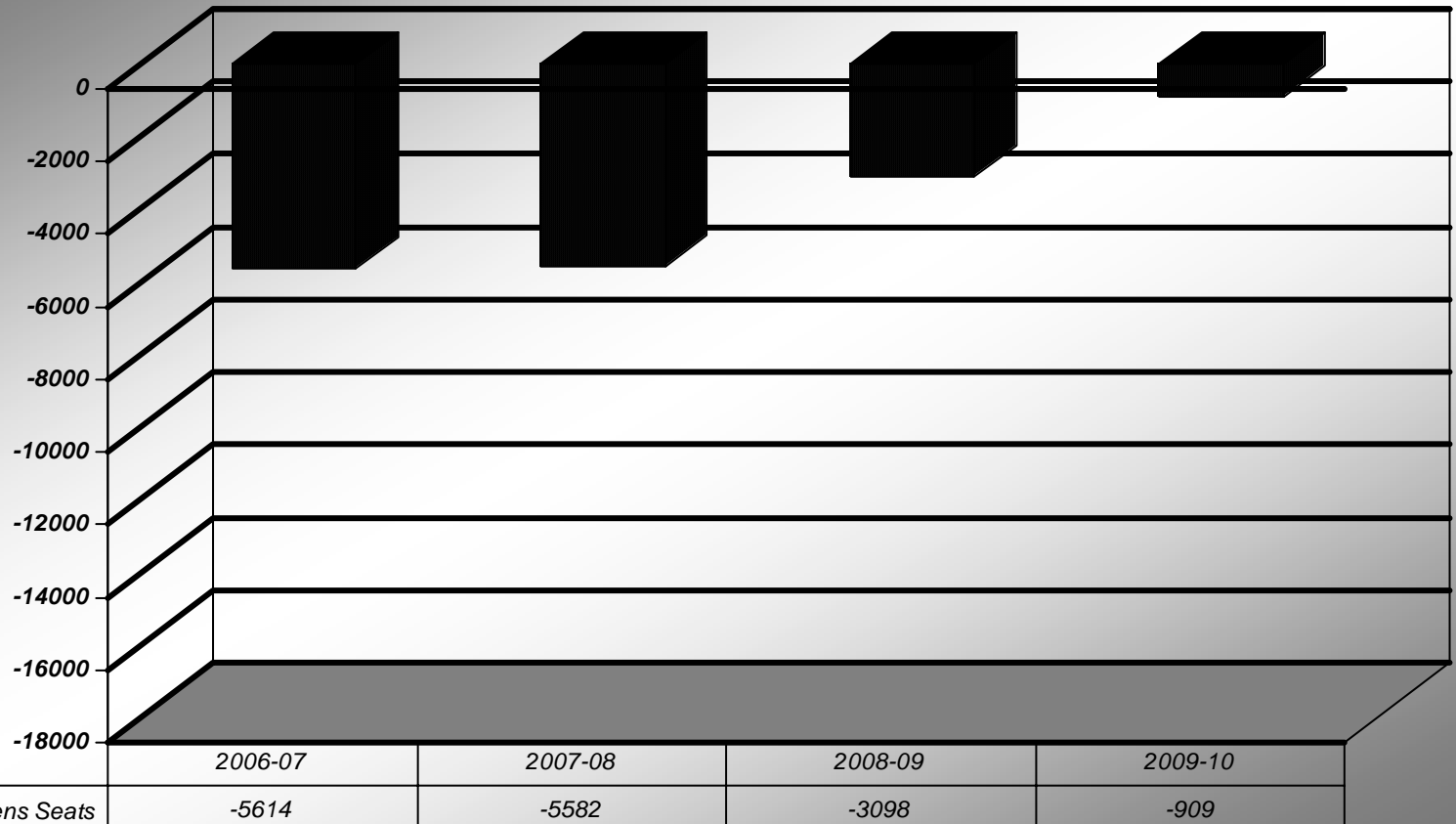
The unused seats according to the Grier assessment in Brooklyn



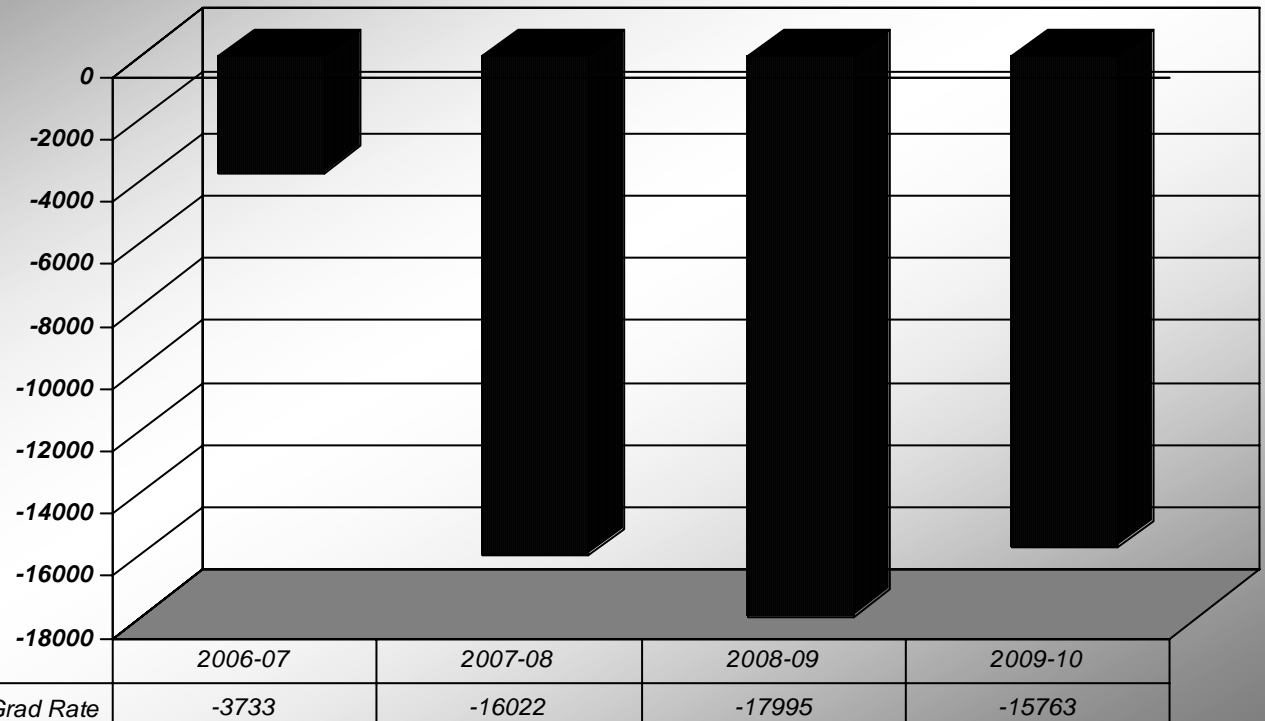
The unused seats in Brooklyn at a 70% graduation rate



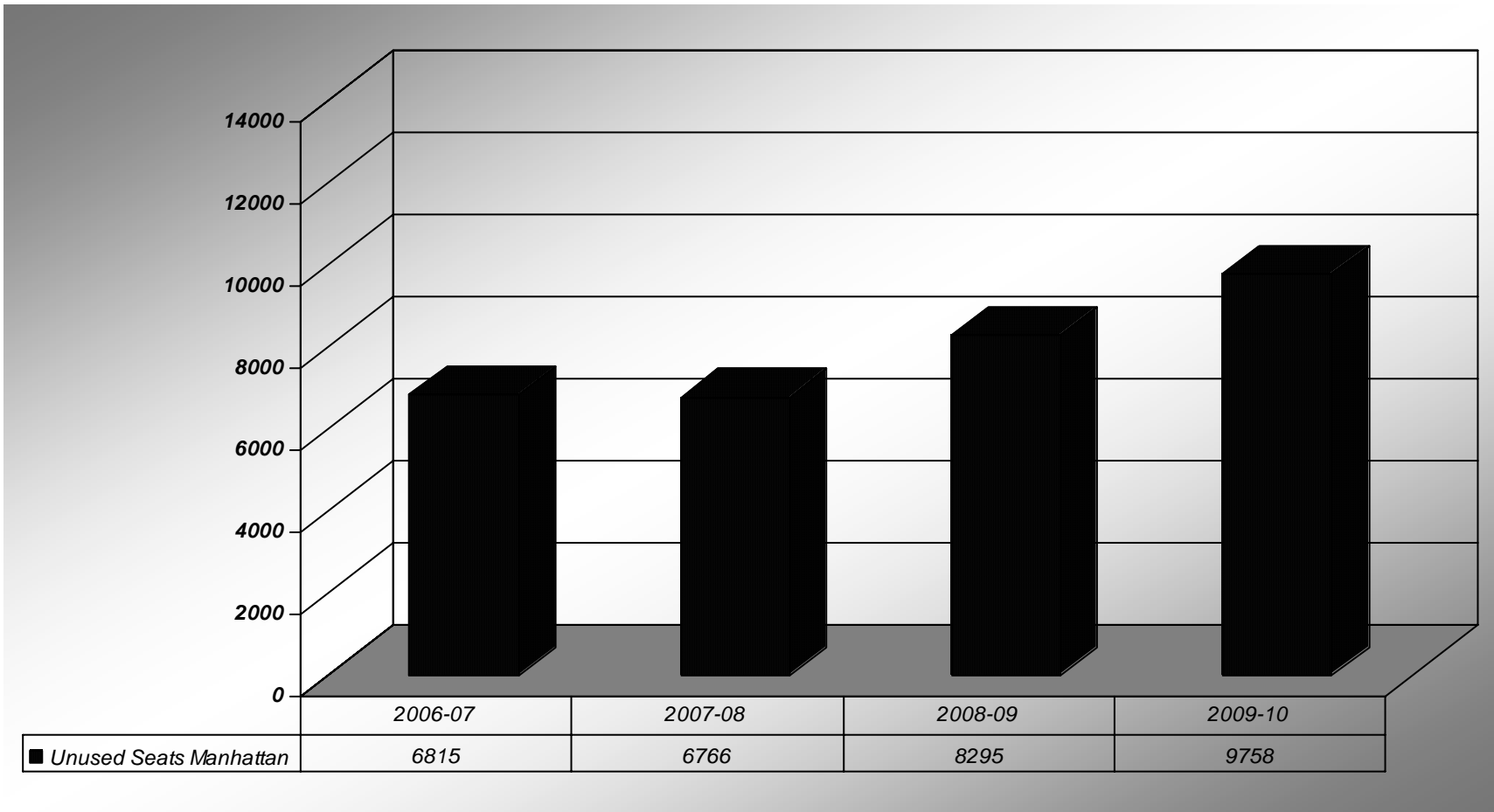
The unused seats according to the Grier assessment in Queens



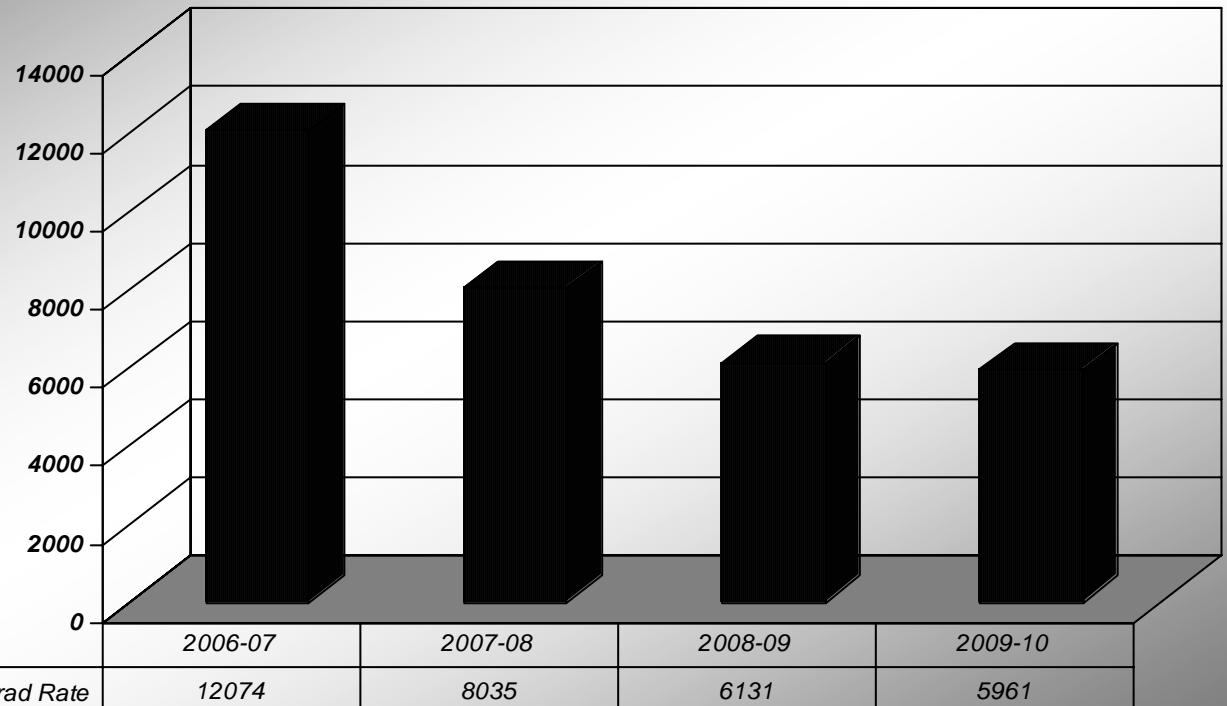
The unused seats in Queens at a 70% graduation rate



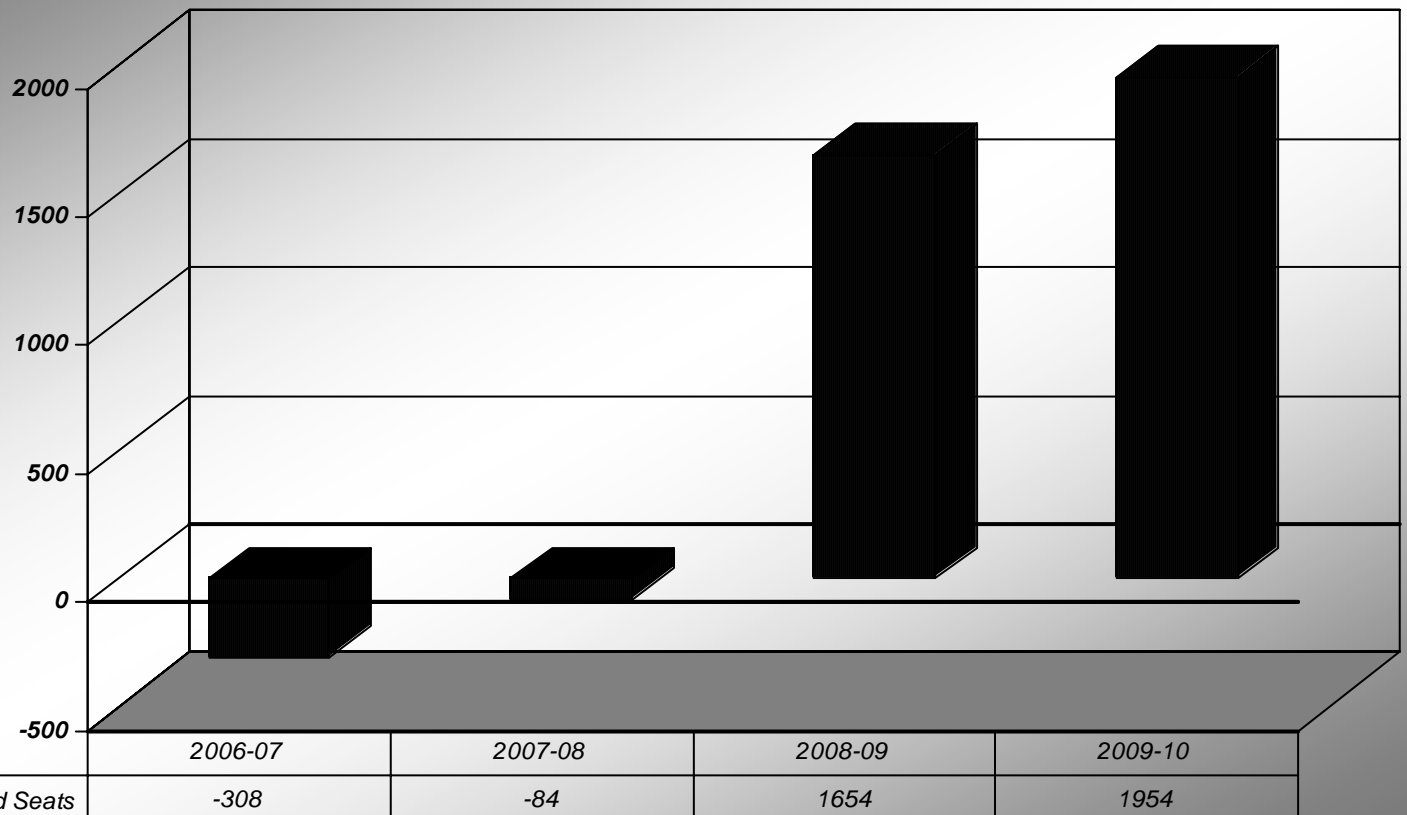
The unused seats according to the Grier assessment in Manhattan



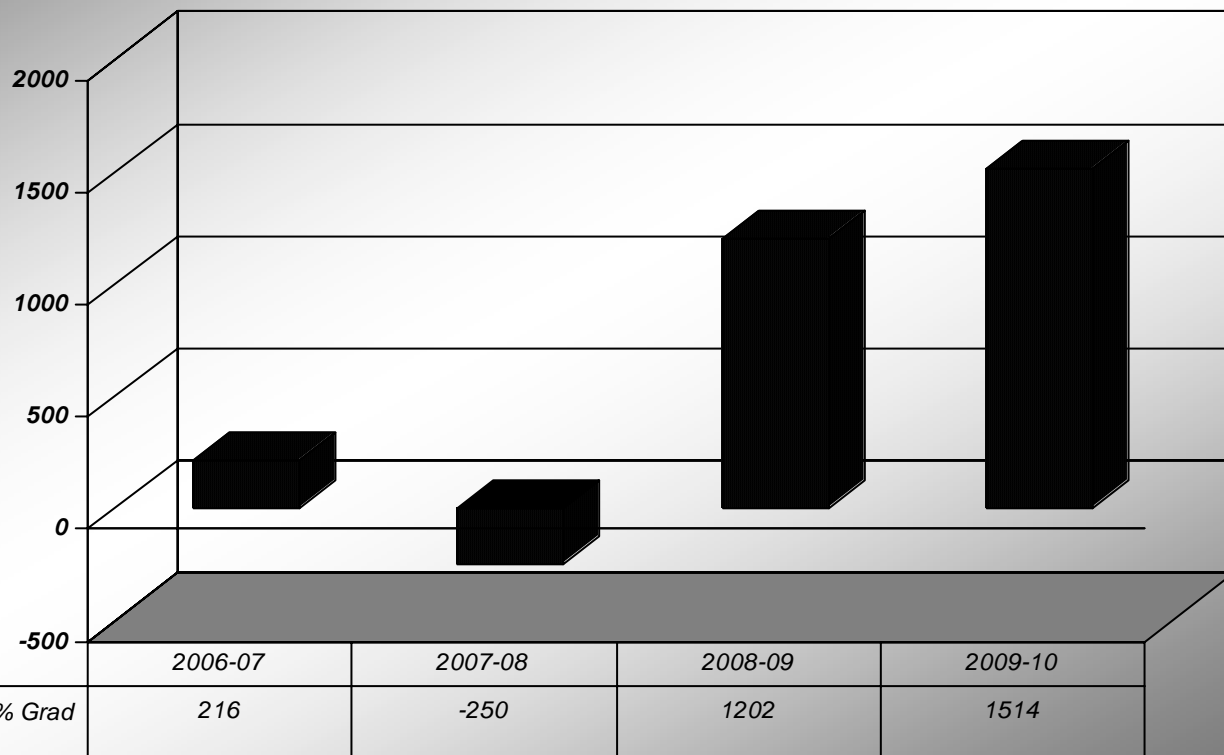
The unused seats in Manhattan at a 70% graduation rate



The unused seats according to the Grier assessment in Staten Island



The unused seats in Staten Island at a 70% graduation rate



Although the borough-wide figures of seats needed in this analysis do not support a need for new high school capacity in Manhattan and Staten Island, it is important to note that there are districts and areas in both boroughs that are in need of new high school capacity.

Methodology:

Note: This analysis is a reproduction of an analysis performed by the Annenberg Institute for School Reform at Brown University, *Planning for Failure: How the NYC Department of Education's Bronx facilities plan undermines its goals for increased high school graduation rates (December 2006)*, and applied citywide and to each borough.

- High school retention rates are calculated based on the secondary reform goal of 70% for the incoming freshman class of 2004-05 remaining in all of New York City and in the individual boroughs educational facilities four years later. We applied DOE's graduation rate targets to the incoming freshman class of 2005-06—one year after the first year of DOE's Multiple Pathways initiative began—to achieve the DOE stated goal of a 70% graduation rate by the 2009-10 school year.
- Planned new capacity data are based on the DOE Capital Plan Proposed 2006 November Amendment. We assigned this new capacity to the school year in which the seats were predicted to become available to students.
- Enrollment projections for incoming freshman high school students are based on Grier Partnership data.

Sources:

- Grier Partnership, 2005, *Enrollment Projections 2005 to 2014 New York City Public Schools*, retrieved on-line on 11/28/06 at <http://source.nycsca.org/pdf/EnrollmentProjections2005-2014.pdf>.
- New York City Department of Education, *DoED Five-Year Capital Plan - Proposed 2006 Amendment - November 2006*, retrieved on-line on 11/28/06 at <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/SCA/Reports/5yrplan2006proposed.htm>.
- New York City Department of Education, *Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report School Year 2005 – 2006*, retrieved on-line on 11/28/06 at <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/SCA/Reports/bluebook05-06.htm>
- NYC Department of Education and The Parthenon Group. *NYC Secondary Reform Secondary Analysis*, June 2006

