

STATEN ISLAND

# Two schools added to college access program

**Diane C. Lore** *lore@siadvance.com*

Students at both Curtis and Port Richmond high school will get extra help to attend college when a city program is expanded in the upcoming school year.

The two schools were among an additional 175 high schools to join the city's College Access for All initiative for the 2017-2018 school year, City Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña announced.

A total of 274 city high schools will now be participating in the program she said.

Schools participating in the program receive help from the city, including direct funding and support from a college-planning coach, according to the Department of Education. Some of the schools will use their training and funding to open up "Student Success Centers — college

and career planning hubs staffed through a collaboration between schools and community-based organizations," DOE said.

Port Richmond High School already has a successful college-readiness partnership with Wagner College. The College of Staten Island and St. John's University Staten Island are also partnering with high schools as part of the collaborative 30,000 Degrees initiative. "As the first person in my family to go to college, I understand just how important it is to have a school-wide college and career culture where students have the awareness and support to get to a range of postsecondary options," Fariña said.

"With graduation rates, college readiness, and college enrollment already at record highs, this is the next step in ensuring all our students are ready for college and careers," she said.