

**From:** (b)(6) on behalf of Sean Corcoran  
<sean.corcoran@nyu.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 22, 2010 5:07 PM  
**To:** info@whatworks.ed.gov; Amy Ellen Schwartz  
**Subject:** Re: WWC Quick Review of Report

To the What Works Clearinghouse Team:

Thanks for the quick review of our study. I understand the conclusion ("not consistent with WWC standards"), as this was not an RCT or a quasi-experiment, nor did it purport to be. However, the summary of our findings is incorrect: we did find statistically significant differences in schools' trajectories in English Language Arts (K-8), but not math. I quote from our abstract:

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Also, the high school result was not one of our study's conclusions. We described the differences in high school achievement but made explicit that these groups could not be compared due to the small sample size.

I hope that these corrections will be made before the release of this review.  
Thank you  
Sean Corcoran

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Sean Patrick Corcoran  
Assistant Professor of Education Economics  
New York University  
Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development

665 Broadway Suite 805  
New York, NY 10012  
[sean.corcoran@nyu.edu](mailto:sean.corcoran@nyu.edu)  
Phone: (212) 992-9468, Fax: (212) 995-4564  
Web: <http://homepages.nyu.edu/~sc129/>

On Mon, Feb 22, 2010 at 10:03 AM, What Works <[whatworks@mathematica-mpr.com](mailto:whatworks@mathematica-mpr.com)> wrote:

Dear Dr. Corcoran:

We are emailing to inform you that a What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) quick review of your report, "The New York City Aspiring Principals Program: A School-Level Evaluation," will be posted on the WWC website tomorrow, February 23, 2010. As part of this process, we are sharing with you a courtesy copy of the quick review (attached as a PDF to this e-mail). **This quick review is embargoed until tomorrow, February 23, 2010, at 10am Eastern Time and cannot be circulated until that time.**

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Sincerely,

The What Works Clearinghouse Team

**From:** WhatWorks

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 23, 2010 3:53 PM

**To:** 'spcorcor@gmail.com'

**Subject:** RE: WWC Quick Review of Report (WWCPC 1944)

Dear Dr. Corcoran,

Thank you for contacting the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC). We have received your email about the quick review of your report, "The New York City Aspiring Principals Program: A School-Level Evaluation." WWC staff are reviewing your email and will prepare a response.

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The What Works Clearinghouse Team



**From:** WhatWorks

**Sent:** Thursday, February 25, 2010 4:22 PM

**To:** (b)(6)

**Subject:** RE: WWC Quick Review of Report (WWCPC 1944)

Dear Dr. Corcoran,

In response to your February 22 message to the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC), a quality review is being conducted on the quick review of "The New York City Aspiring Principals Program: A School-Level Evaluation." The WWC Quality Review Team responds to concerns raised about WWC reviews published on our website. These quality reviews are undertaken when concerned parties present evidence that a WWC review may be inaccurate. When a quality review is conducted, a researcher who was not involved in the initial review undertakes an independent assessment of the study in question.

If a quality review concludes that the original review contained errors, a revised version of the review will be published on the web site. However, it is WWC policy that the existing report will remain on the web site, and be revised only if the WWC team determines it does contain errors. These quality reviews are one of tools used to ensure that the standards established by the Institute of Educational Sciences (IES) are upheld on every review conducted by the What Works Clearinghouse.

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**From:** What Works  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 2:52 PM  
**To:** 'sean.corcoran@nyu.edu'  
**Cc:** 'amy.schwartz@nyu.edu'  
**Subject:** What Works Clearinghouse (2010005)  
**Attachments:** QRT 2010005.pdf

Dear Dr. Corcoran,

Attached is a response to the questions you raised in your February 22 message to the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC).

Thank you,

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