

Dear Families of New York City Students,

I write to tell you about important steps we are taking to make sure your school and the Department of Education are responsible for your child's learning.

Well-informed families are a powerful force for making schools better. When families know their children are not learning as much as they can, they demand improvement in their schools or they look for better ones. As a parent, you want to know: "How well is my child learning? How can she improve? What is her school doing to ensure that she does improve? How can I follow her progress? How can I help?"

We have created tools to help you answer these questions and to improve the learning of every child in our public schools. In this envelope, you will find information on these tools, including:

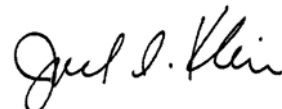
- A pamphlet describing "Four Ways to Evaluate Your Child's Schools and Improve Your Child's Education"
- Your school's 2006-2007 Learning Environment Survey Results, which report the answers New York City parents, students, and teachers gave last spring about the learning conditions in their schools
- Your school's 2006-2007 Progress Report (for elementary, middle, and K-8 schools; due to the timing of parent-teacher conferences for high schools, high school Progress Reports will be available through your school and on the DOE website shortly; new schools or schools being phased out may not have a Progress Report)
- Translations or translation guides to each document for those who need them

Also, last year, an experienced educator reviewed your school to see how well it is organized to improve student learning. If you would like to read your school's Quality Review Report, please talk to your Parent Coordinator or locate the report online by following the instructions in the enclosed pamphlet.

These accountability tools are a big part of the Mayor's and my Children First plan to give principals, teachers, and families the information they need to improve student learning and to hold me and the rest of the Department of Education accountable *to you*, with no excuses, if your child fails to learn.

If you have any questions or comments, write the Office of Accountability at 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007 or email [childrenfirst@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:childrenfirst@schools.nyc.gov).

Sincerely,



Joel I. Klein  
Chancellor