

## The Fund for Public Schools

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### Mission

The Fund for Public Schools is dedicated to improving New York City's public schools by attracting private investment in school reform and encouraging greater involvement by all New Yorkers in the education of our children.

### Leadership

Mayor Bloomberg and Chancellor Klein recruited an impressive group of New York's business and philanthropic leaders to serve on The Fund's board. Chancellor Klein and Vice-Chairs Caroline Kennedy and Mort Zuckerman lead the Board of Directors.

### Background

The Fund plays a pivotal role in improving public education in New York City by strengthening the New York City Department of Education's relationship with the private sector, securing funding for critical education reform initiatives, helping businesses to create partnerships and programs that support city schools, and raising public awareness about the public schools.

Mayor Bloomberg and Chancellor Klein established public-private partnerships as a critical lever for driving public education reform, and The Fund is the primary vehicle for advancing this effort in New York City. A national model for public-private partnerships to serve education needs, The Fund has secured unprecedented investment from the private sector, foundations, and individuals, raising more than \$240 million for system-wide reforms and initiatives that support individual schools.

### Accomplishments

- Since 2003, The Fund for Public Schools has raised over \$240 million to support system-wide reform initiatives, including approximately \$80 million for the NYC Leadership Academy.
- In fiscal year 2008, The Fund raised over \$44 million.
- The Fund for Public Schools launched Shop for Public Schools (formerly known as Shop for Class), an annual retail promotion in support of public school libraries, in 2004. The program completed its fifth year in 2008, with over 200 participating retail locations throughout the city.
- The Fund created the Arts SPACE grant program, a competitive process by which schools can apply for funds to improve performing arts spaces in schools. To date, The Fund has awarded close to 70 grants.
- The Fund created the Library REACH grant program, another competitive grant process that awards up to \$10,000 to schools to improve their libraries. To date, 216 schools have received Library REACH grants, totaling approximately \$2.1 million, and impacting over 150,000 students.
- The Fund partners with leading corporations and organizations to create events that raise funds and drive awareness of the needs of New York City public schools. In 2008, The Fund was the beneficiary partner of the Sex and the City movie premier and the Madison Avenue Art Gallery Walk. Earlier events included the AOL Concert for the Schools with the Dave Matthews Band, and Get Organized New York, a tag sale in Central Park which raised \$500,000 for school libraries and after-school sports programs.

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