



Joel I. Klein, Chancellor

52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

+1 212 374 0200 tel
+1 212 374 5588 fax

March 4, 2008

Dear Parents and Families,

This month is the start of the New York City Department of Education's second annual Learning Environment Survey of all parents, teachers and 6th-12th grade students citywide. Last year, nearly 600,000 people – 1 out of every 12 New Yorkers over the age of 10 – took the survey. This year, we hope even more people will make their voices heard.

Over the next several days, you will receive a survey for each school in which you have at least one child. The survey will come to you in a **bright green envelope**. Look for your survey in the mail or your child's backpack.

New York City families have great ideas about how to make our schools better. Now is your chance to share your ideas. It takes only a few minutes to fill out a survey and mail it back to us free of charge in the envelope provided. Your answers are **entirely confidential**. No one at your school or the Department of Education will be able to tell which parents took the survey or what they said. But when we count *all* of the surveys, we will learn a lot about what our schools do well and how they can improve.

Based on answers parents gave last year, schools in the City made many good changes in academic programs, school safety, communication, and engagement. You and your children are the experts on your school. It is important for you to tell us what you think.

If you have any questions, please call 311 or go online to www.nyc.gov/schools/surveys.

Sincerely,

Joel I. Klein, Chancellor