IMPORTANT LETTER-SIGNING CAMPAIGN THIS WEEK TO THE REGENTS AND STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

ADVOCATE FOR A VALID, RELIABLE TEACHER EVALUATION SYSTEM UNDER THE NEW LAW.

Dear Parents.

As you know, the State Education Department and the Regents are devising a new system for teacher evaluations, as dictated by the new budget law passed this April.

It is vital that we provide input to them as soon as possible. Their current deadline for devising this system is June 30^{th} .

Please come to our letter-signing table before or after school or download the letter, sign it and return it to the table or the PTA Office by Thursday evening, May 21, since we will be delivering the signed letters to two of the Regents that evening at PS 10. We will continue to collect letters after, but are pushing for as many as possible before.

The letter was composed by PS 321 parents and revised by PS 10 parent and advocate, Amy Schwartzman, former PTA Co-President.

It speaks to the specific issues with which he Board of Regents and the State Education Department have been charged.

Its essential message is that:

- whatever system is devised must be fair and reliable;
- it should be adequately funded;
- more time is needed to devise the system;
- measures other than testing should be part of it; and
- weighting for tests should be no more than 1-14% as per the American Statistical Association.

It also asks that:

- testing be decoupled from teacher evaluations;
- tests be limited to one hour; and
- when the current test development contract is up, another testing company other than Pearson be sought.

We hope you will consider signing this letter.

Thanks so much,
Parent Mobilization Committee for Educational Issues
More information or questions?
Contact Amy Schwartzman at aschwartzman4ever@gmail.com