



# THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JOEL I. KLEIN, *Chancellor*

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OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR  
52 CHAMBERS STREET - NEW YORK, NY 10007

March 26, 2009

Board of Directors  
25 West 45th St., 6th Floor  
New York, NY 10036

Dear Board of Directors:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Turnaround for Children. Turnaround does groundbreaking work with high-poverty schools, partnering with them to tackle some of the most daunting challenges they face. The New York City Department of Education has worked closely with Turnaround over the past several years and we welcome their ever-growing presence in high-poverty, high-need schools in New York City.

Turnaround's innovative approach represents the bold action needed to help schools create sustainable strategies for tackling disruptive classroom behavior and school climate issues that prevent schools from being effective environments for successful teaching and learning. Their approach integrates social and behavioral support, not just academic support, directly into the learning environment resulting in improvement in the classroom environment and student performance. There is a model for transformative whole-school, not incremental change.

Turnaround is unique among organizations helping New York City public schools in that it chooses to work with those schools that have the most daunting challenges. In my estimation, there are as many as 300 schools in New York City that could benefit from their expertise.

Principals who partner with Turnaround tell me that its support has helped them better understand the challenges they and their students face, and they praise Turnaround for helping them to focus once more on learning, while ensuring that students have the support they need to achieve.

I look forward to our continued partnership with Turnaround and applaud their success,

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joel I. Klein".

Joel I. Klein  
Chancellor