

P.S. / I.S. 187
Hudson Cliffs School
Cynthia Chory
Principal

Nilda Marrero
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Assistant Principal
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www.187hudsoncliffs.org

Parent Bulletin #1
September 2019

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for today."
- Malcolm X

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to the 2019-20 school year!

Now that we've kicked off a new academic year, I am thrilled to be back amongst your children and the staff that make up P.S./I.S. 187. Being out of the building last year gave me an opportunity to reflect upon what it means to be part of a team.

In my absence, I took comfort in knowing that I had left our students and the day-to-day operations in the trusting and knowledgeable hands of Ms. Marrero and Ms. Daskaris.

As my fellow team members, they worked tirelessly to make sure the year was a success while ensuring the safety, well-being, and academic achievement of every student in our school. I am humbled by their never-ending commitment to our school and cannot thank them enough for every early morning meeting they attended representing our school; late evening they had at PTO meetings and various district events; and countless emails they answered from me or for me!

Ms. Marrero and Ms. Daskaris aren't the only teammates who deserve recognition. I would like to recognize all the hard work and dedication our staff, as well as you, the families displayed last year. Without them and you, the P.S./I.S. 187 team roster would not be complete.

Throughout the building, teachers and staff members strived to provide the students an exceptional and nurturing learning experience. It was their constancy to your children that allows me to share the following: For the fifth year in a row, our students have shown growth in Literacy and Math. Over 70% of your children scored a level 3/4 on the 2019 ELA test and 68% of them faired the same on the 2019 Math exam. Furthermore, 100% of the students in our 8th grade Regents Algebra class passed their exams which puts our achievements in Math to 71%!

Thanks in part to funding from the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and good old-fashioned philanthropic goodwill from extended members of our team, our second floor underwent a lively and charming transformation all while helping your little ones become more aware of how sights, sounds and textures shape their ability to learn.

All of these accomplishments allow us to see where our team has been and where it's going, but before we head out into the hallways and classrooms that make up our ballfield, let's start by revisiting our school's Mission Statement:

Sincerely,

Cynthia Chory
Principal

A. P.S./I.S. 187 Hudson Cliffs School is a neighborhood school where we empower thinkers who are productive members of their community.

At the beginning of each school year, all schools develop a School Safety Plan. The plan outlines safety for all students and staff, the specific emergency response plans and procedures of the school Safety Plan must remain confidential.

You can obtain information about your child's school in the event of an emergency in the following ways:

- Call 311
- Check the Department of Education's website at <http://schools.nyc.gov>
- Read letters sent home with the students.

In addition, the following telephone numbers will be of use in the event of an emergency:

- P.S./I.S. 187 212.927.8218
- Office of Pupil Transportation 718.392.8855
- Division of School Facilities 718.349.5799

Once again, I wish you a successful academic school year and our entire staff looks forward to meeting you and working with your child!

B. Parent Bulletin Information

As parents, you have an extremely important role in your child's education. Parental involvement is one of the keys to a child's success. Equally important is communication between the school and parents. As a tool for strengthening the home/school connection, you can expect bi-monthly Parent Bulletins for the first few months of school. Following this Parent Bulletins will be distributed once a month. These bulletins provide parents with important dates to remember, events and happenings at 187, as well as a monthly calendar to help you and your family keep abreast of school information throughout the year. You can access Parent Bulletins and other important information on our web page at www.187HudsonCliffs.org.

C. Safety Procedures

All parents entering the school building must **present identification** to the Security Officers and receive an entrance pass. Please take the pass to the Main Office and the office staff will answer any questions and/or direct you from the main office. Do not, under any circumstance, go directly to your child's classroom. These procedures must be observed by everyone so that all our children, teachers and staff members will be safe.

Noteworthy Dates, School Closings and Half-Days:

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL Kindergarten - Full Day of School Pre-Kindergarten - Partial Day of School	September 5 th
9/11 Red/White/Blue Day	September 11 th
Parent Teacher Orientation, 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.	September 12 th
Rosh Hashanah - School is Closed	September 30 th - October 1 st
Picture Day	October 7 th - 8 th
Yom Kippur - School is Closed	October 9 th
Columbus Day - School is Closed	October 14 th
Election Day - No Students in School	November 5 th
Veteran's Day - School is Closed	November 11 th
Parent Teacher Conferences, Half day dismissal	November 14 th
Thanksgiving Recess - School is Closed	November 28 th - 29 th
Winter Recess - School is Closed	December 24 th - January 1 st
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Day - School is Closed	January 20 th
Mid-Winter Recess - School is Closed	February 17 th - 21 st
Parent Teacher Conferences, Half day dismissal	March 5 th
Spring Recess - School is Closed	April 19 th - 26 th
Parent Involvement Evening - 4:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.	May 7 th
Memorial Day - School is Closed	May 25 th
Chancellor's Conference Day for Staff - No Students in School	June 4 th
Clerical Day for Staff - No Students in School	June 9 th
Last Day of School - Half Day Dismissal	June 26 th

D. Arrival and Dismissal Times

To ensure that we have adequate supervision for our students, please do not drop off your child before 7:30 a.m.

Listed below are the arrival and dismissal times for all students.

Arrival times and locations:

Pre-K 8:10 a.m. - Drop off in classroom.
Grades K* - 4th 8:20 a.m.
Children enter the building through Exit 2 into the school cafeteria.

Grades 5th - 8th 8:00 a.m.
During fair weather, students line up in the school yard. In inclement weather, students enter the auditorium from the school yard (Exit 6).

Dismissal times and locations:

Pre-K	2:30 p.m.	Pick Up in classroom
Kindergarten*	2:35 p.m.	Garden Path
Grade 1	2:35 p.m.	Cabrini Boulevard
Grade 2	2:35 p.m.	Ft. Washington Avenue - school yard Exit 3
Grade 3 & 4	2:35 p.m.	Ft. Washington Avenue - school yard Exit 6
Grade 5 - 8	2:20 p.m.	Ft. Washington Avenue - school yard Exit 6

There will be a special schedule for Pre-K - on September 5th. All students will be dismissed as per Ms. Marrero's letter that you received in August. This letter indicates the arrival and dismissal times for your child.

E. Phone Master System

The Phone Master is a system used to record absences daily. The Phone Master System will call your home between 6:30 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. on the day of your child's absence. A recorded voice will say that your child was absent and remind you to send an excuse letter with your child when he/she returns to school. In the absence letter, please indicate your child's name, class, dates of absence and reason for the absence. Phone Master relies on the accuracy of your telephone number. If you change your telephone number, please send the new number in writing to your child's teacher.

F. Lunch Forms

Once again, lunch forms will be distributed to all students and must be completed and returned to school. Although there is no fee for lunch, it is essential that these forms are completed and returned

to school as soon as possible, even if your child brings his/her lunch from home or has permission to eat lunch outside of school. If you prefer, you can complete the application online at nyc.applyforlunch.com.

G. Monitoring your Child's Progress with Pupilpath

Our online communication system which allows parents to access and monitor grades, assessments, homework, as well as communicate with your child's teacher(s). In order to access Pupilpath, parents simply type in their password. Passwords will be distributed in the near future. Letters will follow, a workshop will be held on Thursday, September 12th (parent/teacher orientation night), at 4:30 p.m. followed by a presentation. As another form of communication between our school and parents, please continue to use your family access from last year. Should you have an issue, please contact our parent coordinator, Isabelle Elton at Ielton@schools.nyc.gov.

H. Dress Policy

The informal relaxing days of summer are quickly coming to an end. With that comes the time to begin thinking about shedding those casual and comfortable clothes for something a little more appropriate for school. Shopping for school clothes is fun, but it can also pose a challenge as current fashion trends do not necessarily support the school's dress policy. As you begin your shopping adventures or as your child begins making decisions about what to wear to school, we are asking you to help us set a tone for the building that places an emphasis on respect and decorum so that teaching and learning may occur without distraction. The following items are considered inappropriate for school:

- Clothing that exposes the midriff, spaghetti strap tops, or clothing that is overly revealing
- Shorts that are not fingertip length
- Accessories with chains, spikes or protruding studs
- Clothing with offensive/suggestive printing, writing or illustrations that make reference to alcohol, drugs, sex or violence.

We need to work together to make your child's school experience a pleasant one while simultaneously creating a school environment that is positive and conducive to learning.

I. I.S. Schedule and E.S. Schedule

We will be following a six day cycle called HUDSON. Each day's schedule will be different and each week will be different as we will not be going by which day of the week it is, but instead, which day of the cycle it is. This change will enable us to offer our children two music classes per cycle and two Spanish classes per cycle instead of just one of each per week. Also, in the past, classes that met on Mondays suffered because of all the holidays that fell on Mondays. With the HUDSON schedule, cycles will be scheduled around holidays and therefore, no classes will be missed.

J. Special Thank You

- Parent Teacher Organization for funding our afterschool activities and so much more. Without you, our students would not have these extracurricular activities.
- Friends of 187 for the funding of our enrichment programs which assist our students.
- Parents and guardians who assist our staff and students for our fundraisers, productions, school trips, etc.

K. SLT and PTO Meetings

SLT MEETINGS	PTO MEETINGS
September 18 th @ 7:00 a.m.	September 26 th @ 6:15 p.m.
October 16 th @ 7:00 a.m.	October 24 th @ 6:15 p.m.
November 6 th @ 7:00 a.m.	November 21 st @ 6:15 p.m.
December 11 th @ 7:00 a.m.	December 19 th @ 6:15 p.m.
January 15 th @ 7:00 a.m.	January 23 rd @ 6:15 p.m.
February 12 th @ 7:00 a.m.	February 22 nd @ 6:15 p.m.
March 18 th @ 7:00 a.m.	March 26 th @ 6:15 p.m.
April 8 th @ 7:00 a.m.	April 23 rd @ 6:15 p.m.
May 6 th @ 7:00 a.m.	May 28 th @ 6:15 p.m.
June 10 th @ 7:00 a.m.	June 18 th @ 6:15 p.m.

L. Supply Lists

The Supply Lists are available on our school's website, www.187hudsoncliffs.org. Please send in supplies slowly.

M. Honor Roll

For Grades 5-8, there are three different academic accolades students may receive each marking period:

ARISTA: All students must achieve an overall average of 95 or above in all subject areas

DEAN'S LIST: All students must achieve an overall average of 90-94 in all subject areas

HONOR ROLL: All students must achieve an overall average of 85-89 in all subject areas

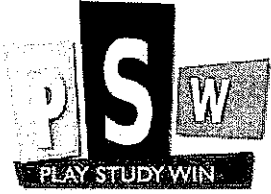
Students receive certificates with specific academic award and names are posted on the bulletin board outside room 405 for parents and guardians to view during Parent Teacher Conferences.

N. Parent Orientation

Parent Teacher Orientation - Thursday, September 12th

Our Parent Orientation for all grades will take place on the evening of September 12th @ 4:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. More information will follow.

O. Checkout our Website: www.187hudsoncliffs.org for up-to-date information.



FUNDING PROVIDED BY

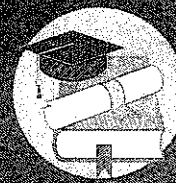
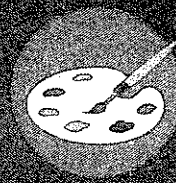
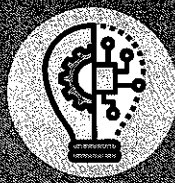
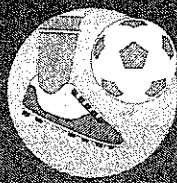
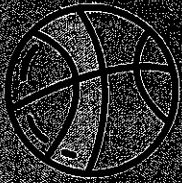


Department of
Youth & Community
Development

FREE PROGRAM

PS187 AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBHOUSE

FREE PROGRAM FOR GRADES 6 • 7 • 8
MONDAY - FRIDAY • 2:20-5:30PM
SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 - JUNE 19, 2020



BASKETBALL ART SOCCER CHANGEMAKERS WORKSHOP STUDY HALL IMPROV STEM AND MORE

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER

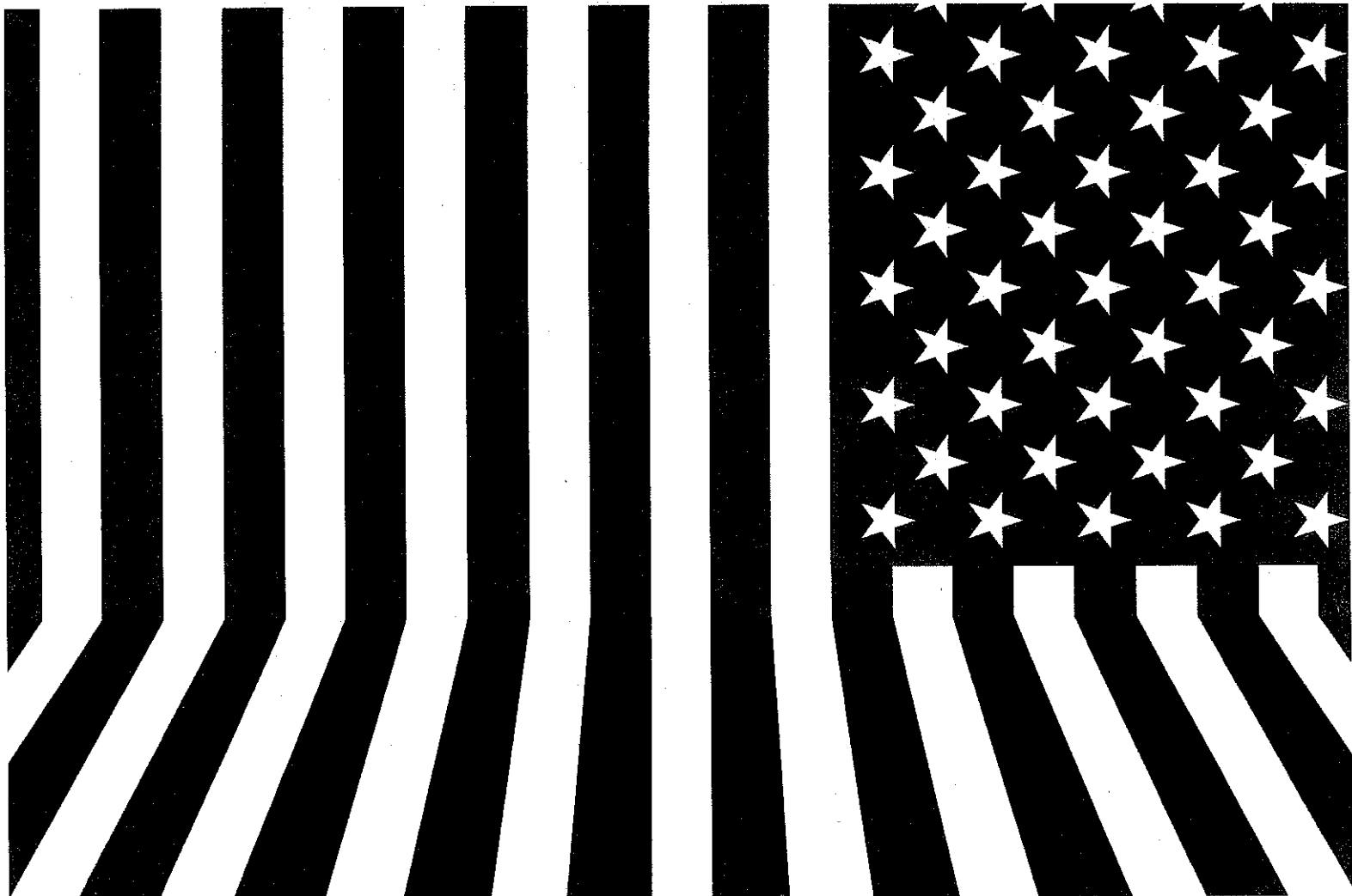
Visit the Play Study Win information table

September 5th & 6th • 7:00-8:15am & 2:00-3:00pm • PS187 School Yard

Visit 187pto.org/afterschool or contact

KSENIA SELEMON, Program Director • kselemon.psw@gmail.com • 917-636-0043

KAREN SUAREZ, Assistant Program Director • ksuarez.psw@gmail.com



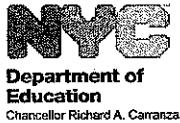
P.S./I.S. 187's

Red, White, & Blue Day

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Wear your red, white, and blue as we remember
September 11, 2001





September 5, 2019

Dear Families,

Welcome to the 2019–20 school year!

In New York City public schools, it is our priority to keep kids healthy and safe. As part of our continued effort to protect children from exposure to lead, the Department of Education (DOE) regularly inspects, tests and fixes classrooms serving children under age six in school buildings constructed prior to 1985. We look for damaged paint, as lead-based paint presents a risk when it is peeling, chipped, or cracked. This summer, we conducted citywide testing, and we are pleased to inform you that any required remediation has been completed, and that these classrooms are cleared for use on the first day of school.

This summer, the Division of School Facilities inspected all classrooms serving students under age six in buildings constructed before 1985. We tested all peeling or damaged paint in these classrooms for lead and used standard safety protocols to repair any lead-based paint. We then did further testing after the paint has been stabilized to make sure rooms are safe for children to enter. This is called remediation. We will continue to visually inspect classrooms throughout the year, and moving forward, we will be expanding our testing and remediation to include common spaces, such as cafeterias and libraries.

To help you stay informed, we have attached frequently asked questions about lead safety in DOE schools, as well as information on lead exposure and links to additional resources. For paint-inspection results, please visit schools.nyc.gov/lead-paint-results. For more information, visit schools.nyc.gov/about-us/reports/lead-based-paint or speak with your school's principal.

We wish you and your children a wonderful first day—and we will continue to work hard to keep our 1.1 million students safe.

Sincerely,

Ursulina Ramirez
Chief Operating Officer

Department of Education Lead Safety Frequently Asked Questions

Why was testing and repair work completed only in classrooms serving children under six?
The work to survey paint conditions and repair any peeling paint focused on classroom serving children under age six because young children are most at risk—children under three years old are

the most susceptible and vulnerable to the health effects of lead, and children under age six are at higher risk than older children.

Why was testing only completed in buildings constructed before 1985?

Our standard response protocol keeps kids safe and applies to all classrooms serving students under six in buildings constructed before 1985. Although lead-based paint was banned in New York City in 1960, we take additional precautions and include in our monitoring any building constructed 25 years after that ban.

What is DOE's testing protocol? Is it aligned with Health Code requirements?

Surveys for peeling paint and the repair of any lead-based paint are conducted according to the requirements of the New York City Health Code.

All schools serving children under six years old, constructed in 1985 or earlier, are visually inspected by custodial engineers who flag for testing any peeling paint found in classrooms. In addition, at the end of the 2018–19 school year, we did another round of inspections on all 3-K, Pre-K, Kindergarten, and LYFE Center classrooms, and tested any peeling or damaged paint in these classrooms for lead. Any lead-based peeling paint was addressed by EPA certified contractors.

How can I learn whether my school was impacted?

You can view an individual school's testing results via the Lead-Based Paint page on the DOE website: schools.nyc.gov/lead-paint-results.

My school was on the list of impacted buildings. Should I be worried?

No. The peeling lead-based paint in all classrooms serving children under age six has been repaired and we are ready for school to begin. You can continue to find the most up-to-date information on impacted buildings at schools.nyc.gov/lead-paint-results.

I don't want my child to continue to attend this school. Can I transfer my child to a new program?

All classrooms have been successfully remediated and the building is safe. As always, you can visit a Family Welcome Center to explore available school options. To find one near you, visit: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/enrollment/enrollment-help/family-welcome-centers>.

Are you reaching out to families whose children have been in impacted classrooms?

Yes. The DOE has asked principals to reach out to all families of students under six that occupied these classrooms last year, or during the first few days of summer. The original letter alerting families of test results and next steps is available in 10 different languages and can be accessed online at: schools.nyc.gov/about-us/reports/lead-based-paint.

What should I do if I notice peeling or damaged paint in my child's school?

If you notice peeling paint in one of our school buildings, we would like to hear from you. Please fill out the Paint Reporting survey available at schools.nyc.gov/about-us/reports/lead-based-paint

and we will investigate. We'll need the building code, classroom number, and floor. You can find your building code by clicking your school's borough on the website above and typing in the address or school name.

My child attends a DOE-contracted community-based early childhood program. Did you test those programs too?

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) inspects community-based child care programs. The DOHMH requires that programs be free of lead-based paint or that any lead-based paint be in good repair (that is, not peeling, chipped, or cracked). DOHMH conducts regular inspections to check whether there is peeling paint and conducts follow-up inspections to confirm any peeling paint has been repaired. Visit nyc.gov/health and search "Child Care Connect" to find information about your community-based child care program's inspection history.

Do I need to be concerned about lead in my school's drinking water?

No. New York City tap water is of the highest quality and arrives from upstate reservoirs that are virtually lead-free. The DOE tests the water used in schools for drinking and cooking, and turns off any fixture if the testing shows elevated lead levels until repairs are made and the water tests show there is no more elevation. State law requires the DOE to test the water for lead every five years. All schools either have been, or will be, retested from fall 2018 through 2020.

How can I ensure that my child is safe?

Children under three years old are the most susceptible and vulnerable to the health effects of lead, and children under age six are at higher risk than older children. Discuss your child's health history with their doctor to determine if blood lead testing is appropriate. To secure free testing or to find a doctor, call 311.

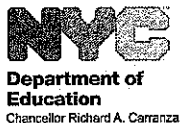
Additional Information on Lead Exposure

What are the health effects of lead?

Lead is a metal that can harm children and adults when it gets into their bodies. Lead is a known neurotoxin. This means it is particularly harmful to the developing brain and nervous system of children under six years old. Lead can harm a young child's growth, behavior, and ability to learn. Lead exposure during pregnancy may contribute to low birth weight and developmental delays in infants. There are many sources of lead exposure in the environment, and it is important to reduce all lead exposures as much as possible.

What are the other sources of lead exposure?

Lead is a metal that has been used for centuries for many purposes, resulting in widespread distribution in the environment. Major sources of lead exposure include lead-based paint in older housing, and lead that built up over decades in soil and dust due to historical use of lead in gasoline, paint, and manufacturing. Lead can also be found in a number of consumer products, including certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, foods, plumbing materials, and cosmetics. Lead



seldom occurs naturally in water supplies but drinking water could become a possible source of lead exposure if the building's plumbing contains lead. The primary source of lead exposure for most children with elevated blood-lead levels is lead-based paint.

Who is at risk for lead poisoning?

Children under three years of age are the most susceptible and vulnerable to the health effects of lead. Lead also poses a risk to the developing fetus. Exposure to lead may interfere with a child's growth and development.

What do we know about rates of lead poisoning in New York City children?

Rates of lead poisoning among NYC children have been falling. Since 2005, there has been close to a 90% decline in the number and rate of children under six years old with a blood lead level at or above 5 micrograms per deciliter (mcg/dL), the level at which the New York City Health Department investigates.

Additional Resources

For more information about lead safety in the Department of Education, go to:
schools.nyc.gov/about-us/reports/lead-based-paint

For information about lead and programs at the New York City Health Department, go to:
nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/lead-poisoning-prevention.page

For information about New York State Department of Health Lead Poisoning Prevention, go to: health.ny.gov/environmental/lead/

For more information on blood lead testing and ways to reduce your child's risk of exposure to lead, see "What Your Child's Blood Lead Test Means":
health.ny.gov/publications/2526/ (available in 10 languages)

Help ensure funding is available at your Child's School



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Family Income Inquiry Form Today!



SUBMIT ONLINE
ONE FORM PER HOUSEHOLD

24
HOUR

FAST RESULTS
WITHIN 24 HOURS FROM SUBMISSION

Need Assistance or Have Questions? Call The Office of Food & Nutrition Services Customer Information: (877) 363-6325



Your privacy is important to us. All information is kept confidential. Federal regulations do not allow the Department of Education to share your information with any other agency.

NYC Department of
Education