



**SCHOOLS CHANCELLOR KLEIN AND CITY’S SUSTAINABILITY DIRECTOR
AGGARWALA BENCHMARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS AS PART OF MAYOR
BLOOMBERG’S PLANYC GOAL TO REDUCE CITY GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS
BY 30 PERCENT**

New York City Becomes First Public School District in the Nation to Join the Green Schools Alliance

Chancellor Joel I. Klein and the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability, Rohit T. Aggarwala, today announced that the Department of Education (DOE) has taken a major step towards reducing energy consumption by City schools by analyzing the energy efficiency of the district’s 1,260 school buildings through a process called benchmarking. Benchmarking gives a detailed understanding of the efficiency of each building, and helps the Department of Education target efficiency efforts where they will have the greatest impact. The effort is part of the City’s overall efforts to achieve its *PlaNYC* target of reducing municipal government energy consumption and carbon emissions by 30 percent by 2017.

Chancellor Klein and Sustainability Director Aggarwala also announced that the Department of Education is the first public school district in the nation to join the Green Schools Alliance, a nonprofit initiative committed to promoting energy efficiency, resource conservation and environmental awareness and responsibility in schools. Through the Green Schools Alliance, schools share experiences and expertise to lower their energy consumption and carbon footprint. Schools Deputy Chancellor Kathleen Grimm and Sustainability Director Aggarwala were joined at the DOE headquarters in the Tweed Courthouse in Manhattan by Division of School Facilities (DSF) Chief Executive John Shea, GSA Founder and President Peg Watson, Department of Citywide Administrative Services Commissioner Martha K. Hirst, School Construction Authority Vice President for Architecture and Engineering E. Bruce Barrett and representatives from community groups that support conservation.

“This project to benchmark our buildings represents our largest commitment yet to reduce energy consumption in our schools,” said Chancellor Klein. “As a result of this project, our schools will be more efficient—and our environment will be cleaner. This is important work for our City, and it’s a powerful lesson for our students about the importance of sustainability.”

“If you can’t measure it, you can’t manage it,” said Rohit Aggarwala, director of the Mayor’s Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability. “The Department of Education’s benchmarking of 1,260 school buildings will enable us to make decisions as to which measures we should implement to reduce our City’s greenhouse gases and save money on our energy bills. It also demonstrates that benchmarking is an easy process that yields important information for any kind of building.”

