



January 29, 2020

Dear Parent,

We are writing to inform you that February 10 through February 14, 2020 is **Respect For All Week** in all New York City public schools. Bullying, including cyberbullying, intimidation, and bias-based harassment have no place in our schools or communities, and we all need to work together to address this issue. For this important initiative, the Department of Education is working in collaboration with the New York City Council, United Federation of Teachers (UFT), Council of School Supervisors and Administrators (CSA), and other community partners to raise awareness about diversity and to promote respect for one another.

It is a top priority for all of us to maintain a safe and supportive learning environment that is free from bullying and harassment, intimidation, and/or discrimination on the basis of race, color, creed, ethnicity, national origin, citizenship/immigration status, religion, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, weight or disability. The Citywide Behavioral Expectations to Support Student Learning and Chancellor's Regulations A-830, A-831 and A-832 address these issues.

Respect For All Week is designed to continue the focus on the importance of promoting respect for diversity and creating inclusive school climates so that all students and other members of the school community feel safe and respected. To date, several thousand teachers, parent coordinators, and other staff have received Respect For All training. Brochures and wallet cards have been distributed to all students, and schools have designated one or more Respect For All Liaisons who are identified on posters displayed in the school.

All of us grapple with issues of respect every day. Teaching children to respect others is a shared responsibility. **During this week, we ask each of you to reinforce the Respect For All message that students will be hearing in school – that all students deserve to be treated with respect, and that bullying, harassment, intimidation, and discrimination have no place in our school community.** If you have questions regarding Respect For All Week, feel free to contact your school's principal or Respect For All Liaison, or email RespectForAll@schools.nyc.gov.

Thank you for your continued support of your child's education. Please know that the DOE, City Council, UFT and CSA are united in our commitment to promoting respect for diversity and fostering inclusive learning environments for all students, and that we will do all we can to help make Respect For All Week a success.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Richard A. Carranza in black ink.

Richard A. Carranza, Chancellor
Department of Education

Handwritten signature of Corey Johnson in black ink.

Corey Johnson, Speaker
New York City Council

Handwritten signature of Michael Mulgrew in black ink.

Michael Mulgrew, President
United Federation of Teachers

Handwritten signature of Mark Cannizzaro in black ink.

Mark Cannizzaro, President
Council of School Supervisors and Administrators

Handwritten signature of Mark Treyger in black ink.

Mark Treyger, Chair
New York City Council Education Committee