

Parent Focus Group Invitation

The Office of the Public Advocate, Bill de Blasio, and the Fund for Public Advocacy are collaborating with the NYC Department of Education (DOE) in a study of the Special Education Reform initiative. The initiative is intended to increase the number of students with disabilities educated with their non-disabled peers in their home-zoned school. The purpose of the study is to inform the DOE and the general public about the effectiveness of the initiative's implementation. The first report, Educating All Students Well: Special Education Reform in New York City Public Schools, was released in August 2012 (http://advocate.nyc.gov/special-ed).

You are invited to participate in a focus group for parents of students with disabilities in community public schools, scheduled for June 5th. Your participation is critical to help us learn more about schools' efforts to date to achieve the goals of the reform and inform potential mid-course corrections. Your participation is voluntary, and your comments will be kept anonymous and confidential.

Date: Wednesday, June 5th Time: 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Location: Perry and Associates, Inc. Office. 1 Centre Street, 10th Floor, Room 1034

The focus groups will be conducted by Perry and Associates, Inc. (P&A), a national education consulting group. P&A is charged with providing an objective, independent perspective on reform implementation. P&A will collect and analyze the results from the focus groups and other methods of data collection, and release a report to the public on the reform's implementation.

Reimbursement for transportation and light refreshments will be provided.

RSVP to Nancy Baez at nbaez@perryandassociatesinc.com or call (347) 899-0728.

Subway: 4 or 5 to Brooklyn Bridge, 1, 2 or 3 to Chambers and walk 4 blocks. Parking options near 1 Centre Street:

- 1) Little Man Ann Park, 57 Ann St, New York, NY 10038 (212) 608-4740
- 2) Rapid Park, 25-27 Beeckman Street, New York, NY (212) 766 0871