

PTA

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION OF
THE JESSE ISADOR STRAUS SCHOOL
270 WEST 70 STREET NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10023

P.S. 199

September 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians and Friends of PS199 Students,

Welcome back from what we hope was an enjoyable and relaxing summer. The start of a new school year brings excitement and anticipation for all of us in the PS199 community.

Although the summer began with the news that New York City's budget passed without the layoff of 4,100 teachers, all schools, including PS199, are facing budget reductions and are forced to make tough decisions about what our children can do without. This is where parents, families and neighbors can make a difference -- we need your financial support so the PTA can continue to provide many of the necessities and enrichment programs that make PS199 one of the best elementary schools in the city.

At PS199, we are fortunate that so many dedicated parents contribute their time and money. This support, along with our amazing principal, Katy Rosen, and wonderful teachers, is why PS199 is one of the most desired elementary schools in NYC. With your contribution to the family giving campaign, the PTA hopes to supplement the school's budget by nearly \$600,000! To reach this goal, we are suggesting a donation of \$750 from each family.

This year, the PTA is paying 100% of the cost of our technology and science teacher. Without the PTA, this position would have been in jeopardy due to budget cuts. We are also allocating \$100,000 for assistant teachers and part-time teachers (like math and reading specialists) that help provide a great educational environment for our kids. As in years past, your contributions fund teacher supplies and books in every classroom, world-class art programs such as the Lincoln Center Institute, Vital Theater, the New York Philharmonic, and the National Dance Institute, and the Wellness in the Schools cafeteria program. This year we will begin a new partnership with The Center for Architecture Foundation, another unique learning experience for our children. And let's not forget the new outdoor garden learning area that will open this year.

We know there are many demands on your money -- but this is *our* school, *our* community, and *our* children -- and the benefits of giving to PS199 are visible every day in their experiences. We are so fortunate to be at a school like PS199 and know you share our desire to help strengthen the educational opportunities for our kids. Our ability to provide educational enhancements like the technology teacher is solely because of the generosity of our parents. We ask that you contribute all that you can to support our children and our school through this family giving campaign as well as other fundraising activities throughout the year.

Please return your donation in the enclosed envelope via regular mail or leave it in the PTA mailbox in the school office. In addition, please take advantage of your company's matching donation program if they have one or inquire with your HR department if you're unsure. With everyone's help, our children will have another great year of public education at PS199!

100% of your donation goes directly to PS199 and is tax-deductible. The amount of your donation is strictly confidential. Thank you for your continued and generous support.

Warm regards,

Andrea Kann, PTA Fundraising Officer

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's Class: _____

Family Giving Donation:

◆ \$1,500 ◆ \$1,000 ◆ **\$750 (suggested)** ◆ \$500 ◆ \$250 ◆ **Other: \$** _____

_____ My company will match this gift!

Please make your check payable to PS199 PTA or log on to our website at <http://www.ps199pta.org> to make a donation via PayPal using your credit/debit card or PayPal account. *Note: payment by check avoids costly percentage fees.* PS 199 is tax exempt under Sections 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code (Federal ID #13-3630982). All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law, and will be acknowledged by official letter for tax purposes.

Gifts should be mailed to:

P.S. 199 PTA
270 West 70th Street
New York, NY 10023