



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, New Yorkers value highly both the education and health of their children and environmental quality, and understand that poor environmental conditions and practices in schools can profoundly impact children's health, learning, and behavior; and

**Whereas**, New York joins in the annual celebration of Healthy Schools Day – a national observance that celebrates and promotes healthy and green school environments for all children through green purchasing, green building design, and green operations; and

**Whereas**, the Empire State was the first state in the nation to require the use of environmentally-sensitive cleaning and maintenance products in all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools, and has made it easy for schools to purchase green cleaning supplies through a multi-state procurement consortium; and

**Whereas**, the State Education Department and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority have worked together to adopt the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (NY-CHPS) guidelines for new building construction, which present schools with the opportunity to build high performance, high quality learning environments at lower costs over the life of the building, and are working together to develop NY-CHPS guidelines for major renovations of existing facilities; and

**Whereas**, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority provides programs which offer schools technical and other assistance, to reduce their energy consumption, install renewable energy systems, and incorporate sustainability into their curricula, and provides recognition for schools accomplishments; and

**Whereas**, the Department of Environmental Conservation offers schools technical assistance, materials and recognition for schools to reduce, recycle and compost waste, incorporate Green Chemistry into their curricula, save energy and conserve natural resources; and

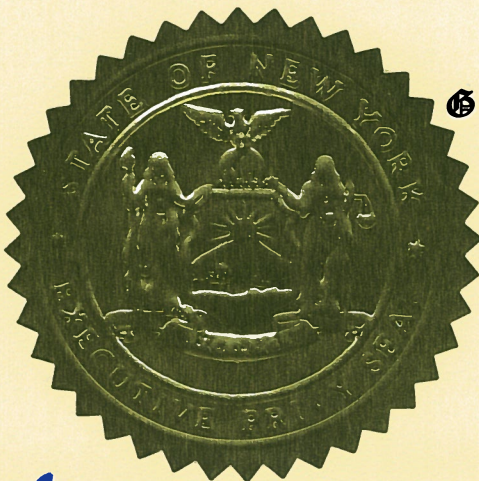
**Whereas**, by constructing green buildings, buying green products, adopting green practices and teaching Green Chemistry, New York State's schools are not only protecting children's health, they are saving money and promoting new ideas in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and community action that will enhance the sustainability of our state for generations to come; and

**Whereas**, Healthy Schools Day provides an opportunity for each of us to reflect upon the importance of education, children's health, and environmental quality, and to consider steps our schools can take – however large or small – to make the learning environment healthier for children;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2012 as

## HEALTHY SCHOOLS DAY

in the Empire State.



**Given** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this nineteenth day Pof April in the year two thousand twelve.

A blue ink signature of Andrew M. Cuomo, written in a cursive style.

Governor

A blue ink signature of Lawrence Schwartz, written in a cursive style.  
Secretary to the Governor