



December 3, 2010

Dear Friend of South Loop School,

Consistently being rated one of Chicago's best academic models, South Loop Elementary School is more than a school. It's a diverse learning community of students, families and educational leaders who value and support a high-quality learning environment for everyone. This year's preliminary Illinois State Achievement Test (ISAT) results show yet another increase in our scores. The number of students who meet or exceed state standards increased from 89.5% in 2008 to 91% in 2009. And even more important is the number of students exceeding State standards – 43.2% in reading (up from 8% in 2004), 39.1% in Math (up from 9 percent in 2004), and 42% in Science (up from 3% in 2004). This is an outstanding achievement that is a testament to our valued staff, administration, parents and families. Together we have created a school of choice for our neighborhood and for the city at large.

We cannot, however, rest on our accolades. Unfortunately, celebrated academic achievement and increased enrollment does not bring us more public funding. In fact, government funds are decreasing. As such, the school administration must choose how to most effectively allot our limited resources so that our school and children continue to succeed and thrive at unparalleled levels. For this reason, On May 6th, 2011 Friends and Family of South Loop School, Inc., a non-profit 501c3 organization established to enhance the educational experience of students at South Loop Elementary School, will host its 8th annual Spring Benefit. This is the major fundraiser for our school and all proceeds from the event will benefit the school by providing funds for educational programs, school improvements, and classroom supplies. The 2011 Spring Benefit's success depends on the generosity of companies such as yours. Please consider sponsoring our endeavor, or donating an item or two for our silent auction so that we can utilize those funds to provide resources not available through the normal school budget but required to enhance the education of our children.

On behalf of Friends and Family of South Loop School, particularly our students we thank you for your interest and support. To find out more about South Loop Elementary School please visit our web site at www.southloopschool.net. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Venecia Dutton & Charone Ousley
2011 Spring Benefit Co-Chairs
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