



**Arne Duncan**  
Chief Executive Officer

October 2008

Dear CPS Principals:

I hope that your school year is off to a great start! I am pleased to invite you to join the City of Chicago and the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) as we celebrate our annual *Chicago Science in the City* event on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Malcolm X College, 1900 W. Van Buren St.

This year, *Chicago Science in the City* will closely examine “The Science of Sports.” Through a one-day interactive and hands-on event, participants will discover how science is at the core of every element of sports. I strongly encourage your school to participate in this exciting and free day of fun!

Below you will find more information about how your students and teachers can get involved:

**Chicago Science in the City: The Science of Sports**

This one-day event will provide students an opportunity to take part in a variety of action-packed scientific activities inspiring children to pursue science and sports, while challenging adults to consider the role that science plays in our dynamic world.

Participants will explore interactive zones and join Olympians, Paralympians, scientists and other experts to experience a fun and stimulating educational day. For more information, please refer to the attached event description and event offerings, or visit the event’s website at [www.chicagoscienceinthecity.org](http://www.chicagoscienceinthecity.org).

**Chicago Science in the City’s Passport Program**

Students attending *Chicago Science in the City* will receive a “passport” that encourages them to visit all of the interactive zones throughout the event. Zone organizers will “validate” student passports, after students engage in activities, demonstrations and lectures offered at each zone. Students can show completed passports at the Chicago 2016 booth for a special take-away. Passports will be available at the event and also may be downloaded at [www.chicagoscienceinthecity.org](http://www.chicagoscienceinthecity.org).

**Extra Credit Offering**

Along with the CPS’ Office of Math and Science, Department of Sports Administration and the Office of High School Teaching and Learning, I ask that all science and physical education teachers discuss this event with students, and I encourage CPS teachers to provide extra credit for students who attend the October 18<sup>th</sup> event and submit a completed passport. A validated “passport” (mentioned above) can provide confirmation that students attended and participated in the event.

**Plan a Field Trip**

*Chicago Science in the City* provides an excellent opportunity for an organized school field trip. Lunch and a snack will be provided to students. In order for your students to receive food services during the event, reservations must be completed by Friday, October 10. Please include a full roster of attending students and adhere to the Chicago Board of Education Student Travel Policy when making and enacting your arrangements. For more information, or to reserve space for a school trip, high schools can contact John Loehr at [jfloehr@cps.k12.il.us](mailto:jfloehr@cps.k12.il.us) or (773) 553-6384, and elementary schools can contact Jeanette Bartley at [jrbartley@cps.k12.il.us](mailto:jrbartley@cps.k12.il.us) or (773) 553-6238.

### **CPDUs for Teachers Attending Chicago Science in the City**

The CPS' Office of Math and Science, Department of Sports Administration and the Office of High School Teaching and Learning will offer CPDUs for teachers attending the event, which will allow them to deepen their knowledge of science and sports. In addition, teachers can learn about techniques and resources that are available to engage their students around these exciting topics. Teachers should visit the CPS staff at the Gummi Bear Long Jump area at the event (see below) for detailed information.

### **The Gummi Bear Long Jump**

At *Chicago Science in the City*, CPS will once again partner with Science Olympiad to offer "The Gummi Bear Long Jump." This hands-on activity teaches about the physics behind projectile motion. Students and participating adults will be able to take home items and instructions to continue their exploration of this physics activity after leaving *Chicago Science in the City*.

For teachers unable to attend the event or for those who want additional information on how this activity connects to the district's curriculum, CPS and Science Olympiad will conduct two-hour professional development workshops for teachers in grades kindergarten to 12, during the school year. Workshop attendees will receive materials to conduct this activity with their class. A listing of dates and times for these sessions can be found on the PD Central website:

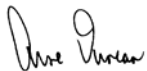
<https://pdcentral.cps.k12.il.us/ia/render.userLayoutRootNode.uP>.

### **Teacher for a Day**

If you would like to bring the excitement of *Chicago Science in the City* to your school, consider inviting a presenter or exhibitor to be a Teacher for a Day at your school in May 2009. This person could engage your students by serving as a guest speaker, leading an activity, or working with a teacher to design a lesson. To request a *Chicago Science in the City* presenter or exhibitor for Teacher for a Day in May 2009, contact the CPS Partnerships Office at 773-553-1540. Presenters and exhibitors will be placed on a first-come first-served basis.

*Chicago Science in the City* is a fantastic opportunity for your students to explore science with friends and family and to have fun while learning, too. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Arne Duncan