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**NYC Teachers Become Students for 3 Days
To Learn How to Bring Sustainability into Classrooms**

*K-12 Educators Will Be Trained in Preparing
Students for 21st Century Challenges*

*Chancellor Fariña Will Address Teachers
on Wednesday, August 27th at Noon*

Sixty K-12 teachers from a dozen New York City public schools will assume the role of students for three days starting Tuesday, August 26, from 8:30 am to 3 pm, at the United Federation of Teachers headquarters at 52 Broadway, 19th Floor, Room DE as part of a unique training program designed to teach them how to bring sustainability concepts into their classrooms.

Recognizing the importance of having teachers prepared to incorporate lessons in sustainability, Chancellor Fariña will address the teachers on Wednesday, August 27th at 12 noon through 12:45 p.m. following by 15 minutes of Q/A. The media is welcomed to attend and cover this address and must check into the security desk at 52 Broadway and show photo ID.

The teachers – a team of five from each school – will learn how sustainability can be integrated into the content they are already teaching, and they'll find out how “big ideas” about the environment, the economy and social justice can be used as educational tools to inspire students to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

The program provides a full year of professional learning for Partner Schools and is part of a three-year project, *Leadership Training in Sustainability Curriculum*, run by the Children's Environmental Literacy Foundation (CEL F), a not-for-profit education organization.

The media are also invited to attend all or part of the training program for insights into the special partnership between CEL F, the New York City Department of Education's Sustainability Initiative, Shelburne Farms Sustainable Schools Project and Manhattanville College. The partnership is recognized as a model for K-12 schools throughout the nation and the program is part of CEL F's Commitment to Action for the Clinton Global Initiative, the worldwide organization established by former President Bill Clinton.

The mission of CELF, now in its 12th year, is to make sustainability education an integral part of every school's curriculum, from kindergarten through high school. The underlying concept is that once students grasp the connections between a stable economy, a healthy environment, equitable social systems, and their role as global citizens, they will be positioned to help build, protect and enjoy a more sustainable world.

CELF is one of few professional learning providers that integrates Education for Sustainability (EfS) into K-12 grades across all core subjects. Besides New York City, several urban districts have reached out to CELF to learn how to replicate its model in their classrooms.

CELF's Summer Institute provides EfS training and curriculum development that directly supports both Common Core Standards and Next Generation Science Standards. It also strengthens student achievement in the STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering and math).

The partnership between CELF and the New York City Department of Education's Sustainability Initiative is unique in that it provides the structure, support and distribution channels needed to fulfill the needs and interests of every public school in the City's system, across all grades and subjects.

Executive Director Katie Ginsberg said CELF's Summer Institute "has helped hundreds of educators seamlessly integrate Education for Sustainability into existing curricula across all subject areas. Many of the teachers who have taken part have been so impressed that they've returned for more training, and their post-session comments consistently reflect their enthusiasm.

"K-12 education is our single greatest opportunity to make the large-scale change necessary to address the complex issues of the future. We believe collaborative partnerships and learning with teachers at the center are essential to this work."

CELF has conducted 16 Summer Institutes over the past 10 years (with multiple sessions in some years). Last month, three dozen K-12 teachers from public schools in the New York metropolitan region – plus two from Dubai – took part in the first Summer Institute of the year at Manhattanville College in Purchase, NY.

Reporters interested in covering CELF's NYC Summer Institute should contact CELF Executive Director Katie Ginsberg: katie@celfeducation.org, 914.238.4743