

Capital Region Penny Harvest

a program of the **National Education Leadership Institute**
and **The Community Foundation for the Capital Region**

January 24, 2007

Dear Penny Harvest Coach:

We are inviting you to participate in a study about the Penny Harvest and service-learning in Capital Region public schools. Attached to this letter are two questionnaires developed by the national Penny Harvest office and Columbia University about your views and opinions on schools, students, and communities. It is important that we gather the opinions from you (the Coach) as well as at least three other teachers at your school whose students are involved in the Penny Harvest.

Please find the following surveys enclosed:

Form A: Penny Harvest Report

To be completed by the Penny Harvest Coach

Form B: Teacher's Survey

To be completed by **at least three** teachers whose students were involved in the Penny Harvest. This form asks about all students (non leaders).

All surveys must be postmarked or faxed by **February 22, 2007**. Please complete the Penny Harvest Report (Form A) and copy and distribute the Teacher's Survey (Form B) – please return all complete surveys via fax or mail to the Penny Harvest office, attention: TEACHER SURVEY.

Fax:

(518) 474 0060

Mail:

Penny Harvest
P.O. Box 7151
Albany NY 12224-0151

Thank you for your willingness to help us increase our understanding of teachers and students in the Capital Region.

Sincerely,

Sarah Shafer
Program Coordinator
Penny Harvest

Lisa Drzymala
Program Coordinator
Penny Harvest

Capital Region Penny Harvest

FORM A:
COACH

a program of the National Education Leadership Institute
and The Community Foundation for the Capital Region

Penny Harvest Report

COACHES: Tell us about your Penny Harvest! Fax to 518-474-0060.

School Information:

District _____ School Name _____

Penny Harvest Coach _____ Phone #: _____

Tell us about your Penny Harvest student leaders.

- We had a Penny Harvest leadership team _____ Yes _____ No (skip this section)
- How many and in what grades were these students? (e.g., 3 from 3rd grade, 4 from 4th)
Please be specific. _____
- How were your student leaders selected? (Check all that apply.)
 Chosen by their peers (voted in, class representatives, etc.)
 Chosen by you and/or other staff
 Self-selection (applied, wrote an essay, etc.)
 Serve as part of last year's roundtable, and/or a part of a year-round Penny Harvest leadership team
- What did the student leaders do? They... (check all that apply)
 Harvested their neighbors first, setting example for the school
 Informed the school by making class/PA announcements, updating bulletin board, making posters/fliers, etc.
 Helped organize school-wide activities (assemblies, competitions, etc.)
 Supported penny logistics by carrying sacks, distributing materials, etc.
- What else did student leaders do to support the Penny Harvest? _____

- Below are some statements about student leaders at your school – for each, please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Being a Penny Harvest leader increases students' belief that they can make a difference.	1	2	3	4
Being a Penny Harvest leader has a positive effect on academic performance.	1	2	3	4
Penny Harvest leaders believe that they can do more through working together than by themselves.	1	2	3	4
Penny Harvest leaders become more likely to be involved in another community or civic activity.	1	2	3	4
Changes I saw in last years' Penny Harvest leaders did not continue into this year.	1	2	3	4
Penny Harvest leaders do not have greater empathy for the needs of others than other students.	1	2	3	4
Being a Penny Harvest leader increases students' willingness to help others.	1	2	3	4
Penny Harvest leaders develop more responsibility to peers, adults and the community.	1	2	3	4

Tell us about ALL students who participated in the Penny Harvest - not just student leaders.

7. Including preparation, how many weeks was your school's Penny Harvest?

Circle one: 1 2 3 4 5 6 If more, please specify _____

8. How many hours a week did the average student spend on the Penny Harvest, both at school and at home? For example, harvesting their neighborhood, lessons in class, assemblies, school competitions, etc.

Circle one: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 If more, please specify _____

9. What percentage of the student body do you think harvested pennies?

___ Less than 25% ___ 50% ___ 75% ___ Almost everyone (100%)

10. Enter number of participating students in each grade (your best guess is OK):

PK 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

11. Tell us about your Penny Harvest. Our school: (check all that apply)

___ Sent Penny Harvest Family brochures and/or letters home to encourage neighbor harvesting.

If yes, which one: ___ Family brochure ___ Letter ___ Both

___ Used a Wheel of Caring

___ Held a kick-off assembly ("Wheel of Caring", or other organized kick off activity)

___ Had students harvest pennies from their neighbors

___ Organized school-wide competition (Penny Olympics, etc.)

___ Used a Penny Harvest bulletin board and/or advertised with fliers and posters

___ Worked with the parent coordinator/PTA to promote the Penny Harvest

___ Held a closing "Tally Rally" or other assembly

___ Community members (local leaders, past grantees, local businesses) penny harvested for our school and/or participated in our penny harvest activities

Penny Harvest Curriculum Connections

12. Did your school use the Penny Harvest Curriculum Connections or other related lessons?

___ Curriculum Connections ___ Your own lessons ___ Didn't use any

___ From another curriculum: _____ (curriculum name)

13. What percentage of classrooms used the Wheel of Caring Lesson?

___ Less than 25% ___ 50% ___ 75% ___ Almost everyone (100%)

14. What percentage of classrooms used one or more of the other Curriculum Connections

___ Less than 25% ___ 50% ___ 75% ___ Almost everyone (100%)

15. Who taught the lessons?

Wheel of Caring lesson: ___ Classroom teachers ___ PH Coach ___ Other

Other Curriculum Connection lessons: ___ Classroom teachers ___ PH Coach ___ Other

Capital Region Penny Harvest

FORM B:
TEACHER

a program of the National Education Leadership Institute
and The Community Foundation for the Capital Region

Teacher's Report

TEACHERS: Tell us about your Penny Harvest! Fax to 518-474-0060.

School Information:

District _____ School Name _____

Your Name _____

Tell us about your Penny Harvest students.

Below are some statements about ALL students at your school that participated in the Penny Harvest. Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Participating in the Penny Harvest increases students' belief that they can make a difference.	1	2	3	4
Students who Penny Harvest do not have an increased interest and effort in their school work.	1	2	3	4
Students that Penny Harvest believe that they can do more through working together than by themselves.	1	2	3	4
Students that Penny Harvest become more likely to be involved in another community or civic activity.	1	2	3	4
Changes I saw in students who Penny Harvested last year did not continue into this year.	1	2	3	4
Students that Penny Harvest do not have greater empathy for the needs of others than other students.	1	2	3	4
Penny Harvesting increases students' willingness to help others.	1	2	3	4
Students that Penny Harvest develop more responsibility to school, peers, adults and the community.	1	2	3	4

Please share any other comments about the impacts of the Penny Harvest on your students.
