

# Why we need carbon free and healthy schools

Schools should be healthy and safe for students and staff and be a model for carbon-free buildings in the effort to combat climate change.



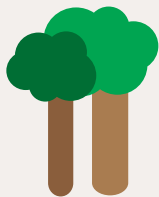
**\$250 million**

The amount NYC schools will save every year



**1 in 4 classrooms**

At least a quarter of NYC classrooms lack air conditioning entirely



**400,000 trees**

We can save more than 75,000 tons of carbon emissions, the equivalent of planting over 400,000 trees



**Thousands of union jobs**

Making improvements can create thousands of good union jobs

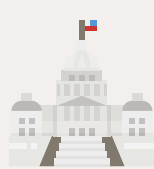
## Many New York City school buildings are in need of basic repairs and upgrades

"My building was built in 1953 and it gets pretty hot in the summer which makes it difficult to do the job sometimes. I would love to see solar panels on the roof and upgrades to the boilers to improve energy efficiency in the building."

*32BJ member and cleaner at P.S./M.S. 200 in Queens.*



## How to get it done



The federal government, as part of its investments in infrastructure, should fund energy audits on all New York City public schools and provide low-cost financing for retrofits.



NYC should commit to fully implementing funding already allocated for solar on schools and energy-efficiency retrofits and make timely, effective use of funds available in the American Rescue Act.



Mayoral candidates should commit to making every school building more energy-efficient and pledge to shift millions of dollars in school funding from energy use to education use.