

As required by the New York State Education Department (NYSED), every year, the DOE conducts inspections to evaluate school-building conditions, known as the Building Condition Assessment Surveys (BCAS). The data collected from the surveys supports creation of the 5-Year Capital Plan and is a tool for identifying capital improvement projects; the reports from each year's survey is publicly posted on school websites in the fall, and not intended for the resolution of possible maintenance issues. Inspections will begin in mid-October and run through early June 2021; you will receive an email from the DOE's architectural/engineering consultant several weeks before your scheduled inspection with more information about the date of the inspection and the process. Your custodian engineer (CE) and your deputy director of facilities will also be notified by email. Your BCAS report from the previous inspection cycle is posted on your school's webpage.

You are invited to participate in the inspection process, and you should use it as an opportunity to alert the inspection team about your school building's physical needs. In recognition of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the consultant team will reach out to you prior to the inspection to arrange an online meeting, in lieu of the brief in-person meetings held in past years. The engineer or architect assigned to your school will reach out to discuss concerns that the school may have with the condition of the building; **if your school is co-located with other schools, you should coordinate with your campus Building Council to participate in the process.** Principals are encouraged to include the UFT chapter leader, a PTA representative, and the Community Education Council (CEC) to participate in the pre-inspection discussion.

Each building is inspected by a team that includes a licensed engineer or architect from a consulting firm under contract with the School Construction Authority. If your school is located in Manhattan, the Bronx, or Staten Island, your inspection will be conducted by the consulting firm of BCAS Partners JV. If your school is located in Brooklyn or Queens, your inspection will be conducted by the consulting firm of Parsons Brinkerhoff and Ammann & Whitney Consulting Engineers (PB/A&W).

The inspection teams will follow safety protocols as outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Each inspector will wear a face covering and will maintain a physical distance of six feet, when possible. Inspection teams will work closely with designated school personnel upon arrival to ensure that there is no interaction with students and/or school staff, and that contact is limited to the fullest extent possible. Inspection teams will not enter occupied classrooms or instructional spaces at any time.

For questions, email Charterschools@schools.nyc.gov.
DOE credentials required to access the link.