UNDERSTANDING THE BIGGER PICTURE:

NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL OPTIONS

- **Catchment Zone** refers to the school the Department of Education assigns to you based on your address. If your catchment zoned school contains both a General Education program and a Gifted and Talented program, this assignment refers only to the General Education program of the school.

- **Districts** are wider areas encompassing Catchment Zones and contain multiple schools within. Districts offer both General Education programs and Gifted & Talented programs (accessible only through testing), sometimes as dual programs within the same school. Additionally, some schools in a district might admit students into their programs through a lottery.

- **Out-of-District** options might include City-Wide Gifted & Talented programs, Charter Schools and unzoned schools whose admission process might be lottery-based, testing-based, or determined by each individual school.

Five boroughs, 32 community districts, 1,500 public schools and 1.1 million students.