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"This is a fascinating account of the collaboration between a public school principal, Kurland, the parents of young children considering her elementary school, and the community that transformed a failing public school into an outstanding and revitalized one. In the face of disastrous, widespread public school system failures across America, parent dissatisfaction, and teacher despair, the Chicago-based Nettelhorst School's success story is a beacon. Edelberg, one of the Nettelhorst parents, and Kurland offer educators hope that change can happen in any public school, given the right mix of parent-teacher patience, willpower, community involvement, pluck, creativity, collaboration, and ability to overcome adversity. VERDICT: This book is essential reading for all elementary school parents and teachers, especially those who have lost their faith in the American public school system and are looking for ways to improve it. Here are solutions and inspiration."—LIBRARY JOURNAL

"Nettelhorst School's transformation from a struggling school into a vibrant educational community is an inspiration. I hope their story—a story of dedicated parents and innovative administrators—will embolden reformers across the country to step forward and take back their schools."

—RICHARD J. DURBIN, United States Senator for Illinois, Assistant Majority Leader

"Nettelhorst has seen an unbelievable change, from caterpillar to butterfly, and it happened right in my own backyard in Chicago. How to Walk to School moved me to tears . . . it's one of the most absolutely beautiful, heartwarming stories I've read in a long time."

NATE BERKUS. Oprah designer and author of Home Rules



FOREWORD BY ARNE DUNCAN
AFTERWORD BY RAHM EMANUEL

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BLUEPRINT FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL RENAISSANCE

JACQUELINE EDELBERG AND SUSAN KURLAND

