



**Medgar Evers College Preparatory School**

**“Dedicated to Excellence”**

**Dr. Michael Wiltshire, Principal**

**CLASS OF 2009  
GRADUATION PROGRAM**

**Nine O’clock in the Morning  
Friday, June 26, 2009**

**College Amphitheatre  
1650 Bedford Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York 11225**

**Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President  
Medgar Evers College, CUNY  
“A Man of Excellence”**

**COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER**

**Dr. Edison O. Jackson was born in Heathsville, Virginia. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology, a Master of Arts degree in Counseling from Howard University, and a Doctorate in Education from Rutgers University with academic emphasis on the philosophy, function, role and administration of urban educational institutions.**

**After success as an executive administrator in colleges in Washington, D. C., Newark, New Jersey, and Compton, California Dr. Jackson was named president of Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York in 1989.**

**He has served as president of Medgar Evers College, CUNY for twenty years. President Jackson will retire this summer and end his tenure of visionary and widely acclaimed leadership. He is acknowledged with distinction as the longest serving president in the 23-institution City University of New York system. For two decades President Jackson tirelessly led campaigns to upgrade the Medgar Evers College facilities, increase student enrollment, implement new academic structures and restore the school to senior college status.**

**At the beginning of his presidency Dr. Jackson was committed to fostering educational excellence not only at the collegiate level at MEC, but also at the pre-college level for high school students in the surrounding central Brooklyn neighborhood. No public high school existed in the community in 1989. Students had to travel outside the neighborhood for a secondary education. Dr. Jackson envisioned a premiere college preparatory high school for central Brooklyn. He offered the land for the high school; he leveraged and facilitated the building design and throughout his tenure as Medgar Evers College President he continued to serve as a significant collaborator in support of Medgar Evers College Preparatory School.**

**Our school family holds Dr. Edison O. Jackson in the highest esteem and we will always honor him as the founding spirit of excellence for Medgar Evers College Preparatory School in the Borough of Brooklyn, New York. Best wishes are extended to him and his family as he passes on the Medgar Evers College torch of leadership and enters into a new and restorative phase of his life’s work as a “Man of Excellence.” God’s Speed, Dr. Jackson!**