Nicholas D. Viest Chair

Latha Thompson District Manager



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The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8

February 25, 2013

President Shino Tanikawa CECD2 333 Seventh Avenue #806 New York, NY 10001

E-mail: shinoT@verizon.net

RE: Discussion and Plan of Action on the intransigence of DOE concerning the use of PS 158 as a Middle School

Dear Ms. Tanikawa:

At its Full Board meeting Wednesday, February 20, 2013, Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the following resolution by a vote of 35 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions:

WHEREAS this resolution is an update to Community Board 8's prior resolutions of: October 2011 and February 2012 requesting a Middle School at PS 158, and

WHEREAS PS 158, the Bayard Taylor School, at 1458 York Avenue, has for the last 5 years temporarily accommodated a number of schools including: PS 267; the East Side Middle School located on the upper floors and the re-located Girls Prep Charter School in their building, and

WHEREAS PS 158 has had vacant seating capacity since September 2012, and is currently being used by DOE for emergencies as they arise and has become a "stop gap" location for any problem, and

WHEREAS the increasing elementary school student population in the Upper East Side (UES) over the last several years has resulted in a substantial increase in Kindergarten classes particularly with 3 new elementary schools in Community District 8, thereby creating a need for increased Middle School seats in the community, and

WHEREAS Wagner Middle School and East Side Middle School, which seem to be filled to capacity, are the main Middle Schools located in the Manhattan section of Community District 8, and

WHEREAS Community District 8 has already expressed, by a <u>unanimous votes</u>, a strong desire for the vacant space at PS 158 to be used for a public middle school, which was reaffirmed at this current meeting,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Community Board 8 representing the parents of the Community District 8 do not want PS 158 co-located with **any type of Charter School**, as Charters function differently and use the facility in a dissimilar manner from a zoned Public School, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community District 8 representing the parents of Community District 8 do not want PS 158 co-located with **any type of Charter School**, as a great majority of school buildings in Community District 8 are at or above capacity, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community District 8 representing the parents of Community District 8 strongly recommend Charter Schools use their own resources and the means to find their own facilities outside of DOE's building inventory in Community District 8, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Community Board 8 representing the residents of Community District 8 strongly request the vacant space in PS 158 become a Middle School once again, and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Community Board 8 recommends the DOE make a decision *now for the use of this building* in time for the September 2013 school year.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Nicholas D. Viest Hattie Quarnstrom and Judith Schneider Chair Co-Chair, Youth and Education Committee

Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York

Hon. Dennis Walcott, Chancellor DOE

Hon. Kathleen Grimm, Deputy Chancellor of Finance & Administration

Hon. Jeff Shear. Chief of Staff

Hon. Martin Barr, Executive Director, Department of Education

Marc Sternberg, Deputy Chancellor of Portfolio Planning

Elizabeth Rose, Chief of Staff for Public Affairs

Drew Patterson, Office of Portfolio, Department of Education

Mariano Guzman, Superintendent Community School District 2

Hon. Scott M. Stringer, Manhattan Borough President

Hon. Rose Pierre-Louis, Deputy Manhattan Borough President

Hon. Carolyn Maloney, United States Congress Member

Hon. Liz Krueger, New York State Senator

Hon. Micah Kellner, New York State Assembly Member

Hon. Daniel Quart, New York State Assembly Member

Hon. Daniel Garodnick, New York City Council Member

Hon. Jessica Lappin, New York City Council Member

Hon. Robert Jackson, Chair, Education Committee, New York City Council

Kristen Ellis, Director of Comm. Affairs & Constituent Services, Manhattan Borough President's Office

Linda Lumpkin, CECD2