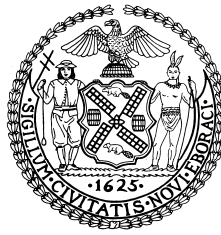


Jacqueline Ludorf  
Chair

Latha Thompson  
District Manager



505 Park Avenue, Suite 620  
New York, N.Y. 10022-1106  
(212) 758-4340  
(212) 758-4616 (Fax)  
[www.cb8m.com](http://www.cb8m.com) - Website  
[info@cb8m.com](mailto:info@cb8m.com) - E-Mail

## **The City of New York Manhattan Community Board 8**

October 20, 2011

Hon. Shino Tanikawa, President  
Community Education Council District 2  
333 Seventh Avenue #806,  
New York, New York 10001

### **RE: Proposed Use of Vacant Space at PS 158**

Dear Ms. Tanikawa:

At its Full Board meeting, Wednesday, October 19, 2011, Manhattan Community Board 8 adopted the following resolution by a vote of 38 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions, 1 not voting for cause:

**WHEREAS** PS 158, the Bayard Taylor School at 1458 York Avenue, has for a number of years, accommodated the East Side Middle School located on the upper floors of the building, and

**WHEREAS** PS 158 presently has PS 267 elementary school temporarily located in their building until September 2012, and

**WHEREAS** PS 158 will have vacant school capacity in September 2012, and

**WHEREAS** the increasing elementary-school student population in the UES over the last several years has resulted in a substantial increase in Kindergarten classes in Community District 8, and

**WHEREAS** this wave of students will reach middle school soon and because a growing population of students remain in the City and in the UES public school system, there is a need to increase middle school capacity, and

**WHEREAS** there are already signs of overcrowding in the existing Upper East Side Middle Schools, and

**WHEREAS** the community has strongly expressed that PS 158 should not be a 1,200 seat elementary school, which would strain the facilities available to the students, such as the cafeterias, narrow hallways, cluster rooms, etc., and

**WHEREAS** the Community does not favor co-locating another elementary school in this building, as additional K-5 aged students would exacerbate the aforementioned strain on facilities, and

**WHEREAS** Wagner Middle School and East Side Middle School are the only middle schools located in CD 8, and

**WHEREAS** the closest East Side middle schools outside Community District 8 are located in the East 20's. and

**WHEREAS** PS 158 had compatibly housed the East Side Middle School before its move to their new location, and

**WHEREAS** the East Side Middle School co-location was suited to PS 158 because the middle school used the facility in a different manner than would an elementary school, such as allowing students to leave the building for lunch,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Community Board 8 requests that the Department of Education (DOE) dedicate the vacant space in PS 158 once again to a middle school, respecting the wishes of a great many members of the community, and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the DOE include the Community Education Council District 2 (CECD2) in holding hearings for community input to determine the type of program to be located there, and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the CECD2 make this recommendation to the DOE before the CECD2 decides on the current zoning plan for Community District 8, so that both can make an informed decision knowing the number of Kindergarten seats planned for PS 158, and

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** Community Board 8 recommends this change occur in time for the September 2012 school year.

We would appreciate your advising this office of any action taken regarding this matter.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Ludorf  
Chair

James Clynes and Judith Schneider  
Co-Chair, Youth and Education Committee

cc: Hon. Michael Bloomberg, Mayor of the City of New York  
Hon. Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor  
Hon. Kathleen Grimm, Deputy Chancellor of Finance & Administration  
Hon. Jeff Shear, Chief of Staff  
Hon. Martin Barr, Executive Director, Department of Education  
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. Jonathan Bing, New York State Assembly Member  
Hon. Micah Kellner, 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  
Marc Sternberg, Deputy Chancellor of Portfolio Planning  
Elizabeth Rose, Office of Portfolio, Department of Education  
Dara Adams, Office of Portfolio, Department of Education  
Kristen Ellis, Director of Comm. Affairs & Constituent Services, Manhattan Borough  
President's Office  
Mariano Guzman, Superintendent Community School District 2