

DRAFT

April 19, 2006

Community Board 9 Manhattan Committee for
Youth, Education & Libraries
Hearing

P.S. 210 to be located at West 152nd & Amsterdam Avenue
Wednesday April 19, 2006
6:30 PM

Wilson Major Morris Center 459 West 152nd Street
Ms. Mary Amalbert Director

CB 9 Board Chair – Jordi Reyes – Montblanc
Co Chairs; Ramona Jennett, Barbara Marshall

Agenda

(A) Call to Order at 6:65PM

Meeting opened by Co-Chair B.A. Marshall

Introduction of Committee members present Ramona Jennett

Optowi Sowi

Sandra Carter

Statement

The City Charter mandates that the Community Boards are to provide information to the community we serve and the agencies wanting to do business in the community are to supply information to us as well as work with the Community Board for the betterment of the community.

This hearing has been scheduled because we the members of Community Board 9 support the idea of a school being placed on West 152nd Street and Amsterdam Avenue in the old Bishop Dubois building. Suggesting renovations be done to said property. Since our endorsement we have heard nothing about plans for this site from the proper authorities. We are therefore requesting answers to the following questions.

1. When will the building be completed and scheduled to open?
2. When will we be able to see the blue prints?
3. Will it be state of the art school? Internet ready with computer labs, gym and auditoriums for what capacity.
4. We are under the impression that the 21st Century Academy will be housed in this location. How many students are presently enrolled in the 21st Century Academy and what will be the capacity of the new building?
5. What method of enrollment is planned to encompass the residents in the surrounding area of the school? Will only selected students be allowed to attend?

6. What will be the criteria for selecting students?
7. When will registration begin and how will the residents of the community be informed on how to register their children?
8. Will school offer an after school program? If not will the school be willing to allow a beacon program such as PAL to conduct an after school program in the building.
9. Will the school be 1 or 2 schools?
10. Out of the next 4 years what schools are planned, are any of them High Schools and are they going to be in our community.
11. It is our understanding that the Department Of Education is buying up all the Catholic Schools buildings that are closing. What will they be used for and will any be in CB9 and designated for Charter Schools?

The School Construction Authority present are Mr. Michael Mirisola and Mr. Ed McGill Project Manager.

Internet Access, Gym. Because the size of the property not enough room for both gym and Auditorium. (Multi purpose).

Mr. McGill this is a PS/IS School opening 2007 September. Approximately 30 million dollar school, 75000 Square feet. 18 Classrooms capacity of 530 students Air conditioners, computer ready 2 elevators, sprinkler system state of the art school.

6 level building, 5 stories above level 1 below level, play area roof level 3000 square feet open mesh screen set back above the 5th floor. Library with a reading room, Music room Art room Science Lab. 4th floor 7-class rooms guidance office and nurse room

3rd floor 9 classrooms, and teacher's lounges. 2nd floor 2 kindergarten classrooms, kitchen, cafeteria, teacher's lounge and conference room. Sidewalk level (1st floor) has offices, big lobby overtop of the gym, custodial office, principle office, general office and community room. Cellar gym, book storage health office electrical closet.

Graffiti coating. Fire proof.

Ms. Francesca Pena District 6:

The mission is to actually get the very best education for our children and just looking at the presentation for my college here, we are having a wonderful state of the art building built in this community and that's wonderful. We wish they would have this or more of this; we will have more of this throughout the City. We have Evenly --- she is the leader of Political of that school currently and will hopefully be this is a school that --- grade school and only has a ----- 200 students by next year we will have 270 students. 250 are expected to register by next September and by the time this school is open, we will have - ---- students and the full capacity is 530 students and we should have additional 230 seats that will be available to all members of the District 6 community and the lower level grades ----- . Everyone is invited to apply if they are interested in this type of program. The students will not only have to be interested, they will also have to have some pre-requisite for the language in order for them to be successful in this program that's the only criteria for selection that we have. The children from the ----- are invited to apply. I will give you all the information to the website. You can go to the website. We will

have flyers all over the place, all churches, the centers will have flyers, the region will have flyers, the district and office will have flyers, because we do want everyone to take advantage of this opportunity. As I said there will be 230 seats, hopefully at that time that will open up to everyone. On the website we will have all the information about the school and all the programs and also any questions you might have, you can ask us through the website. If you have any other questions about any other schools that we are opening up, you can get it on the website. District 6 will have senior schools in September of 2006, two of them are going to be housed at address 143 at 182nd Street and one of them is the expedition learning school and this is college bound school and its 6-12 and its going to open up with grade 6-7 and there will be presentation by the private director of this school on May 27, @7:00 p.m. at the cc Bowling Green at the division office ----- the office is called cc District 6.

How would the community know about that?

There will be flyers.

The other school is Community League of the Height. That school is also going to be a 6-12 school and its also going to begin with grade 6 and 7 and that school will also be housed temporarily at IS 133. IS 143 will not be phased out. The IS 133 is a very large middle school and as you know we are putting lots of emphasis in middle schools and we are reducing the admissions, the amount of the students in IS-143 and district schools are brand new in September. Community League of the Height are ---- and they are going to be models for the university and the Presbyterian Legal Center which is a school that will concentrate on Health and they will have of and they will house 143 until they get their building which I think --- I don't have that information yet. The third school, is a school for usually arrived students, its for English language learning middle school in English in 10 and the school right now is for coaching as a program and it is for Harbor Heights and it serves grades 6, 7 and 8. Also, Academic Universe is another program that serve the students with interrupted program education so know Academic Universe and Hamilton Heights will combined to form one middle school, Hamilton Heights Middle school and the will be housed at the George Washington complex on the third floor. For all of you, they will be attending Academic Universe but additional learning and Community of the Height both will be representing the admission of the --- Traditional Learning and Community on May 27, @7:00 p.m. at the admissions office located at 360 Broadway, in the auditorium. I will make sure that the flyers are there and also check the website. I just want to discuss a little about the school and answer questions.

Where are the teachers coming from?

Right now a lot of our teachers are from City College. We have teachers that have come to us through the ---- we have teachers from teachers college and we have teachers with other careers and then switch into teaching and are very good teachers. The Vice-Principal? Well right now, we do need a Vice Principal – because we are 200 or less than 200 we have not had one so definitely we are looking to get an assistant principal.

Will you be able to accommodate special classes to special children? At this point because our school is very small, we only have like one class from one grade, we don't have any special program set, it does not mean that we don't have children that needs special need, in the case of many of the young children that are coming in with special needs, a lot of them needs resource room or they need --- and the first thing that the school support team tell them is not for dual language, its for research room -- are you sure you want to put them through that? Because the children do need to produce in two languages. I understand that a lot of the parents do want to take the children out of the school and what we do is we have a speech teacher and she writes speech for them. We also have an IAS Team where we look for other ways of pushing in and having the kids get the extra assistance they need. In our knew school, I would love to have --- rather than having Special ED classroom - have more of a CT Team classroom where you would have two teachers, one special ED Teacher and one regular general ED Teacher together in the same room so we can have services for kids with special needs. I don't know what will happen when the school open.

One thing you did not answer? Will the school have an after-school program and will it be open? We have a need for PAL? Absolutely. Would you like for me to negotiate ---- and whom would we contact? Right now we have a twenty-four seven learning grant and -OST-- always. Does it cost a lot of money to be able to hire teachers to do like academic course with the students? They do arts, they take them to the park and of course we don't have a gym and they do provide service and what I have done is try and put them together so that the teachers do reading and math they also have the other program. They kind of work in groups back and forth and they provide more help and recreation any of the other teachers provide the academic part of it. I came to a meeting, not here but in the neighborhood where the question was asked about after school program and I am committed to an organization over here. The Community Association of Progressive Dominicans, and I asked them because I happened to know that they do that at 164 and to see if we could put things in place, so that when September comes we would be ready. What they mentioned to me was that they have deacons in Junior High School but they don't have them in elementary school so I don't know how that would work out but then that I would be interested in having more for the kids both during the day and after school and so on. We did not discuss that? As a matter-of-fact we are working now with PAL at the Armory because we don't have a gym at our school and so they provide us with gym from 8 to 2, 3 to 5 and 6-8 students, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. We could have the gym because the kids need to have that moving along.

I looked at the plans; we also have a lot of questions. Having come from a school where we don't have a lot of extra stuff. It is important to know that we are going to have a gym, cafeteria and auditorium. It's a building with four floors and we are going to have elevators, air-condition, art room, and science room. I was happy to say that they thought of a lot of things. We are going to have a lot of room where the kids can play.

I have a question for you? If you have after school will it be open to the children of the community? Only to the children who attend school. That's a very good question, but I

don't want to give you a wrong answer, that would have to be answered by the Regional Superintendent. Thank you.

Francesca, are you going to get back to us in writing? Or how is this going to work? Are you going to have a meeting with us or what?

I can get back to you guys. Can you give us the website? Sure, okay. We have been talking with you Francesca; everything we have been asking is for the children in the community board. Right. You said dual language, what does that mean?

It means that the students will be learning both Spanish and English and that's why it's very important for parents to know what we are doing. The answer to your question as to whether or not the children in the community have access, we are already trying to recruit children from the community. When we opened little school in Washington Heights almost ten years ago, we also as a --- brought kids from throughout the community District 6. Majority of the children do come from the neighborhood. Looking at that what we have been trying to do first of all is come to a meeting like this one where we can present our school and let you know when its coming. We have been reaching out to PS-28 and PS-153 because those are the two schools that are in between 157th Street and so we let them know, if they are interested in coming as early as next year. The schools not open yet. You will be across the street from where you taking the kindergarten class. When it does open, you have secured a seat for your child.

How can you secure a seat for your child?

Well, right now we are recruiting kindergarten students and first grade.

How are you doing that? Well, I just mentioned that I reached out to Ms. George.

What other way are you doing it? Well, word-of-mouth, through flyers, we looked at different day-care-centers in the community, and we are in the process of doing it now trying to reach out to people, at the moment this is happening. Do you have any flyers with you now to show us? No one has said anything; this is why we are having this meeting now. No. This is the purpose of this meeting now because no one is telling us anything and the school is starting and we want to know where our children are going to be. We are in the process of sending packets of flyers to the other schools. Let me just say something.

Once we get the approval to renovate this school, the colleagues went to the Borough Presidents office and they told them no, we cant renovate the school it is too expensive for them to tear it down. Right after we gave the approval, the ones that were listed on the board right around the corner noticed that there was a hole in the ground. We gave you additional okay to find an empty school not a brand new school are we going to know where we stand that's the purpose of this so anyone that are here to speak could answer these questions. Is anyone here that has not had his or her questions answered so far -- so we can get this cleared up? I am going to turn this over to Ernestine.

Good evening everyone my name is Ernestine. I am very, very uncomfortable about what am hearing and especially that in preparation in telling this office about this presentation over a month ago and it would have been nice ---- of all of the offices in this community to have some formal notification from the District about the plan. All the local officials that visited this Community to have some formal notification from the District about the plans as we are hearing it now. The entire local elected officials are interested. Many, many of the residents used the elected officials offices by the way to give information. That is why I am here tonight because a lot of you have been giving me bits and pieces. We had a meeting some months ago on this topic. I think the District knew that there was an interest. There was a large interest, and to come tonight to that, preparation of flyers in both English and Spanish. It's making me nervous in feeling that this issue and its process is not being well thought of. If we have the plans and have been talking, we should have brought some literature here so that we could look at it and help with the process. We should work as problems not adversaries. So am hoping that you use your elected official offices as a way to get the word out and also as a way to share information for the future. Thank you.

Okay, I see you have more cards. How do you --- the students for --- and other system for selecting applications? Do you understand what the questions are? Who can answer this question Francesca or Evelyn?

Depending on the number of slots we have open. You can ----- forms, come to the orientation because that's one of the things we do, just come and take the orientation. Once you get the orientation then the numbers of people that are interested are the number of slots that we have available, and we take the students. This happens also when we have more people interested the slots available and that's how we do it. Okay.

Can someone secure a seat now for September 2007? Yes. Okay.

We are still registering for kids that are kindergarten and first grade. The school number is (212) 927-7856, address is 4111 Broadway, right off the corner of 173rd Street and Broadway. We are a very small school in a two floors of a church and we also have our new school, which we were able to get this year next to George Washington, the children center. I know a lot of the kids in kindergarten that use to go up there. We have the other side, which is for 6 through 8 and very possibly 5 through 8 in the George Washington center. The reason why we don't want to start and I know you are from the community, you don't want to start a brand new school with everything brand new because I was there. I was there ten years ago. I expect that one of the beautiful things about the school be because it's new. And like you, I was trying to get the old building because the way they wait to build buildings, I would be retired by the time the new one came. But you know what it turned out to be new building. I am happy it's a nice new building. I am trying to get everyone to understand this but if the kids come now, its definitely secured for the coming next year. We are also trying to get the siblings in also. In other words if there are other children in the building then we try to take them into consideration because there are other children that have brothers and sisters in the building when we

recruit. Now in the middle grades ----- Just a minute there are questions? I understand the emphasis on due language. Lets say there are a lot of children who do not speak a due language, when they applied to your school and they're accepted, can you describe how Spanish will be taught? Would they be speaking to the student and visa versa? I can speak about in terms of kindergarten and first grade. In kindergarten and first grade it doesn't matter if the child is bi-lingual English or Spanish as a matter-of-fact we recruit them, early on. In the other grades because we do expect the students will be able to perform two languages we would need for the students to be bi-lingual or at least to be Spanish or to be able to have a conversation in Spanish. Study shows that this model which --- the children into two languages is the best model interpret the students if this was to be some type of talk about if there are students that are not model lingual ----- then we have to be able to talk about what is it that we have to do in order to make sure that they get the help that they need in two languages that's when we think it is very important. So when the school actually taught them how to speak what language ----- you think about it, District 9 or District 6 who get to speak dual language --- am I correct? Actually, no go all the way around, just answer yes or no. The answer is yes, the Board is thinking about students that are non-spanish speaking come to our school when they would learn English - learn how to read and write in both English and Spanish. So, the answer is yes. We were thinking. As-a-matter-of-fact, the model calls for the students to be 50/50. 50% of them to be Spanish dominant and the other 50% to be English dominant. One of the draw backs and one of the reasons why I was happy to get ----- even though it was old and it turned out to be ----- it offered a community that does not. Up in Washington Heights a lot of our children are more Spanish dominant and that has been a slight draw back to us.

Lets address the instructional component of the dual language. Dual means the languages and when the kids come in first grade, it is does matter what language the child speak. The child is going to learn two languages simultaneously. Fifty percent of the students maintain a class of 22. 11 students are English and 11 students are bilingual spanish. So, the classes are one day English and the next day Spanish. So they kick off simultaneously learning both languages. So that's why we want to recruit students that are non-Spanish speaking and that will make the program a dual language. The interest has to be there. The parents has to be interest for the child to be interested.

Somebody wrote a question that I don't understand? I just have another question that am feeling a little uncomfortable about. You are saying that possibly maybe there is 230 extra spots left. How much of a commitment that you will be able to reassure that people in the community that we are going to get this 230? Because you know you say something else that says well if they don't get into the kindergarten the first --- you feel uncomfortable. I feel that you don't want to commit and this is school suppose to have been built for the community. So, I think that means --- you have to explain? Its not about the whether we commit or not, its about the way the program is designed. The way the program is designed, its very hard and I know because the remaining parents that work and had said to the school look my child speak the language. Its not the same thing when youre asking them to speak it, read it, write it and perform. I think that ---- to the children because there is a cut-off date and if you speak with any other school that are

dual language schools, they usually stop taking non-lingual by the end of first grade. We tried it at the beginning where we took some second grade, but it was hard for some students. Now that's just the way. The other thing I can say, we are recruiting from that. Address.

I am giving this information to Community organization. I would even go as far as saying if you have a community meeting, we are trying to go with some of the PA's and to see the interest. As far as I know District Superintendent says they will take care of the children from ---- high school ----- and I said this is a negotiation ----- so you have to go to the website. Any body from -----

This is ----- Temple from ---- Paris Office. I suggest that before this meeting ends parents report to establish a volunteer to establish an advisory board for the next meeting. Our next meeting is going to be held on May 10, at 6:30, 535 West 125 Street. All are welcome.

Are there any other comments questions?

I would like to introduce the Director of the Borough President Office – Ms. Rieara Like Nicole mentioned from our office if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, please give me a call (212) 531-3030. Shanifah Rieara and I have Carlton's number. Now, someone had a question and I did not forget to answer that question, because we are not here for that purpose tonight but I will answer it now. Every candidate will get the same set of information as things progress. Whenever you want to find out call me Barbara Marshall, Co- Chair of the Youth Education and Library Committee at Community Board 9. (212) 864-6200. I get all my messages; I will get back to you if you have any concerns. The question here is, what role will ----- role-play in this school? We will not be able to ----- we will give the community as far as the school and curriculum with parents. This is not -----

Has everybody question been answered? Okay, see you next month. I'd like to thank ---

As of 2007 is to have young, roughly kindergarten, everything works we were supposed to have two classrooms, try to have three, so that we can get the kids very young and get them from the Community. The other thing that I say is we are recruiting even now. And in light I can give you my e-mail address. It's E. Linares@NYCEOE.net. Okay, anybody wants to write down the librarian mail and pass it around and I will be back to send you something. It is probably....No, we don't want you to send us something. We want you to send us the appropriate application. If you're saying...That's what I am talking about. Don't call it something. It's an application.

I can send it tonight if you like. Please give out the current site. Because, those are not the ones that are going out. I am getting ready to read your question now. Sir, you are out of order. Please wait. This was answered already – Would it be a problem for a child

Entering into the second grade in a time zone with a dual language? This was already answered. Just a minute. How much is Academy _____ . Where is that? Is it in the Community Board 9? I am asking the Superintendent of the Schools. Okay, thanks. Okay, this question. Are you familiar with Hamilton High School Tech? A small school program is housed in P.S. 28, when you open the 152nd Street School in the fall of 2007, will you take up to 500 kids, or will you take any children from that Academy in your building?

I don't understand the question, except that either at my school or? Yes, at your school. Yes. Because they have to be older to be shown the criteria which is _____. Yes. Does that answer the question that was given to me on the part. No, it does not.

This was not given by you, Dr. Gholson; this is by the lady over there. I am meeting with you both. So if this incorrect will you stand up, and tell us what you think. You have to tell us. You have to come up. You're not going to be hear it on the mike.

Hi, my name is _____ Ben _____, and I am a parent and a founder of Hamilton Heights Academy, a small school program, This has to do with whether or not your stay will take up all 500 seats or whether Hamilton needs an academy which is currently a small state program where kids in the community would be able to move into the school, in addition to your school. Could they come together in the building?

I think that's the question. Yes, everyone is asked to _____. (Too many voices). That would have to be discussed once again at the higher rents, but if the space is there, and if a school that is needed, you know, the buses might be there, but its not for me to decide. That's one thing that would have to be decide at the original Spring ____ And we will be considered? You will be considered. The question that I am about to read came from a parent. They want to know why does the language have to be Spanish, because there are people in the Community here that speak English and French and that would also be a dual language, so why does it have to just be the Spanish speaking? Who is going to answer that? Once again, the design of the school was English and Spanish. That _____. Someone over the line could teach them an additional language. We also teach the language of music. Down the line we could teach them an official language, but it won't be as a dual-language program. It would be like French as a foreign language. The _____ of our school is not French, it's Spanish.

I have a question. Just a minute, Cora Gilmore please. Well it was answered, right? They want to add, why not Chinese also. The same principle would apply. It's a Spanish school; it's not French, Chinese, Portuguese. It's Spanish. Well, it doesn't matter. That's already been answered, From what I understand is there is one school that is dual language, Spanish and Chinese and English. That's one school. Of all of the language schools I know of, they are either Spanish and English, or French and English or Chinese and English. I think it's because the way it's designed, it's just the design. Alright, thank you. I'm just going to take a break for a minute, because some people did ask like technical questions of the gentleman over here.

Why you only have a gym and not an auditorium and a gym? And is there a sprinkler system? I'm sure there is.

Yes, there is a sprinkler system. The other question was if it becomes an emergency exit, there is a one-man exit and two emergency exits, and then the gym and auditorium, plus a zoning regulation and the small size of the bottom _____ you would have to bond

into the auditorium to discuss the technical restriction that we have. _____.
It has a covering on it, but its not being closed. No, _____ to play outside. They
can play in the gym. Most principals that I know make this their app_____ space
every chance they get until it gets to be a _____.But, you can only _____
designing school. Exactly.

Some people asked these questions early and I don't know whether they got their answer
or not. What grades does it begin and end, and it starts with K and end at 8. The school
hours.

Right not, it's at 8:30 to 2:50 and with an additional..... You give the hours; they have
a lot more questions. Okay, 8:30 to 2:50, and on Monday thru Thursday they stay for the
37 minutes which is until 2:30, and that's when the kids stay home.

I just have another question. When the school was being designed, (maybe I missed this
meeting) was there ever a hearing for this one to get the..... For the community to know
what they wanted. No, it was not. I tell this again for people that missed it. When this
school came to Community Board 9 to get permission to renovate Bishop DuBois, we
gave permission to renovate Bishop DuBois. The next thing we knew the school was
torn down; it was a hole in the ground, and they started building a new school. They
superceded this Community Board 9, and went to the Borough President' office for
permission to build a school, because it would be too costly to renovate. They didn't
bother to write to Community Board 9. So they don't what the Community needs or as
academic.....No, the Community had no input in this school whatsoever.

Nobody can hear you. We did not ask you a question yet.

Do me a favor. Everybody just take a break for a minute, because there are people who
want to ask questions. I really want to get their cards. I would like to introduce Susan
Russell from Robert Jackson's office.

Yes, please your turn your cards in now. If you don't want to write a long question on
the card, just call me now and I will listen to it and get it. This is Susan Russell from
Robert Jackson's office. Well, I am glad that you came out. I can see there are some
concerns about the school. Seeing as we are taking copious notes, so that you can go
back to the council member and come back with people's concerns. I do want to clarify
something that I think everyone was trying to say to the school. The school that is
coming to this building.

The Department of Education decided to move into this building because it has been
living in extremely substandard conditions and rented space that the Department of
Education will no longer allow the school to live in, so its moving lock, stock and barrel
into this new building and that may be something that the Community is not clear about,
so this school has been in existence for a long time, and I'm sure people have questions I
prefer to staying up here worth now listening to what your questions are and the answers
are and making up your concerns so that we can do whatever we need to do _____.

Thank you. As a parent, _____ with lack of experience upon the child in the dual-
language program _____ successful. How can you insure us that our children will
be successful in a dual-language program? Successful means being able to achieve
academic success in English as well as Spanish?

Who wants to answer?

I just want to say once again we have a lot of students that come. Many of them don't know the language _____, and the first time they take the test they don't always score as well. But for the next time, they do very well. Somehow the learning of two languages, if the students are focused and the teacher is focused because there is not a lot of time to lose. You have to be very focused about how you use your time. The students do learn very well. As a matter of fact some of them do better. Please get your cards in. If it's too long for a card, I will come down and listen.

If the dual-language program is offered to and monolingual and bi-lingual children, would the bi-lingual children be at an advantage? How can this work? Also, will you be recruiting certified teachers from the community?

At this point we are recruiting teachers. We're growing for next year, we will be growing for the year that we open, and we are looking for people that a.... well we can only hire certified teachers.

Where would teachers go get this application and where do we find out?

Well, right now the Board of Education has a website. NYTeach. There's a place where right on if you look up the Board of Education website, and a lot of people should be listed on that Board of Education website, you know to be able to apply. We are at this point also looking for people who are interested to be tested also. The big problem we have is because of the nature of the dual-language, they do have to be bi-lingual.

You're speaking out of terms. Spanish.

No, not necessarily. But the argument would be it will be more one more program _____ .Someone had a question you are hiring teachers now with bonuses?

Can you explain that too? We are all parents and we don't know what's going on..... Well actually these teachers. As you know there is a new contract for teachers, and the initial contract teachers have an open market. This now applies to any school they want to or any school with a vacancy for the license. There are schools that are very hard to staff _____ and in order to attract good teachers who also belong to these higher staffed schools it will need some incentive, and they have created a position that is a lead teacher position. And that a lead teacher position will be making about \$8,000 extra additional money than the regular teacher. And only not all the schools can hire a teacher. Only the schools that _____ improvement, or schools that need corrective action _____. Those are schools that are really needed. That's just one way to attract these teachers to go and teach at these schools. Thank you.

Can someone hear from the _____ in this office, Ms. Nicole Phillips would like to say a few words please.

Hi, my name is Nicole Phillips. I do Education Policy for Manhattan Borough President, Doug Schener, and I also do Education Policy for the previous Borough President, C. Virginia Fields, so I have some historical knowledge about this whole process. The first thing I want to clarify is that when the school construction authority came to the Borough President's office and informed us that they would be demolishing the infrastructure for the Bishop DuBois building, they explained to us that it would cost about twice as much to renovate that building as it would cost to simply tear it down and start anew. Our

concern was any additional fees for the district, so we told them we did not object to them doing that. That, by no means meant that we were giving them permission to go ahead and do that without talking to the community board. I just want to clarify that. I also like to clarify that in terms of what school was initially cited in this building we were never approached to give any suggestions. We just learned and everyone else learned, there was an announcement made stating what school will come. I just want to make everyone clear just because I do have some historical knowledge of what role the caucus did play. If anyone has any questions or like to speak with me further, you can reach me at (212) 669-2206. Nicole Phillips, and I do Education Policy for Manhattan Borough President, Scott Schener .Thank you.

Some of us have served about the lottery some of you applied and made it back to Maryland who was supervised and monitored the lottery. Would it be an independent party or would it be _____?

Who is the person we want to ask the question?

A community superintendent would be filling that position and hopefully we will create the team that will involve the parent's community.

And will we be advised of this process and how it's going to be done?

Well, absolutely. I am going to give you the website for our region which is Upper Manhattan and everything will be placed on the website. In addition to that I am a firm believer in all communication, and I am sorry to hear that there was no communication after initiation of this project. Whether we have a project.