



July 9, 2009

Dear Senator Squadron:

This letter is in response to your request that we describe the process for ensuring that a school governance statute is passed through the State Senate in a timely manner.

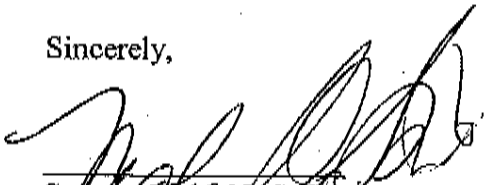
We commit to you that by July 17, 2009 the Senate will consider on the floor and vote on S5887 (Padavan) – an identical bill to the school governance sponsored by Speaker Silver which passed the Assembly – either in ordinary session, or in an extraordinary session in which both the Assembly and Senate are in session. We also commit to you that there will be a quorum of at least 54 Senators when the bill is taken up. If there is an extraordinary session in which the bill does not pass, or it passes but the legality of such passage is in question, we commit to immediately gavel into regular session and put the bill on the floor for a vote.

As you know, it is incredibly important to many members of our conference that the Senate is able to consider a chapter amendment to the bill, having to do with increased parent engagement and other factors, on the same day that the bill itself is considered. This chapter amendment was submitted today and will be fully aged by Sunday, July 12. This will allow us to keep our commitment to bring S5887 to the floor for a vote next week.

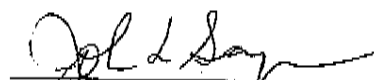
Let us be very clear: regardless of other factors, S5887 will receive a full vote on the floor of the State Senate by July 17, 2009.

Thank you for your hard work on this issue and your concern for New York City's 1.1 million schoolchildren.

Sincerely,



Senator Malcolm Smith
President Pro Tempore



Senator John Sampson
Conference Leader