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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF
PORTFOLIO PLANNING**

**Opening and Co-location of a New D75
Site at Q147**

4/9/14

5:30pm

1 [START 393520_handheld_quiet]

2 MR. LEON MURRAY: Good evening, ladies and
3 gentlemen. - - .

4 [Crosstalk]

5 MR. MURRAY: Thank you for - - .

6 [Crosstalk]

7 MR. MURRAY: In ten seconds we'll begin.
8 Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

9 AUDIENCE: Good evening.

10 MR. MURRAY: Good evening, ladies and
11 gentlemen.

12 AUDIENCE: Good evening.

13 MR. MURRAY: - - . Welcome - -. This is
14 the joint public hearing of - - charter school
15 and the school leadership team for the proposed
16 opening and co-location of a new site of an
17 existing district 75 school, - - 75 through 11
18 with P.S./M.S. 147, - - school, -- in building -
19 - in 2014-2015 - -. We have asked the district
20 - - council and the school leadership teams of
21 P.S./M.S. 147 and - - the joint public hearing.
22 So we will be joined by our representatives - -
23 who will speak following my presentation, my
24 brief presentation. And - - also have a
25 presentation by - - 29, who was - - , and the

1 principal of 147, Ms. Anne Cohen who - - the
2 facility, Ms. Diane - - , from P11Q, - - .
3 Welcome to - - . And I also want to welcome Dr.
4 - - , and Mr. Caponera, who will - - with - -
5 from district 75. - - . Thank you. - - and
6 give you a report. The purpose of this hearing
7 is for you to comment on the proposal. - - the
8 proposal and I want to make sure - - . So all
9 those who wish to speak have signed up - - area,
10 - - , and the sign up will be closed in 15
11 minutes or so, so speakers will flow in the
12 order in which they sign up - - . The - -
13 officials or I - - . Those will be - - . All
14 comments will be - - comments will be commented
15 and provided - - policy, and the board - -
16 schedule on - - 2014. In addition, any comments
17 or feedback that you have at any time before the
18 panel votes on this proposal - - B29 proposal, B
19 29 - - at schools.nyc.edu, and the phone number
20 is 212-374-7621. That's 212-374-7621, - - . So
21 we have a brief of nine proposals - - . The New
22 York City Department of Education is proposing
23 to open and co-locate a new site of - - in a
24 system - - school and area 2147, to be called
25 P812@Q147, beginning in 2014 and 2015 school

1 year. Building Q147 is located at 218-01 116th
2 Avenue, in Queens, New York, 11411, in - -
3 school district 29. If this proposal is
4 approved, P8112@Q147 will be co-located with
5 P.S./M.S. 147 - - , an existing zoned school - -
6 kindergarten through eighth grades, and offering
7 a free kindergarten program. A co-location
8 means that two or more school organizations are
9 located in the same building and they share
10 common stations, like auditoriums - - .
11 District 75 provides city wide educational,
12 vocational and behavior support programs for
13 students who are on the autism spectrum, have
14 significant cognitive delays or are severely - -
15 and/or mentally disabled. Based on projected
16 needs of District 75 students, the District 75
17 office is seeing increased capacity for students
18 with autism and - - disabilities with - - . If
19 this proposal is approved, the DOE - - site that
20 existed - - in 2014-2015 school year and how to
21 meet this growing demand. If PS - - school
22 across grades kindergarten through eight who are
23 classified as autistic or mentally disabled
24 under - - . P8112@Q147 is projected to serve 60
25 sections of students in self contained sections

1 in - - setting, - - . Students are placed in -
2 - programs based on their - - , and recommended
3 special education services and they are - - .
4 Students are accepted into this program - -
5 elementary and preschool education. According
6 to the 2012 - - enrollment capacity utilization
7 Q147 and - - . During the 2013-2014 school
8 year, the building is serving 700 students, - -
9 70%. This means that the building is
10 underutilized and has space used more
11 efficiently - - more schools. In the 2014-2015
12 school year, - - at Q147 - - , it is projected
13 that there will be 700 - - in Q147, meeting a -
14 - utilization rate of - - . If this proposal
15 gets approved, P8112@Q147 will open in September
16 2014 for - - students, for a total of - - two
17 separate schools. Q147 also houses New York - -
18 as communicate - - . This proposal does not
19 affect the impact - - of Q147, but that - - by
20 the proposal. The next speaker will be - - .

21 MS. ALICIA HYNDMAN: Good evening. Thank
22 you for your - - for co-location in this
23 district. CP29 is in support of a co-location
24 of this site - - beginning this fall. We'd like
25 to see the students that - - and not have to

1 have them go outside - - the services that we
2 can provide here. So this community - - .
3 Thank you.

4 MR. MURRAY: Thank you, - - . Next we have
5 presenting to the school - - team, so we'll
6 begin with Ms. Hailey and then have Mr.
7 Caponera, Mr. - - talk, and those are the ones I
8 have here now. If anyone else wants to speak -
9 - .

10 MS. HALIMA HAILEY: Hi. My name is Halima
11 Hailey. I have two children in this school.
12 One is first grade and one is in sixth grade, so
13 my first grader is now in the new building. I
14 have a concern--one of my concerns is the safety
15 issue. When the first and second graders are in
16 the main building, I'm concerned about things
17 such as them using the bathroom, and when
18 District 75 children are in the building, how
19 are they going to be supervised? Will it be - -
20 of them interacting with young children, since
21 some of them have - - severe emotional
22 challenges, how will this be addressed? How
23 will I be sure if my child is safe?

24 MR. MURRAY: Thank you, Ms. Hailey. The next
25 speaker is Mr. Caponera - - .

1 MR. ANTHONY CAPONERA: Hi, my name is
2 Anthony Caponera. I'm a member of the school -
3 - . I am not - - on speaking, so if there are
4 any questions, - - .

5 AUDIENCE: We can't hear you back here.

6 MR. CAPONERA: Thank you for - - . First -
7 - . We do a lot of special things here, a lot
8 of nice programs. My biggest question was - -
9 close to - - the New York - - . My biggest
10 question is - - , is it possible to get - - CEC
11 meeting - - .

12 AUDIENCE: We can't hear you.

13 MR. CAPONERA: I'm sorry?

14 AUDIENCE: We can't hear you.

15 MR. CAPONERA: My second question is--

16 [Crosstalk]

17 MR. CAPONERA: We have a bunch of issues
18 that are coming on - - areas. We want to make
19 sure that--we've had security issues.

20 [Crosstalk]

21 AUDIENCE: Everything is muffled. We can't
22 hear you.

23 [Crosstalk]

24 MR. CAPONERA: Can you hear me in the back?

25 [Crosstalk]

1 MR. CAPONERA: We want to make sure with
2 our budget that we make sure that our budget
3 issues are addressed, to the fact where we have
4 now two security guards. We're also going to be
5 a Pre-K to 8 in the main building. We want to
6 make sure that we have our two - - security
7 guards - - , if not three. I know--I'm
8 wondering if--making sure that either one of
9 those come with a security guard, you know, to
10 make sure--to monitor that building as well. We
11 want to make sure - - . We also need to make
12 sure--the second question that we want to make
13 sure that we - - also is that--I understand that
14 our budget is separate than the 811 budget, so
15 we want to make sure that our personnel from 47,
16 do they share - - budget pieces, because once
17 again, we do have low budget - - . There are -
18 - into that. We want to make sure that there
19 will be resources - - allocated to - - . We go
20 from the 811 to - - 58% of the people that I've
21 spoken to, that they have, you know, welcome,
22 you know, 811 - - to 147.

23 MR. MURRAY: Thank you - - . The point of
24 this hearing is not to address - - , from - - or
25 bonus - - . In terms of - - that question about

1 students - - the answer, because - - office,
2 and like I said - - . - - because the Pre-K - -
3 will have to be--have sufficient stand and
4 sufficient - - to take care of all of the
5 students. So people - - are in no way
6 responsible for the supervision of students from
7 811. And - - as well, - - . So that's to
8 answer that question, - - separate and - - . In
9 here it says that - - office, and - - will not
10 be affected. It will not be affected.

11 MALE VOICE: - - .

12 MR. MURRAY: - - .

13 FEMALE VOICE: - - .

14 MR. MURRAY: - - . Okay, no problem. So we
15 now head for--does anybody have a - - offices -
16 - . And this - - office, - - . Okay.

17 FEMALE VOICE: Thank you.

18 MR. MURRAY: Okay, well - - . And I
19 recognize that - - . So - - the full
20 presentation, so we - - who had signed up, and -
21 - , so please - - . You have two minutes. So -
22 - signed up. Charles Durrow?

23 MR. CHARLES DURROW: Thank you.

24 MR. MURRAY: Thank you.

25 MR. DURROW: My name is Charles Durrow. My

1 name is Charles Durrow. My family has been -
2 - in 147 for close to 65 years. My mother went
3 to this school, I went to this school, my
4 children go to this school. My main concern, my
5 previous employment I had was medical transport,
6 to include Board of Education transport school -
7 - . I have a friend - - . During my experience
8 and - - experience, there were two incidents - -
9 incidents. I understand - - sick, distracted,
10 there is a situation. What we need is complete
11 assurance that the children of this school are
12 going to be safe. Over the last 68 years,
13 everything has changed here except the paint.
14 Children, staff, curriculum, the main building.
15 My kindergarten class was in the Jewish center
16 down the street. Things change, we understand.
17 The one thing that has never changed in this
18 school is caring for the children and keeping
19 them safe. My friend's daughter is on the
20 autism spectrum, in a special ed school in
21 Brooklyn, was attacked by a sixth grader. 14
22 stitches later on her face, the answer was,
23 well, - - , call back. We can't have this here.
24 I will not accept my children or anyone else's
25 children being assaulted or running the risk of

1 being assaulted. We need assurances before
2 this can happen. Thank you.

3 MR. MURRAY: Thank you. Rosemary Goldman.
4 Rosemary? - - .

5 MS. ROSEMARY GOLDMAN: Good evening,
6 everyone.

7 AUDIENCE: Good evening.

8 MS. GOLDMAN: My name is Rosemary Goldman,
9 as he stated. I am the first - - . My daughter
10 is in kindergarten. I have a few questions
11 regarding inclusion of--what is it, P.S. 75?
12 District 75, sorry. The first one is will there
13 be money in the budget allocated to the school
14 for renovation of the auditorium as an - - .
15 The paint is peeling, and as we can see, the
16 lighting is bad. So that is my first concern.
17 The second one is I volunteer in the lunchroom,
18 and the children here do not get a lunch period.
19 They get a lunch break. They're supposed to get
20 40 minutes. At most, they get 20 minutes. Now
21 with the school using the lunchroom, how is that
22 going to affect the lunch break that they're now
23 receiving? Okay, - - to eat lunch. Half their
24 lunch goes in the garbage. So if you're adding
25 another school in the building, that's going--

1 and you're using the cafeteria, that's going
2 to impact the students that are already here.
3 And my third question is Mayor de Blasio
4 approved universal Pre-K, so my thing is instead
5 of having District 75, why can't we use the
6 building from the universal Pre-K in the - - of
7 also--opposed to having children in this
8 building. - - in this building, - - a son with
9 ADHD. But I think the space can be used for
10 pre-kindergarten and other stuff, instead of - -
11 .

12 MR. MURRAY: Thank you for - - . Thank you
13 - - to kind of get an idea - - . Dillard
14 Campbell?

15 MR. DILLARD CAMPBELL: Good evening,
16 parents, educators. My name is Dillard
17 Campbell. I work for the Department of Education
18 and I have two kids that go to school currently,
19 and I anticipate my third one coming here also.
20 One of the things that concerns me is--that
21 keeps coming up and up and up, is the security
22 aspect. My wife came last week to pick up the
23 kids from school. The front entrance, where I
24 guess they get dismissed on the other side of
25 the building, there was girls fighting. There

1 were, like, 10 girls attacking one girl. My
2 wife told me there had to be a gentleman who had
3 to hold the girl back from this girl getting
4 actually beat up severely. That's one of my
5 concerns. The other thing is that you have to
6 take into consideration this building is old and
7 it needs some major renovations. District 75
8 schools need to be an environment where it's
9 supposed to be air conditioned and so forth,
10 whatever. That lunchroom downstairs is dismal.
11 It needs to be renovated or an addition needs to
12 be put on to this building to accommodate our
13 kids. This is ridiculous. Look at the
14 cafeteria, look at the auditorium now. Okay,
15 this needs to be renovated also. We had to
16 bring our own speakers just to speak on the
17 telephone--I mean, on the microphone. It's
18 inexcusable. And the other thing is have we
19 thought about the bussing in the area, because
20 these District 75 students will be bussed. That
21 means there is going to be added traffic in the
22 neighborhood. Will there be additional crossing
23 guards to cross--to make sure our kids get
24 across the street safely? It's going to be very
25 hectic, trust me. When you add about 20, 30

1 buses in this area trying to get kids out on a
2 daily basis. So please, you know, let's
3 consider, you know, what we have here. You
4 know, I'm not against District 75 students, but
5 I'm worried about the safety for all our
6 students. So let's - - .

7 MR. MURRAY: Thank you, Mr. Campbell. - -
8 Renee - - .

9 RENEE: - - . I have a - - . I was in this
10 school, my brother was in this school, my mom
11 was in this school, my aunt was in this school.
12 Nothing has changed, because it - - for my son
13 to come to school. There is only two security
14 guards and it is one - - supposedly. I thought
15 it was just for kindergarten and Pre-K to be
16 picked up, which it's not, and you have to get
17 the kids in here too and - - chaotic, chaos,
18 when I have to pick him up from this door, - -
19 that door and this door. I stopped bringing him
20 for breakfast because there is no staff - - ,
21 and I don't want my son with some--somewhere
22 with no staff. And I work with the - -
23 population and I still do, and this concerns me
24 because there are - - , they can get violent,
25 and is there trained staff here if an

1 altercation were to - - . I mean, I'm turning
2 to the reasons that you - - , but are all the
3 staff trained on it? Is there principal aware?
4 Is the staff that's coming here going to be
5 trained to do that - - . There is not enough
6 security for it, technically for three schools.
7 And my son is in a program during the day where
8 he goes to the library and - - . I don't want
9 that taken away from him and - - from his
10 teachers. And I ask him every day, like, how
11 was it? - - . The truth is it's not, because
12 if it's not, truthfully, I don't think - - in
13 our school, where it's less chaos for me and my
14 - - . There's too much - - three schools - - .
15 Thank you.

16 MR. MURRAY: Thank you. - - .

17 FEMALE VOICE: Good evening. My name is - -
18 and I am a first time parent, and my daughter is
19 in kindergarten. I volunteered a couple of
20 times, and when I did volunteer, it was because
21 it was not - - . My concern is adding District
22 75, if this does get approved, - - , are they
23 coming with a budget. If - - get a new school,
24 the auditorium needs to be upgraded, the
25 cafeteria is--it's ridiculous. The cafeteria is

1 ridiculous. I don't bring my daughter to
2 breakfast because when I took her here, there
3 was no staff here. It was Monday, and she told
4 me--she said--I said, "What happens when it's
5 time to go to class?" She said, "Your daughter
6 has to walk from the cafeteria," and then she
7 has to walk through the school yard, turn around
8 to just come inside. There is no - - . So if
9 you want to add another school where the
10 children are disabled, where is the safety going
11 to be for that added - - to the staff? That's
12 my concern. Thank you.

13 MR. MURRAY: Thank you, - - . Going once,
14 going twice, - - . So that was the final
15 speaker, - - , so the speaker list is now
16 exhausted. The speaker - - appropriate
17 questions. We appreciate - - . I appreciate -
18 - . I will have copies from Ms. Rulan, in her
19 office, and we will attempt to answer questions
20 from people's e-mail - - . We will do so - -
21 questions now. So please understand that the
22 district office - - Friday. Please note - -
23 school that is - - school and has a - - program
24 - - . And the safety program and the - -
25 District 75 staff are all working - - . So that

1 - - that type of thing, and that is - - .
2 There is - - . They are very professional, and
3 - - students and staff - - . So staffing issues
4 - - . And I know Dr. - - is here and some of
5 her concerns from - - . And I know - - is here
6 and - - . So I want to thank everyone for
7 coming out to this meeting. I want to thank you
8 for your participation. I want to thank Jill
9 and Sarah - - . I want to thank - - with us,
10 and - - are closed. - - .

11 [Crosstalk]

12 [END 393520_handheld_quiet]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

The prior proceedings were transcribed from audio files and have been transcribed to the best of my ability.

Signature Gody VanderHart

Date _____ 4/13/14 _____

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