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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION – DIVISION OF
PORTFOLIO PLANNING**
**Q143 Annex – Temporary Co-Location
at Q287 (Hearing @ Q330)**
April 8, 2013
5:30pm

1 [START 100328 001 MP3]

2 MS. MADELINE CHAN: [background noise] If
3 everyone would take a seat, we are going to
4 begin. You have to tell, you have to tell that
5 lady, yes. Yes, please. Good evening. This is
6 a Joint Public Hearing of the Department of
7 Education Community Education Council and School
8 Leadership Team for the proposed temporary re-
9 siting and co-location of a portion of the
10 kindergarten of PS 143, Lewis Armstrong 24, Q143
11 with PS 330, 24Q, 330 in a new building Q287 for
12 the 2013-2014 school year. I am District 24
13 Superintendent Madeline Chan. I am joined this
14 evening with PS 330's Principal, Lashawna Harris
15 [phonetic], Network Leader Katrina Palazzo
16 [phonetic], CEC Representative Connie Potniko
17 [phonetic], School Leadership Team from PS 143
18 Member Katie Boyagen [phonetic] and SL Team
19 Members from PS 330, Sue Lei Tapia [phonetic]
20 Carrie Tow [phonetic], Jacqueline Levine
21 [phonetic]. This hearing is being recorded. The
22 purpose of this hearing is for you to provide
23 comments about the proposal. Before I describe
24 the proposal I want to make sure you are all
25 aware of the opportunity to provide your input.

1 All those who wish to speak must sign up in the
2 speakers sign up area located at that table.
3 The sign up list will close in 15 minutes.
4 Speakers will be given the floor in the order
5 that they have signed up. All comments are
6 limited to two minutes. There may be elected
7 officials who arrive at different times
8 throughout the evening. If they wish to speak
9 we'll do our best to accommodate them at the
10 first opportune moment. Those who are here at
11 the start of the public comments segment will be
12 asked to speak first. All comments will be
13 mentioned in the analysis of public comment to
14 be published and provided to the Panel for
15 Educational Policy the evening before the panel
16 votes. That vote is scheduled for April 17th,
17 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at Prospect Heights Campus,
18 located at 883 Playson Avenue, Brooklyn, New
19 York, 11225. In addition, we welcome any
20 comments and feedback you may have at any time
21 before the panel votes on both proposals. The
22 email address and phone number where comments
23 may be made are d24proposals@schools.nyc.gov and
24 the phone number is 212-374-7621. This is a
25 proposal summary. The New York City Department

1 of Education is proposing to temporarily resite
2 and co-locate a portion of the incoming
3 kindergarten grade of PS 143 in new building
4 Q287 with PS 330 for the 2013-2014 school year.
5 A resiteing means students will attend classes
6 in a different building than the one they have
7 attended in previous years. A co-location means
8 that two or more school organizations are
9 located in the same building and may share
10 common spaces like auditoriums, gymnasiums and
11 cafeterias. On June 26, 2012 the Panel for
12 Educational Policy, otherwise known as the PEP,
13 approved the re site of PS 330 to new building
14 Q287 and on June 26, 2012, Community Education
15 Council 24 voted to change the current zone to
16 PS 143 and create a new zone for PS 330 when it
17 moves into its long term location in the new
18 building located at 111-08 Northern Boulevard in
19 Queens, New York, 11368. PS 143 is an existing
20 zoned elementary school that currently serves
21 students in kindergarten through 5th grades at
22 3474 113th Street in Corona, New York, 11368.
23 Currently, a portion of PS 143's kindergarten
24 and first grade is located in the leased
25 building, transfiguration annex which is located

1 at 98-07 38th Avenue, Queens, New York, 11368.
2 The lease for the transfiguration annex will
3 have expired at the end of the 2012-2013 school
4 year. And a renewal on the lease has not been
5 made available to the School Construction
6 Authority. This proposed resiteing of a portion
7 of the incoming kindergarten of PS 143 to
8 building Q 287 is intended to recover a large
9 portion of the kindergarten seats that will be
10 lost due to the expiration of the lease for the
11 transfiguration annex and to accommodate the
12 continued growth in incoming kindergarten
13 students in the community for the 2013-2014
14 school year. Several elementary schools in the
15 Corona neighborhood of District 24, Queens,
16 currently enroll more students than their target
17 capacity levels. PS 143 in particular is
18 already very overcrowded and it will no longer
19 be able to use the transfiguration annex at the
20 end of the 2013-2013 school year. Where
21 possible, the deal aims to utilize available
22 space in other local school buildings to
23 alleviate overcrowding. PS 330 is phasing in
24 one grade at time and will serve students in
25 kindergarten through fifth grade at scale,

1 building Q287 has the space to accommodate PS
2 330 at full scale. Therefore, building Q287 has
3 the space to accommodate a portion of the
4 kindergarten of PS 143 for one year prior to PS
5 330 reaching full scale. And presents the
6 opportunity to temporarily relieve overcrowding
7 at PS 143 for the 2013-2014 school year.
8 According to the SCA, new building Q287 has been
9 the target capacity to serve a total of 420
10 students. If this proposal is approved the
11 projected enrollment in 2013-2014 of PS 143 at
12 Q287 will be approximately 140 to 150
13 kindergarten students. And the projected
14 enrollment of PS 330 will be approximately 330
15 to 370 kindergarten through third grade
16 students. This will result in a total projected
17 building enrollment if 470 to 520 students,
18 yielding a building utilization rate of 112 to
19 124 percent. So, that is the end of the
20 proposal summary. And at this time I would like
21 to ask if the CEC has any comments?

22 MS. CONNIE POTNIKO: Just, we're in
23 accord. The Community Education Council of
24 District 24 is in accordance with this reading.

25 MS. CHAN: And at this time would the SLT

1 Members like to make any comments from 143 or
2 330? No?

3 MS. SUE LEI TAPIA: I would like..

4 MS. CHAN: Sure. Miss Tapia?

5 MS. TAPIA: Yes. Hi, my name is Sue Lei
6 Tapia. I'm a - - resident and I'm also the SLT.
7 Just so that I'm going to say that I'm against
8 this co-locating of 143 and PS 330. As you
9 know, our district is one of the most populated,
10 overcrowded and, in the city. And this is not
11 going to be a long term solution. It's just a
12 short term, like, taking a band aid off of one
13 foot and placing it on the other foot and it's
14 not going to help any. So, it's bigger than
15 this proposal. This is not going to help
16 anybody. Since this is about the co-location of
17 143 to 330 that I am against it and most of our
18 families are also against this. The effects of
19 having two schools in the same building are
20 bigger than what can be put on paper. Our
21 building will be understaffed and it will have
22 only four grades. But it's not about the basic
23 education, you need to think about the - - and
24 the extra activities and the fact that the knows
25 our kids and that these kids get extra attention

1 from the teachers because they have time and
2 they don't have as many kids and it's not
3 overcrowded. All of this will be lost while
4 this building has so many kids. There's going
5 to be more children per class. There's going to
6 be more lunch, you know, periods, lunch will
7 start at early in the morning, gym is going to
8 be cut. It's going to be too much for our
9 children. It's not just about books and reading
10 and math. It's, like, kids need a sense of,
11 like, belonging. And they, they won't have a
12 school. Their school is going to be divided.
13 So, I think this is not going to be a good thing
14 for our kids. Most of our parents, they speak a
15 foreign language, so, I think they're very
16 confused. They think that this is going to be a
17 long term, which it's not, this is only the one
18 year solution. These kindergartners are going
19 to be in that school for only one year. And
20 then they have to relocate again, where we don't
21 know because we don't know. The DOE hasn't - -
22 something. So, the main thing we have to do is
23 get the DOE to build more schools. This is what
24 they do. So, more schools in our district.
25 Okay? 'Cause this is not going to work. So,

1 the most affected are kids because every year
2 or every other year they have to move around.
3 And now they need to have a sense of belonging
4 to something, you know? So, unfortunately, the
5 reason this is happening in our district is
6 because we're very, we don't come out and we are
7 very underrepresented. And parents, I think,
8 are intimidated. Hoping for the next - -
9 hearing when we have a long term solution
10 instead of just the heads up, you know?

11 MS. CHAN: Thank you. Thank you so much,
12 Miss Tapia. At this time, if I could have the
13 Spanish translator please come up and share the
14 proposal summary. Did you do that as I was
15 talking? [crosstalk]

16 MALE VOICE 1: Yes, I only found the
17 replacement batteries.

18 MS. CHAN: Oh, that's great. And the other
19 translators as well in Mandarin and Cantonese?
20 Did you have an opportunity to translate? Yes?
21 Mercedes is that completed? [background
22 conversation] Completed? So, at this time we
23 have concluded the formal presentations. We
24 will now open the floor for public comments.
25 Speakers who signed up will be given the floor

1 in the order that they signed up. And all
2 comments are limited to two minutes. Our first
3 speaker is Patty Santas, won't you please come
4 up? Miss Hernandez? Hi. Want to come up?
5 That's fine.

6 MS. HERNANDEZ: [Spanish language] It's good
7 to meet the personnel or everything going to
8 remain the same.

9 MS. CHAN: So, this is just a feedback
10 session, we're collecting comments. But when
11 you say you personnel, can you be a little bit
12 more explicit about that.

13 MS. HERNANDEZ: About the teachers.

14 MS. CHAN: Well, 330 is growing. So...

15 MS. HERNANDEZ: Is there's going to be the
16 same teachers or are we going to get more
17 teachers?

18 MS. CHAN: Well, as the school grows you're
19 going to get more personnel.

20 MS. HERNANDEZ: [background conversation]
21 That's all I wanted to know.

22 MS. CHAN: I'm going to let Principal Harris
23 address that.

24 MS. LASHAWNA HARRIS: The entire school is
25 going to go to the new building. So, all

1 teachers, faculty, will go to the new
2 building.

3 MS. CHAN: Yay, that's a good thing, right?
4 [laughter] Our next speaker who signed up is Kim
5 Leon [phonetic].

6 MS. KIM LEON: Hello.

7 MS. CHAN: How are you?

8 MS. LEON: Well, my understanding that all
9 the staff, teachers and all students will be
10 moved to the new building. So, my question is,
11 my child is in a GNT class, will they be moved
12 into the new building as well?

13 MS. CHAN: Class sustaining? Yes.

14 MS. LEON: I just heard that the PS 330,
15 this location, there would be a GNT next school
16 year. So, there will be first grade in this
17 building?

18 MS. CHAN: I don't think so.

19 MS. LEON: I just wanted to find out.

20 MS. CHAN: I think just kindergarten.

21 MS. LEON: Just a kindergarten?

22 MS. CHAN: I think so. I can't, can't
23 promise.

24 MS. LEON: [crosstalk] Because I talked to
25 most of the parents in GNT class.

1 MS. HARRIS: Are you asking if there's
2 going to be, GNT going to be moved to the new
3 facility?

4 MS. CHAN: Yes. Yes, wanted to know this
5 building, this new school is going to have GNT.

6 MS. LEON: The new building. And I also
7 heard about that.

8 FEMALE VOICE 1: Yeah, we'll have - - .

9 MS. HARRIS: In the new building.

10 FEMALE VOICE 1: Yeah, in the new building
11 [crosstalk]

12 MS. HARRIS: So, I'm going to, I'm going to
13 answer her [crosstalk] so we're not - - this
14 information. Can you - - for - - . Okay. Miss
15 MacAmie, you just raise your hand? So, since
16 this is a feedback session and these questions
17 are so important I'm going to ask you to give
18 your name and number to Miss MacAmie where we
19 can confirm that the new building is going to
20 have, not 330 school building, this new school,
21 is going to have a GNT and first grade. I want
22 to confirm that for you.

23 MS. LEON: Okay, great.

24 MS. HARRIS: Okay? So, you can put your
25 name and number she will call you.

1 MS. LEON: - - and?

2 MS. HARRIS: Right, 330 is leaving and she
3 wants to know is this new school building with a
4 new leader, are they going to have K and one and
5 GNT?

6 MS. CHAN: Okay, our next speaker is Juan
7 Leon. Hello.

8 MR. JUAN LEON: Excuse me. It seems like
9 this district has been over populated or all the
10 school who are over crowded really very badly.

11 MS. CHAN: Right.

12 MR. LEON: And that just is here. It seems
13 like they been over crowded for the last seven
14 or eight years.

15 MS. CHAN: Yes.

16 MR. LEON: What happened?

17 MS. CHAN: So, this gentleman wants me to
18 explain overcrowding in District 24. I've been
19 the Superintendant for four years now. And I'm
20 going to tell you what I think so this is a
21 personal opinion from what I see in going from
22 school to school. There is a division in the
23 Department of Ed called Division of Portfolio.
24 And they work very hard to anticipate how many
25 children are going to register at a school every

1 September. Since I've been here for four
2 years that number is very difficult to predict
3 because there seems to be many, many, many more
4 children zoned to the school than the records
5 show. For example, you can have a school and
6 you can anticipate 100 kindergarten children are
7 going to register based on the housing and what
8 the records show. And then in September you can
9 have 500 children register. So, that happens
10 every year since I've been here, for four years.
11 So, if you can't anticipate numbers you're going
12 to have overcrowding. And anyone else from the
13 Department of Ed can join in. That is what I
14 see as, as the basic problem.

15 MR. LEON: No, I mean, the crowding is,
16 looks like it's for a long time. And, I mean, I
17 know that they been rebuilding the school--

18 MS. CHAN: [interposing] I can't hear you.

19 MR. LEON: --but they--

20 FEMALE VOICE 1: [interposing] Sorry, can
21 you pass on the microphone?

22 MS. CHAN: Yeah.

23 FEMALE VOICE 1: We're recording.

24 FEMALE VOICE 1: Can you just pick up the
25 microphone?

1 MS. CHAN: Repeat that, sir.

2 MR. LEON: But the overcrowding is, it looks
3 like it have been happening for a very long
4 time, longer than four years already. And--

5 MS. CHAN: [interposing] Yes.

6 MR. LEON: --we, they haven't been almost
7 any new, really new school built around here
8 except that the old ones getting rebuilt. But,
9 I think now that even in the grade, first or
10 second, third years already, you see some
11 drastic overcrowding. Shouldn't already, like,
12 starting something about it?

13 MS. CHAN: An excellent point.

14 MR. LEON: Yeah.

15 MS. CHAN: I know that there was a new
16 building that was built in the middle of the
17 district and the very next year they had to have
18 an annex because it was already overcrowded.
19 Now, in support of portfolio and school
20 construction to District 24 we are going to have
21 seven new schools within the next three years.
22 There will be a new school for 143. 330 is
23 getting a new school next year. So, the
24 buildings are going up. They just have to be
25 built fast enough to accommodate all the

1 children. But we are trying very, very hard
2 to make that happen.

3 MR. LEON: Thank you.

4 MS. CHAN: At this time I would like to
5 recognize Mr. Joelle [phonetic], from Council
6 Member Ferrara's Office. Mr. Joelle, where are
7 you? Mr. Joelle? Oh, how do you do, sir?
8 Would you like to say something?

9 MR. JOELLE: No.

10 MS. CHAN: Okay. Thank you very much for
11 coming. Okay - - the speaker list is now
12 exhausted. Again, we welcome any comments and
13 feedback you may have at any time before the
14 Panel for Educational Policy Votes on this
15 proposal at it's April 17th meeting. Again, the
16 email address and phone number where comments
17 may be made are District 24,
18 d24proposals@schools.nyc.gov, 212-374-7621. If
19 you have any questions regarding this meeting
20 and perhaps you go home and you think of the
21 questions then. My office is very readily
22 available to help you. Miss MaAmie is the
23 District Family Advocate and she is happy to
24 help. Our number is 718-592-3357. Please come
25 and visit us, call us, we will help you.

1 FEMALE VOICE 1: - - she said that he
2 parent had signed up to question.

3 MS. CHAN: Where is that?

4 FEMALE VOICE 1: She - - absentee. She said
5 - - .

6 FEMALE VOICE 2: I signed the list that - -
7 paper.

8 MS. CHAN: Okay, come on down.

9 FEMALE VOICE 1: She probably signed this
10 list.

11 MS. CHAN: There were two lists?

12 FEMALE VOICE 2: I signed on the one for--

13 MS. CHAN: [interposing] May I see it?

14 FEMALE VOICE 1: She signed the list on SLC
15 like I signed for the CEC, that's how - - .

16 MS. CHAN: Ma'am, It's okay.

17 FEMALE VOICE 1: It's okay. I'm sorry about
18 that. I just had this list.

19 FEMALE VOICE 2: No, I write, I write my
20 name on this list.

21 FEMALE VOICE 1: Okay, no problem.

22 FEMALE VOICE 2: Well, I have a couple of
23 questions for, explicitly - - .

24 MS. CHAN: [interposing] It's, but this is a
25 feedback session. So...

1 FEMALE VOICE 2: Right. I know. I am
2 confused about the 143 and we are, we are - - to
3 District 12, 24 and I know the, all the over
4 crowding that we have. And my concern about
5 this school is that we are losing 250 seats in
6 our annex. Unfortunately, it will be - - to get
7 on - - six classes.

8 MS. CHAN: Right.

9 FEMALE VOICE 2: So, we are, we have - -
10 only 20 kids going to kindergarten. There are
11 only 25 children per class.

12 MS. CHAN: The rest are going to 143.

13 FEMALE VOICE 2: That's the problem that,
14 and my question is, at the present school, have
15 these proposals, what, in what part of the
16 building they are going to put out children?
17 That's my specific question. 'Cause if they
18 know our - - if they have been there before they
19 should tell me, there are some five or six empty
20 classrooms that we can use. Well, right now our
21 classrooms are a 34, 32 students right now. So,
22 and that's first and second grade because the
23 new building will allow only two, kindergarten
24 children. And we are a, and the problem that we
25 have is first and second grade and our first and

1 second grade classes are already on the
2 maximum capacity. So, my question for these
3 persons, for the ones that are planning this,
4 this side is. In what part of the building you
5 are going to put 100 children - - a year that
6 don't have the space right now? That is my
7 question and I want to, you know, to know.
8 'Cause I want to, if they really know the
9 building, if they really know the number of
10 students that we have then they have a real
11 proposal. But right now it seems to be a nice
12 proposal and I'm happy for the children, for the
13 school that is going over there. I'm very happy
14 for them. So, unfortunately, for us, it's not
15 going to help. You know? So, that's my...

16 MS. CHAN: Very good question.

17 FEMALE VOICE 3: - - ?

18 MS. CHAN: Did you sign up, ma'am?

19 FEMALE VOICE 1: Did you sign up?

20 MS. CHAN: What school are you from?

21 FEMALE VOICE 1: She's from PS 143 also.

22 FEMALE VOICE 4: [Spanish language] Next
23 year, I have a kindergarten - - 143 - - .

24 MS. CHAN: There were a few, a few classes,
25 yes.

1 FEMALE VOICE 4: Well, I don't want to say
2 what is new classes. See, every year I hear
3 it's 300 class or is it 300 over - -
4 kindergarten and - - year, every year. It's
5 four year ago - - now it's 330. It's - - what
6 you remember, this is big, big news in the - -
7 143.

8 MS. CHAN: I remember.

9 FEMALE VOICE 4: Somebody is I angry.
10 There's no how, I'm living in the front of PS
11 143 - - . This is, it's four year ago it's
12 come, the neighbor - - 143 coming here. There's
13 no - - room for kids. You, they build 143, I'm
14 confused, now for next year. I tell them
15 kindergarten. You roll six classes in the new
16 building, new school, is six classes, classes
17 you can keep. In other portion - - this is - -

18 MS. CHAN: [interposing] No space.

19 FEMALE VOICE 4: --or not have a
20 kindergarten here at 143? This is my question.

21 MS. CHAN: I wish I had an answer.

22 FEMALE VOICE 4: Only for the new school to
23 have a kindergarten and PS 143 not have a
24 kindergarten for next year? This is my, my
25 question.

1 MS. CHAN: Okay.

2 FEMALE VOICE 4: I confusing. I don't
3 understand.

4 MS. CHAN: Sir, can the translator just say
5 to this parent that we are going to take her
6 feedback back to, but I want her to hear.

7 MALE VOICE 1: Okay.

8 MS. CHAN: We're going to take her feedback
9 back to us, to Portfolio, to explain the
10 concern. [Spanish language] That I hear the
11 concern in terms of 143, it's already
12 overcrowded and they, they don't know where
13 kindergarten is going to fit in. [Spanish
14 language] Is that accurate? Thank you. Okay,
15 so once again, we welcome any comments and
16 feedback. I'm going to read the website one
17 more time, district24proposals@schools.nyc.gov,
18 the number is 212-374-7621. If you have any
19 feedback and you didn't come up to the
20 microphone it's very important that you do have
21 your voice heard. And at this time I'd like to
22 thank everyone for their participation and this
23 joint public hearing is now closed. Thank you.
24 [background conversation] [background noise]

25 [END 100328 001 MP3]

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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

A rectangular area containing a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Tara H. [unclear]".

Date 4/15/13