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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF
PORTFOLIO PLANNING
P.S. 124 Kindergarten Annex @ Q223
April 4, 2012**

1 [START RECORDING 290_232]

2 MICHELLE LLOYD-BEY, DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT:

3 Good evening everyone. I would like to thank
4 you for coming out this evening for the joint
5 public hearing at PS223-Q. - - giving them a
6 chance to sign in. Good evening, this is a
7 joint public hearing, the Department of
8 Education, - - Educational Council and School
9 Leadership Team for the proposed reciting and
10 co-location of one grade of Osmond A. Church
11 P.S./I.S. 124, 27Q124, an existing school,
12 Lyndon B Johnson, P.S. 223, 27Q223 in Building
13 Q223 beginning in the year of 2012-2013. I
14 District Superintendent, my name is Michelle
15 Lloyd-Bey. We have asked the District 27
16 Community Education Council and the School
17 Leadership Team P.S./I.S. 124 and P.S. 223 to
18 participate in this joint public hearing. And
19 so tonight I'm joined by SLT members Debbie
20 Coconoto [phonetic], Eileen Romano [phonetic],
21 Sandy Wilstiplain [phonetic] UFT, Janice
22 Roderick [phonetic], Pat Witherspoon [phonetic],
23 Ethel Williams [phonetic], Shelly Harrington
24 [phonetic], Brianna Payne [phonetic], Corrine
25 Barral [phonetic], Stacy Williams [phonetic],

1 Diane Thomas [phonetic], Tasha Nubia
2 [phonetic], Cassandra Bujea [phonetic], and
3 unfortunately Coralanne Griffith-Hunte,
4 President of the District 27 CEC, she send
5 regards to you but she cannot be here this
6 evening. She had an emergency with her child.
7 As well as the Principals' Valerie Lewis and
8 Debra Otto.

9 This hearing is being recorded. The purpose
10 of this hearing is for you to provide comments
11 about the proposal. And before I describe the
12 proposal I want to make sure that you're all
13 aware of the opportunity to provide your info.
14 All of those who wish to speak, you must sign up
15 as a speaker in the speaker sign in area,
16 located just outside near the auditorium. The
17 sign up list will close in about 15 minutes.
18 Speakers will be given the floor in the order
19 that they signed up. All comments are going to
20 be limited to two minutes. There may be some
21 elected officials who arrive at different times
22 throughout the evening, and if they wish to
23 speak we are going to do our best to accommodate
24 them at the first opportune moment. Those who
25 are here at the start of the public comment

1 segment will be asked to speak first. All
2 comment will be mentioned in the analysis of
3 public comment and will be published and
4 provided to the Panel for Educational Policy the
5 evening before the Panel vote. That vote is
6 scheduled for April 26th, 2012. In addition we
7 welcome any comments and feedback which you may
8 have at any time before the Panel votes on both
9 proposals. The email address and phone numbers
10 where comments may be made are as follows,
11 D27proposals@schools.nyc.gov,
12 D27proposals@schools.nyc.gov. And the telephone
13 number 212-374-7621, 212-374-7621.

14 So here's the proposal summary, the New York
15 City Department of Education, the DOE, is
16 proposing to re-site and co-locate the
17 kindergarten cohort of Osmond A. Church, 27Q124,
18 P.S./I.S 124, an existing K-8 school with Lyndon
19 B. Johnson P.S. 223, 27Q223 P.S. 223, an
20 existing K-5 school in Building 27Q 223, located
21 at 125-20 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, NY 11434,
22 in Community School District 27 beginning in
23 2012-2013. A "co-location" means that two or
24 more school organizations are located in the
25 same building and may share common spaces like

1 auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

2 P.S./I.S. 124 currently serves students in
3 kindergarten through eighth grades in Building
4 Q124, Q124, located at 129-15 150th Street South
5 Ozone Park, NY 11420. Building Q124 is
6 approximately 1.8 miles from building Q223. If
7 this proposal to re-site and co-locate P.S./I.S.
8 124's kindergarten with P.S. 223 is approved,
9 incoming P.S./I.S. 124 kindergarten students
10 will attend school in Q223 beginning in the
11 2012-2013 school year. The P.S./I.S. 124
12 students that would be co-located in Q223 would
13 then articulate to the first grade in building
14 Q124. It's important that I mention to you that
15 this is all Panel vote.

16 Q223 has the capacity to serve 994 students.
17 In 2011-2012, the building serves 723 students
18 in kindergarten through 5th grade, yielding a
19 utilization rate of just 73%. Q124 has the
20 capacity to serve 874 students. In 2011-2012,
21 the building served 1,226 students, yielding a
22 building utilization rate of 140%. Given these
23 utilization percentages and the fact that space
24 is a scarce, since resourcing many New York City
25 neighborhoods, the DOE must use its existing

1 public school buildings in the most efficient
2 manner possible. The Department of Education,
3 DOE, must also work to ensure that students and
4 families in every community have access to high-
5 quality educational options. This proposal
6 recognizes that a building that has excess space
7 can be utilized more efficiently. If this
8 proposal to re-site and co-locate kindergarten
9 from P.S./I.S. 124's elementary school gets
10 approved, in 2012-2013 there would be
11 approximately 811-871 students served in
12 building Q223, yielding an estimated building
13 utilization rate of 82-88%. At the same time,
14 the utilization of building Q124 will be reduced
15 from 140% to approximately 122%-131%. And so at
16 this time I would like to say thank you and I
17 would like to offer the mike one speaker at a
18 time to presenter of the SLT, the CEC President
19 is not here. Does anyone from the SLT like to
20 speak?

21 FEMALE VOICE 1: - -. You said that 124 - -

22 MS. LLOYD-BEY: Okay.

23 FEMALE VOICE 1: What the maximum capacity
24 in approximate - -.

25 MS. LLOYD-BEY: Well go back to it. P.S.

1 124 has the capacity to serve 874 students.

2 FEMALE VOICE 1: So - - to back to - - 124?

3 MS. LLOYD-BEY: So we talked about
4 buildings, we're talking about utilization and
5 capacity in the, you know, the capacity to hold
6 more students.

7 FEMALE VOICE 1: Right.

8 MS. LLOYD-BEY: Okay so let me go back,
9 okay. P223 has the capacity to serve 994
10 students. Okay. And the building serves 723
11 students in K-5. So they're utilization, how
12 much space is actually being used is just 73%.

13 FEMALE VOICE 1: And how much is - -. Just
14 for the students at 850 what?

15 MS. LLOYD-BEY: So the - - for P.S. 124, I'm
16 going back to my numbers, Q2 124 has the
17 capacity, that means they can serve 874 students
18 but you know there - - at over 1,200 some odd
19 children at this time. At the utilization rate
20 of over, so they're over capacity of 140%.

21 FEMALE VOICE 1: My understanding- my
22 understanding its saying- well I don't know I
23 just thought it goes on the - - amount. And
24 your saying - - less students than - -.

25 MS. LLOYD-BEY: So again, it's an

1 interesting thing about buildings and again, if
2 we get into the public- get into or follow the
3 meetings format, because this is a formal
4 hearing. So I'm going to note your comment,
5 okay if you want to comment and then when I
6 close out this part then we can open it up for
7 comment and I'll be glad to go over it with you
8 because we don't want anyone to leave and have
9 any questions. So I'll be too glad to come back
10 to that, okay so do you want to make any
11 comments?

12 FEMALE VOICE 1: No, I'm good.

13 MS. LLOYD-BEY: Okay, so I'll come back.

14 FEMALE VOICE 2: At this time, this was a
15 point direction, it says kindergarten through 5th
16 grade housed - - students and they have how many
17 more?

18 MS. LLOYD-BEY: That question came up at the
19 last meeting and how it was explained is that
20 kindergarten they don't usually factor them in
21 and at this time- the public meetings, that
22 they're usually captured as kindergarten through
23 because kindergarten is not a mandatory grade.

24 FEMALE VOICE 2: - -

25 MS. LLOYD-BEY: Pre-grade, pre-grade. Um,

1 hm-mmm. Okay with that, if there are not other
2 speakers from the SLT we are going to close out
3 the presentation by the hearing of the
4 participants and we're going to open it up to
5 public comment. Okay the first speaker we have
6 on the list will be Stacy Williams.

7 MS. STACY WILLIAMS: Thank you. Um, my
8 first question, will there be another review at
9 the end of 2013 to discuss whether they're going
10 to keep those two in the building or will there
11 just be a notification? How or what is the
12 process with that? My second question is um,
13 will there be additional services for students
14 who have specials needs or just an occupational
15 therapy, physical therapy speech or does that
16 come out of the services that are already in the
17 school? My third question, will there be an
18 additional school safety officer on premises,
19 how does that effect that the school safety
20 agent that's at the school, if there'll be a
21 problem or any issue that needs to be addressed
22 will there be an additional school safety agent?
23 Also will there be an additional guidance
24 counselor provided by the new school or are they
25 going to use our guidance services as well? How

1 will the lunches and billing be taken care of
2 because I know there's a certain issue with the
3 billing and the lunches and if they go over,
4 they come back to school budget, so how is that
5 going to be tracked? And how is does it affect
6 the school, is this change the growth? Because
7 as of right now they're continuing to take in
8 student on a continuous basis so what happens if
9 we reach the 800 mark during the school year
10 even though we're having this school right now?

11 MS. LLOYD-BEY: I don't have the answers to
12 all those question, I don't- first of all this
13 is public comments, so we're taking your comment
14 and so we'll probably could get back to you on
15 some of them. If the answers that we do know
16 for sure, so that I don't have to go back and
17 clean up later, but the ones that we do know for
18 sure, we will try to respond to you know. Does
19 anybody know anything for sure?

20 FEMALE VOICE 3: Yeah so, it's not necessary
21 because of all of the comments that are made
22 here tonight will be answered in the analysis of
23 public comment which will be posted online and
24 I'll give you all that information, you may call
25 them for the precise responses to those

1 questions.

2 MS. LLOYD-BEY: Okay, next speaker. The
3 next speaker is Cassandra, I'm sorry, Bujea.

4 MS. CASSANDRA BUJEA: Good evening everyone.
5 My name is Bujea, I am a volunteer as well as
6 also a personal- just - - so people can - -.
7 One quick questions I have, because I came into
8 the school by - -. And I got an opportunity to
9 come into the school, what I'm asking is
10 basically will you guys also provide like a- a -
11 - arts, whether it's visual arts, drama, music
12 and dance. - - a lot of teachers here which I
13 do assist, but what we have is a - - arts
14 program for our kindergarten students. Also I'd
15 like to talk about - - volunteers, because I
16 think that's one of the things that we do need.
17 We do need counselor volunteers on every level
18 but especially with the new kids, with the 124
19 children that are coming in, you guys not might
20 have a full school staff as you might have at
21 124, so you need a hand on volunteering and I
22 would like to you know just put that out there
23 because that would be one thing that you know,
24 we're always thinking about the dollars and
25 cents but what about our volunteers that you

1 know keep everything well oiled. That's what
2 my questions about, how to volunteer.

3 MS. LLOYD-BEY: Thank you. The next speaker
4 is - -.

5 MALE VOICE 1: - - I didn't know you had - -
6 . Quick question, why didn't we expand- why
7 didn't we have gifted and talented or expand
8 pre-K, but instead we basically we got the other
9 school to come and utilize the space. Second
10 question, will there be office- will there be
11 um, office staff?

12 MS. LLOYD-BEY: Office staff.

13 MALE VOICE 1: That's what I mean, sorry.

14 MS. LLOYD-BEY: So at this time there are no
15 other speakers, - - and so we are going to
16 conclude this meeting, joint public meeting, of
17 the co-siting of P.S./I.S 124 at P.S. 223. I
18 would like to thank you for your comments and at
19 this time would like to say good night.

20 [END RECORDING 290_232]

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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 

Date April 7, 2012