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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF  
PORTFOLIO PLANNING  
GR/TR of MS 206 from 5-8 to 6-8  
October 23, 2012 5:30 p.m.**

1 [START 317\_866\_MASTER.MP3]

2 MS. MEG BARBOZA: Hi everyone, good evening.  
3 This is a joint public hearing of the Department  
4 of Education, Community Education Council and  
5 the School Leadership Team of PS 206. Sorry,  
6 apologies, Community Education Council 10 and  
7 the School Leadership Team for PS 206, regarding  
8 the proposed grade truncation of IS 206 and  
9 Misaro [phonetic] to a 6 to an 8 school in  
10 2013/2014.

11 I am Meg Barboza and I will be leading  
12 tonight's hearing. We have asked the District  
13 10 Community Education Council and the School  
14 Leadership Team from PS 206 to participate in  
15 this joint public hearing.

16 I am joined tonight by Marvin Shelton from  
17 CEC 10. And we also have Principal David  
18 Nearing [phonetic] in attendance from PS 206.

19 This hearing is being recorded. The purpose  
20 of this hearing is for you to provide comments  
21 about the proposal. Before I describe the  
22 proposal, I want to make sure you are all aware  
23 of the opportunity to provide your input. All  
24 those who wish to speak must sign up in the  
25 speaker sign up area, located just outside the

1 auditorium. The sign up list will close in 15  
2 minutes, at 6:25 p.m. Speakers will be given  
3 the floor in the order that they signed up. And  
4 all comments are limited to two minutes.

5 There maybe elected officials who arrive at  
6 different times throughout the evening, if they  
7 wish to speak, we will do our best to  
8 accommodate them at the first opportune moment.  
9 Those who are here at the start of the public  
10 comment segment will be asked to speak first.

11 All comments, excuse me, all comments will  
12 be mentioned in the analysis of public comment  
13 to be published and provided to the Panel for  
14 Educational Policy the evening before the panel  
15 votes. That vote is scheduled for November 8th,  
16 2012. The meeting will take place at the Frank  
17 Sinatra School of the arts, which is located at  
18 35-12 35th Avenue, Queens, New York 11106.

19 I'll repeat that for you. That vote is  
20 scheduled for November the 8th, 2012. The  
21 meeting will take place at the Frank Sinatra  
22 School of the Arts located at 35-12 35th Avenue,  
23 Queens, New York 11106. And that meeting  
24 begins at 6 p.m.

25 In addition, we welcome any comments and

1 feedback you may have at any time before the  
2 panel vote on this proposal. The email and  
3 phone number where comments made be made are  
4 d10proposals@schools.nyc.gov. I'll spell that  
5 out. That's D as in dog, the number 10, P-R-O-  
6 P-O-S-A-L-S @ schools.nyc.gov. And you may call  
7 in your comments to (212) 374-5159. Again, that  
8 number is (212) 374-5159.

9 I'm just going to briefly describe the  
10 proposal summary and then we'll move onto  
11 statements from the CEC and/or SLT.

12 IS 206 and Misrano's ISO 206 is an existing  
13 zoned middle school located in Building X206 at  
14 2280 Aqueduct Avenue in Community School  
15 District 10. IS 206 is the only school  
16 organization located in Building X206.

17 IS 206 currently serves students in fifth  
18 through eighth grades. The New York City  
19 Department of Education is proposing to  
20 implement a grade truncation, that's harder to  
21 say than it looks, a grade truncation at IS 206  
22 whereby the school will no longer enroll fifth  
23 graders after the 2012/2013 school year.

24 The DOE has proposed to truncate IS 206  
25 because middle schools typically enroll students

1 beginning in sixth grade but IS 206 begins  
2 serving students in fifth grade. Thus, IS 206  
3 as it is currently configured is not aligned  
4 with other middle schools in the district.

5 This proposal's complimentary to another DOE  
6 proposal currently under consideration, also for  
7 the November 8th panel vote. The DOE has posted  
8 an educational impact statement proposing the  
9 expansion of PS 291, which is existing zone  
10 elementary school in District 10, currently  
11 serving students in kindergarten through fourth  
12 grades. If that proposals approved, PS 291 will  
13 serve kindergarten through fifth grades  
14 beginning in 2013/2014.

15 As it stands, students who graduate from PS  
16 291 at the end of fourth grade typically enroll  
17 in IS 206 for fifth grade and the duration of  
18 middle school. Otherwise those students would  
19 have to attend a new elementary school for fifth  
20 grade and then a new middle school for sixth  
21 through eighth grades.

22 By aligning PS 291 and IS 206 with all other  
23 schools in District 10, the DOE will maximize  
24 the choices available to all District 10  
25 students, and specifically students at PS 291.

1 If this proposal to truncate IS 206 is approved  
2 at the close of the 2012/2013 school year, all  
3 fifth grade students at IS 206 who meet  
4 promotional standards will be promoted to sixth  
5 grade. Those students will have the choice to  
6 continue at IS 206 or they can participate in  
7 the District 10 middle school choice process,  
8 which is shared with District 9.

9 If an IS 206 fifth grade student does not  
10 meet the promotional standards at the conclusion  
11 of the 2012/2013 school year, and is required to  
12 repeat the grade in 2013/2014, the DOE will seek  
13 to place that student in a fifth grade class at  
14 a nearby elementary school. If such placement  
15 is not feasible, the DOE will find an  
16 alternative District 10 placement for that  
17 student.

18 Under this proposal changing IS 206 grade  
19 span from the fifth to eighth grades to sixth to  
20 eighth grades will not, sorry, I apologize.  
21 Yes. Changing the grade span from fifth to  
22 eighth grades to sixth to eighth grades will not  
23 significantly decrease the schools enrollment  
24 because the schools administration has elected  
25 to add a choice program to offer to grades six

1 through eight.

2 This program will be added to the schools  
3 programming at the start of the 2013/2014 school  
4 year and will phase into the school each  
5 subsequent year, allowing the school to have  
6 enrollment at the completion of 2015/2016 that  
7 is comparable to its current enrollment. The  
8 DOE does not anticipate any changes to IS 206  
9 admissions practices, academic programming,  
10 extracurricular offerings or partnerships as a  
11 result of this proposal.

12 So I am going to pass the mic now to Marvin  
13 Shelton from CEC 10 to provide his feedback and  
14 we will then move on to public comment.

15 MR. MARVIN SHELTON: Thank you. I'm  
16 concerned about both proposals. Given my  
17 understanding of the zone lines and the  
18 enrollment patterns that if 291 goes K to 6, or  
19 K to 5, excuse me. Typically, and according to  
20 my records, they're zoned to the 399, which are  
21 calling the 974 middle school zone. And thus,  
22 may or may not compliment enough students flow  
23 over to 206 to fill up their sixth grade.  
24 Because actually I don't even know how many  
25 fifth graders come in from 291 to 206.

1           So I'm concerned that 206 may be under  
2 utilized if this goes through and 291 parents  
3 don't fully understand the ramifications of them  
4 going K to 5. And if I get some clarity on  
5 whether or not these zones overlap or not, then  
6 I'll make a full comment. But at this point I'm  
7 going to reluctantly say I'm not sure if it is a  
8 good idea right now.

9           MS. BARBOZA: Thank you very much Marvin. I  
10 appreciate that. I did want to note that we  
11 have Principal Nearing here as a representative  
12 of the 206 SLT and SLT does not have a statement  
13 at this time.

14           As such, we would move onto the public  
15 comment period. I am noting that it is 6:18.  
16 We don't have anybody signed in for public  
17 comment so I will go ahead and leave the hearing  
18 open for next seven minutes. If anybody were to  
19 sign in, we would certainly accommodate them.  
20 So we're just going to be on standby for a short  
21 time.

22           [break in audio]

23           MS. BARBOZA: Hi, I just want you to know  
24 we're at 6:27 p.m. We still do not have anyone  
25 signed in for public comment. I do note that we

1 have a parent in the back here. So if we have  
2 any questions or concerns we can help to answer  
3 before we close out the hearing. I'm happy to  
4 do so right now.

5 MS. BARBOZA: I don't mean to embarrass you.

6 FEMALE VOICE 1: [Interpreter] She would  
7 like to make a comment.

8 MS. BARBOZA: Absolutely. Absolutely,  
9 please.

10 FEMALE VOICE 1: [Interpreter] I - -  
11 [background Noise]. Anyway, I have got a  
12 daughter here. She's in fifth grade. I'm very  
13 happy to participate in the new year. I was - -  
14 for nothing to do with you. That there is  
15 another - - , different. That's it, thank you.

16 MS. BARBOZA: Thank you so much. I really  
17 appreciate you sharing with us tonight. So I  
18 did want to again note that we had no one sign  
19 in for public comments. So in some sense the  
20 speaker list is exhausted and I would like to  
21 close out the hearing at this time.

22 I do want to remind everybody that we  
23 welcome comments and feedback anytime up until  
24 24 hours before the panel vote. As a reminder,  
25 the Panel for Education Policy votes on this

1 proposal November the 8th, 2012. That meeting  
2 begins at 6 p.m. and will take place at the  
3 Frank Sinatra School of the Arts that's located  
4 at 35-12 35th Avenue, Queens, New York 11106.  
5 You can also provide feedback and commentary via  
6 email at [d10proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:d10proposals@schools.nyc.gov) or via  
7 phone at (212) 374-5159. Thank you everybody  
8 for your participation and for making the time  
9 to join us tonight. The public hearing is now  
10 closed.

11 [END 317\_866\_MASTER.MP3]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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6           Signature *Wanda Elin*

7           Date October 26, 2012

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