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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF
PORTFOLIO PLANNING
August Martin High School - 4/16/12**

1 [START RECORDING]

2 MS. MELISSA HARRIS: Good evening everyone.

3 Good evening. We're going to get started.

4 [Background noise] the Department of Education,

5 Community [background noise] and [background

6 noise].

7 Tonight's proceedings will [background

8 noise]. [Background noise] public comment

9 portion of evening [background noise].

10 [Background noise] please write a question on

11 [background noise] card [background noise].

12 Only people [background noise] will be

13 [background noise] participate in public

14 comment. [Background noise] running late and

15 she will [background noise]. [Background

16 noise].

17 [Background noise] those who are here

18 [background noise]. [Background noise] the

19 format of tonight's proceedings will be

20 [background noise]. [Background noise] public

21 comment will [background noise]. [Background

22 noise] be followed [background noise].

23 [Background noise] each of you will

24 [background noise]. [Background noise]. Again,

25 that number is 212-374-7621 or [background

1 noise] ALS at school [background noise]. I
2 would like to now [background noise]. Starting
3 from my left my Deputy Chancellor Marc
4 Sternberg, William Perry [background noise],
5 Ruth Bryant [background noise], [background
6 noise], and [background noise]. [Background
7 noise] invited [background noise] at the time
8 [background noise]. [Background noise]
9 representative of [background noise]. We are
10 also [background noise] with us tonight.
11 [Background noise].

12 MR. MARC STERNBERG: Good evening
13 [background noise] Melissa. My name is Marc
14 Sternberg [background noise] Division
15 [background noise] proposal this evening that
16 [background noise] comments [background noise].
17 [Background noise] chair [background noise] some
18 thoughts on [background noise] to accomplish
19 [background noise] and I'll start with
20 [background noise] did not [background noise]
21 policy [background noise] this proposal
22 [background noise] examination [background
23 noise] in order to [background noise]. This
24 evening [background noise] evaluation
25 [background noise] Department of Education

1 [background noise]. [Background noise] wrong
2 [background noise]. This [background noise] a
3 forum [background noise] proposal and then you
4 will [background noise] fully set to receive
5 [background noise] feedback, [background noise]
6 officials and representatives [background noise]
7 and I know the [background noise] that exist
8 [background noise] the department; however
9 [background noise] approached decisions about
10 [background noise] for schools as we consider
11 [background noise]. [Background noise] promise
12 [background noise] and in our judgment that
13 proposal [background noise] for the school.

14 [Background noise] officially [background
15 noise] discussed [background noise] closure of
16 [background noise] August Martin School. A
17 school that's [background noise] 156-10 Baisley
18 Boulevard [background noise] 9th through 12th on
19 March 5th, 2012 the Department of Education will
20 look at the proposal [background noise] new
21 school [background noise]. In conjunction with
22 this proposal we [background noise] support
23 additional improvements [background noise] to
24 make [background noise] possible the department
25 [background noise] school for [background noise]

1 application to New York City [background noise]
2 department [background noise] school proved this
3 would be useful [background noise] for
4 [background noise] million dollars [background
5 noise]. We are [background noise] we support
6 [background noise] who would be [background
7 noise] opposed to the [background noise] school.
8 We believe that [background noise] is right
9 [background noise] community [background noise]
10 you will [background noise].

11 I still [background noise] some of the data
12 [background noise] additional [background noise]
13 share some of that. I also want to share that
14 as we [background noise] school [background
15 noise] and you see [background noise]. For
16 example we see [background noise] including all
17 [background noise] in the last couple years
18 [background noise] in 2007-'08 [background
19 noise] 67%, 2010 [background noise]. The
20 department needs [background noise] structure,
21 and staff. The community [background noise]
22 quality [background noise] school [background
23 noise] need to be [background noise] accelerate
24 [background noise] new school [background
25 noise]. While overall [background noise] tests,

1 English, English history, [background noise].
2 The department [background noise] encourage
3 [background noise] new school [background noise]
4 all stars [background noise] areas. Again,
5 [background noise] program structures and
6 [background noise] to improve [background noise]
7 and other services [background noise]. While
8 these kids are [background noise].

9 [Crosstalk]

10 MR. STERNBERG: We want to be clear
11 [background noise] which [background noise]
12 success [background noise] students [background
13 noise] see problems with their first [background
14 noise] 59% versus [background noise]. This rate
15 of admission [background noise] % [background
16 noise]. [Background noise] % assumes the
17 [background noise] college [background noise]
18 four years [background noise]. Private school
19 vendors the progress reports used [background
20 noise] school as well as [background noise]
21 school compared to other schools [background
22 noise] population [background noise] that
23 [background noise] August Martin [background
24 noise] School [background noise] evaluated 39
25 [background noise] schools [background noise]

1 that survey. They [background noise] and
2 [background noise] especially [background
3 noise]. In this environment [background noise]
4 by [background noise] parents, faculty,
5 students, relatives [background noise] other
6 schools, [background noise]. [Background noise]
7 that [background noise] opposed the proposed
8 [background noise]. Before we hear from
9 [background noise] panel [background noise]
10 public comments [background noise] I want to
11 [background noise] back [background noise]
12 proposal. All [background noise] August Martin
13 students want a guaranteed seat at the new
14 school proposed to remain here and [background
15 noise] that includes senior, [background noise]
16 seniors who [background noise] their [background
17 noise] in the [background noise]. [Background
18 noise] who have applied [background noise] tests
19 [background noise] through the [background
20 noise] location process [background noise] tier
21 as well.

22 Finally I want to verify the process
23 [background noise]. We are [background noise]
24 school [background noise] school [background
25 noise] August Martin High School that school

1 will be [background noise] part of the new
2 school. The rehiring process [background noise]
3 teachers [background noise]. There is no
4 [background noise] the process. The process
5 does not require [background noise] any set
6 percentage of salary. [Background noise] the
7 city's teacher contracts [background noise]
8 proposal approved [background noise] will apply
9 as well in the new school. Their applications
10 will be reviewed by [background noise] personnel
11 [background noise] which would led by
12 [background noise] leader of this school to
13 [background noise] appointed by [background
14 noise] DOT and [background noise] appointed by
15 Commissioner Wolcott [phonetic]. This
16 [background noise] will [background noise] all
17 hiring of [background noise] staff for the
18 school and here at the school level led by
19 [background noise]. The proposed leader will
20 [background noise] refer teacher [background
21 noise] school; develop qualifications for
22 [background noise] to the new school [background
23 noise]. [Background noise] all teachers from
24 the current school are eligible [background
25 noise] apply to work [background noise] new

1 school. Again, [background noise] there is no
2 [background noise] staff [background noise] the
3 [background noise] at the new school and
4 personnel being [background noise] all those
5 [background noise] hiring [background noise].
6 Thank you and [background noise].

7 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. [Background noise]
8 school [background noise]. [Background noise]
9 first we will have [background noise] Perry
10 [background noise] chair followed by Ruth
11 Bryant, Jose Ferru Zola, and Rick Davis.
12 [Background noise].

13 MR. WILLIAM PERRY: Thank you very much
14 [background noise]. Good evening ladies and
15 gentlemen [background noise]. [Background
16 noise] the next few minutes [background noise]
17 proposal made [background noise] committee
18 [background noise] school and I want to just
19 [background noise] here. Every school
20 [background noise] have slowly [background
21 noise] the closure of [background noise],
22 closure of [background noise], closure of
23 [background noise]. [Background noise] change
24 it [background noise] those are [background
25 noise] the [background noise] the community

1 [background noise]. [Background noise] school
2 leaders [background noise]. [Background noise]
3 plan and [background noise] on that [background
4 noise] followed through [background noise].
5 [Background noise] two weeks [background noise]
6 and we're not [background noise]. We are
7 [background noise] opposed to [background noise]
8 of this [background noise]. I hope [background
9 noise] to read [background noise] proposal
10 [background noise] read it in its entirety, 34
11 pages [background noise] read it, [background
12 noise]. [Background noise] proposed [background
13 noise] most of [background noise]. And there's
14 a reporter [background noise] the [background
15 noise] and we [background noise] everything that
16 you say or [background noise] we say [background
17 noise] the city. Okay, [background noise] don't
18 fool with our schools. We [background noise]
19 improvement [background noise] support our
20 [background noise]. It's time [background
21 noise] tell you is some other issue [background
22 noise] we put together [background noise]. Okay
23 the folks [background noise] this [background
24 noise] make believe [background noise] their
25 plan to [background noise] solution. We

1 [background noise], we [background noise].
2 Okay, [background noise] problem with
3 [background noise] recently [background noise]
4 principal [background noise]. We [background
5 noise] schools in less than 90 days. Before
6 today [background noise] applaud [background
7 noise] and [background noise] regional
8 [background noise]. We are not--and I want to
9 make this perfectly clear, we are not adverse to
10 quality education for our [background noise] and
11 rights for our grandkids to continue [background
12 noise]. [Background noise] doesn't do what it
13 promises [background noise] or make [background
14 noise] policy. [Background noise] if the
15 [background noise]. This might [background
16 noise] save our school [background noise].

17 MS. RUTH BRYANT: Good evening to everyone.
18 My name is Ruth Bryant and I'm Chairperson of
19 the August Martin Advisory Commission. That
20 commission has [background noise] this school
21 since it became August Martin back in 1970.
22 They've always been [background noise] of my
23 community [background noise] and they are
24 [background noise]. [Background noise] over the
25 years I must tell you that the last four years

1 [background noise] entirely because
2 [background noise] every [background noise]
3 trying to upgrade the school and I [background
4 noise] done so much. August Martin High School
5 is one of the few high schools that [background
6 noise]. We have [background noise] % of last
7 two years and called that [background noise] our
8 school [background noise]. We cannot
9 [background noise] why we are not [background
10 noise] on that list when we have shown
11 improvement [background noise]. Other schools
12 [background noise] have been [background noise]
13 why we have not been [background noise]. Why.
14 We are a community school and have been
15 receiving money and the [background noise] from
16 our students [background noise] that are working
17 with our students to help [background noise]
18 level of achievement on academic [background
19 noise] to become the [background noise]. In
20 this [background noise] technological society
21 [background noise] the school [background noise]
22 [background noise]. [Background noise] to allow
23 [background noise] school [background noise].
24 It would be [background noise]. The advisory
25 [background noise] decision of only one

1 [background noise]. But anyway [background
2 noise] and [background noise] from [background
3 noise]. [Background noise] we will see that
4 [background noise] contract [background noise]
5 and we also have [background noise].
6 [Background noise] with that. We have
7 [background noise] than [background noise]
8 everyone [background noise]. [Background noise]
9 another [background noise] community [background
10 noise] they have [background noise] which they
11 [background noise] and [background noise]. So
12 that's [background noise] going on that has been
13 going on and this [background noise]. I cannot
14 tell you [background noise] when I came to this
15 school [background noise] and I was told that
16 [background noise] and [background noise] that
17 every [background noise]. So [background noise]
18 and we [background noise] school [background
19 noise] going on. [Background noise] and we
20 [background noise] and [background noise] is
21 essential for [background noise] I [background
22 noise] [crosstalk] who feel [background noise]
23 what they [background noise] and to tell me
24 [background noise] you [background noise] I say
25 [background noise] and I [background noise]

1 proposal [background noise] and I [background
2 noise]. [Background noise] and [background
3 noise] and [background noise] students or
4 [background noise] need a good [background
5 noise] right behind [background noise].
6 [Background noise] other school [background
7 noise] so I think I've said enough but I wanted
8 to [background noise] opportunity for our school
9 [background noise] time [background noise] I
10 [background noise] these students [background
11 noise] and I think [background noise] can be
12 [background noise] getting paid [background
13 noise] and now [background noise] graduate in
14 two months and [background noise]? How can you
15 do that [background noise]? That's [background
16 noise]. So I [background noise] and I
17 [background noise] the people [background noise]
18 are they [background noise] and I [background
19 noise] resources [background noise] so
20 [background noise]. Thank you [background
21 noise]. I'm [background noise] and I hope that
22 [background noise] knock down [background noise]
23 proposal [background noise]. [Background noise]
24 parents, community [background noise] don't let
25 the [background noise]. [Background noise] take

1 a stand and we work together we can accomplish
2 great things.

3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you [background noise].
4 Thank you. We're [background noise] for State
5 Senator Shirley Huntley to [background noise].
6 [Background noise].

7 MS. SHIRLEY HUNTLEY: Good evening. You
8 know I'm [background noise] this [background
9 noise]. [Background noise] I'm here because
10 [background noise] I love. I [background noise]
11 this school August Martin and I just can't
12 believe the avarice, the avarice of the public
13 [background noise] they taunt, the come, they
14 sit, and they [background noise]. [Background
15 noise] great school [background noise] schools
16 like [background noise]. I [background noise].
17 I want to [background noise] but I will not--in
18 fact [background noise] I'll. You know why?
19 [Background noise] waste of the time. They
20 don't listen. They [background noise] but
21 others [background noise] also. [Background
22 noise] every school in our community [background
23 noise]. [Background noise]? [Crosstalk] are we
24 going to let them [background noise] new school
25 or [background noise] and [background noise].

1 It was so bad [background noise]. [Background
2 noise] school [background noise]. We always
3 [background noise] the same [background noise].
4 We always [background noise] early in the week I
5 would have called every [background noise] they
6 don't show up. You don't show up [background
7 noise]. They can't [background noise] just
8 [background noise]. This is part of the
9 process. The process that [background noise]
10 school [background noise] and [background
11 noise]. You're going to have [background noise]
12 for lunch? I can [background noise].
13 [Background noise]? It's not. [Background
14 noise] school [background noise]. [Background
15 noise]. I remember [background noise] you have
16 a school [background noise]. The [background
17 noise] putting our school [background noise].
18 Let me tell you [background noise]. That will
19 go on [background noise] parents or merchants or
20 community they [background noise] and
21 [background noise] the school [background
22 noise]? No. Get my drift? Don't [background
23 noise] now. Don't let [background noise].
24 Don't [background noise], don't [background
25 noise]. They [background noise] the audits

1 [background noise] set the pace [background
2 noise] we will take it. [Background noise] so
3 they [background noise] that. That's all.
4 [Background noise]. They do [background noise].
5 [Background noise] the whole [background noise]
6 this [background noise]. Have a good evening.

7 MR. JOSE FERRU ZOLA: Good evening. My name
8 is [background noise] BTSA [background noise]
9 and also [background noise] high school
10 [background noise]. It's funny that three years
11 ago when I came [background noise] where they
12 were opening 30 new schools. Lo and behold this
13 is [background noise] knew [background noise]
14 senators councilmen and [background noise]
15 school [background noise] the schools then
16 [background noise] opening the schools.

17 Now [background noise] August Martin was
18 first [background noise] national ELA during the
19 2009/2010 school year, the year we had 62
20 [background noise] graduation rate so how are
21 you going [background noise]. Also the
22 [background noise] 2001, in May of 2011
23 [background noise] dedicated [background noise]
24 I'm sorry, I'm sorry. Okay [crosstalk]. Thank
25 you. The [background noise] review of 54

1 schools last year CLL during the 2010/2011
2 school year, the year our graduation rate was
3 67% and our school still has been [background
4 noise] school. How is that possible? I don't
5 understand that. Now, [background noise]
6 proposed [background noise] progress report that
7 was [background noise] we had was [background
8 noise]. [Background noise] progress report.

9 Okay. I'm [background noise] you know the
10 [background noise] August Martin High School and
11 the [background noise] schools they are proposed
12 closing we [background noise] all [background
13 noise] the school [background noise] last three
14 years. He does not hear and he does not want to
15 listen. Mr. Bloomberg [background noise] the
16 DOE [background noise]. They [background noise]
17 Bloomberg and the [background noise] it's
18 [background noise]. [Background noise]
19 education [background noise] very well. How
20 exactly [background noise] chancellor. I knew
21 the [background noise] I guess I was wrong. The
22 meeting [background noise] meeting [background
23 noise] in the school. I believe that this
24 [background noise] the [background noise] over
25 their [background noise] exceeding the

1 [background noise]. They [background noise]
2 for the first time in history [background noise]
3 our school. [Background noise] that someone who
4 will be a senior [background noise] that
5 [background noise] a politician [background
6 noise] education. The [background noise] idea
7 [background noise] which tell us [background
8 noise] that they are [background noise] the same
9 and [background noise]. I have been in the
10 school [background noise] four years. I didn't
11 graduate from this school. I [background noise]
12 Mr. Bloomberg how would you feel if [background
13 noise] you had to leave your home. [Background
14 noise] the way it should be. We [background
15 noise] but [background noise]. Well that
16 [background noise] public [background noise] to
17 put it [background noise]. Are you going to
18 [background noise]? Our [background noise] and
19 I think [background noise] pay for. Teachers
20 [background noise]. They go beyond and above
21 and [background noise], you are not in the
22 school. Why don't you [background noise]. The
23 [background noise] is you don't [background
24 noise] shame. [Background noise] other people
25 [background noise]. Our school with funding,

1 teachers, and resources I think [background
2 noise]. You are setting our school to fail.
3 What you do not see is [background noise]. We
4 need to [background noise] world. You
5 [background noise] our school and so we
6 [background noise]. It's time to [background
7 noise] or [background noise] away. Thank you.

8 MR. RICKY DAVIS: Good evening. My name is
9 Ricky Davis [crosstalk]. How is that? Okay.
10 My name is Ricky Davis and I'm [background
11 noise] high school. Now I'd [background noise]
12 about August Martin High School. [Background
13 noise] a lot [background noise] about you know,
14 bad English grades and scores on [background
15 noise] test. Let me tell you [background
16 noise]. I am a commercial pilot and a
17 commercial pilot [background noise] fly airplane
18 for [background noise]. All [background noise]
19 is [background noise] black commercial pilot in
20 the United States. He actually [background
21 noise] so [background noise] and he passed
22 [background noise] supposed to be. I just
23 [background noise]. There's 80,000 commercial
24 pilots on the United States, 1% of 80,000
25 [background noise]. One percent [background

1 noise] so those are the numbers. Whatever
2 [background noise] airport and you see a black
3 man [background noise] pilot and [background
4 noise] say any more [background noise]. I
5 [background noise]. He is the pilot [background
6 noise] because [background noise] well-trained
7 pilot [background noise] training, but
8 [background noise].

9 My [background noise] a more personal
10 [background noise] but we never thought
11 [background noise] face on it. I got an
12 opportunity to come here to [background noise]
13 community to learn [background noise].
14 [Background noise] here [background noise] and I
15 wanted to take just [background noise] you got
16 [background noise].

17 I'll [background noise]. I [background
18 noise] Thursday [background noise] and
19 [background noise]. Pretty [background noise].
20 But sooner [background noise] every so often I
21 have [background noise] accumulated [background
22 noise] hours that I [background noise] I'm
23 taking [background noise] and [background noise]
24 up and solo. [Background noise]. So for me
25 that experience is [background noise] but I

1 [background noise] parent for that [background
2 noise] experience. If we allow [background
3 noise] build [background noise] but it does
4 [background noise] a way to history.
5 [Background noise] that [background noise] way
6 [background noise] we struggled [background
7 noise] our ancestors. It does lay with the
8 history [background noise] listed [background
9 noise] side of [background noise] where
10 [background noise] and you know [background
11 noise] pilot [background noise]. There's a
12 [background noise] program. [Background noise]
13 small. Teacher [background noise] and
14 [background noise] and [background noise]. But
15 we [background noise] organized as a [background
16 noise] say no more. You look at [background
17 noise] school to be closed [background noise]
18 [crosstalk]. I've been saying this for years
19 [background noise] but it's really you're taking
20 away our ability I think allowing people to be
21 [background noise], allowing the equality
22 [background noise] battle [background noise]
23 empowers a person [background noise].
24 [Background noise] there's no way [background
25 noise] become a commercial pilot, a school

1 teacher, a [background noise] lifeguard
2 [background noise]. [Background noise] say it's
3 happening now and [background noise] now but it
4 doesn't stop here. Not [background noise].
5 [Crosstalk] ignorance, all these [background
6 noise] so [background noise] stop here and it's
7 our responsibility to I believe take away
8 [background noise] our children's future.
9 Again, I'm Ricky Davis. I'm a proud teacher of
10 [background noise].

11 MS. HARRIS: Thank you Mr. Davis. Now we
12 are [background noise] the [background noise]
13 official [background noise].

14 COUNCILMAN SANDERS: I congratulate all
15 those [background noise] for really putting
16 [background noise]. I've been seeing
17 [background noise] these [background noise] to
18 [background noise] sometimes you get [background
19 noise] from a mike but sometimes [background
20 noise] people and I had heard a certain measure
21 of [background noise] report to you [background
22 noise]. I also have to question this
23 [background noise] that [background noise] make
24 sense. The answers don't seem to answer
25 [background noise]. We saw with the [background

1 noise] this [background noise] we should
2 respect [background noise] professional. We've
3 been saying [background noise] professionals
4 you've got to [background noise] they
5 [background noise] office [background noise].
6 [Background noise] that we [background noise]
7 have [background noise] who [background noise] a
8 lot of time [background noise]. He said
9 [background noise] respectful [background
10 noise]. I'm also curious about [background
11 noise]. I'm curious to know [background noise]
12 I feel that the DOE may be throwing out their
13 baby with the bathwater. The [background noise]
14 in school [background noise]. [Background
15 noise] a failure when at the same time
16 [background noise] can show [background noise]
17 committee [background noise] with the graduation
18 [background noise] and [background noise] then
19 may be other schools [background noise] look at
20 [background noise] not [background noise]. I'm
21 curious about those things. [Background noise]
22 is not the man [background noise] program is
23 [background noise]. We [background noise].

24 It was mentioned that the [background noise]
25 concerned by [background noise] now [background

1 noise] closing the school [background noise].
2 I haven't heard here that will be [background
3 noise] difference and [background noise]
4 decision [background noise] it's the same
5 concern when [background noise]. You have to
6 [background noise] be [background noise]. I
7 will very much in favor [background noise]
8 legacy [background noise] so those are the
9 things that I'm trying to find out. If there is
10 [background noise] approaching 70% and
11 [background noise] don't seem to be approaching
12 that then either [background noise] , you're
13 [background noise] saying that your statistics
14 for graduation are not good but [background
15 noise] questions here and I'm anxious to
16 continue this dialogue [background noise] find
17 out why [background noise]. If you're
18 [background noise] statistics you need to use
19 let's have some that we can understand but I do
20 want to put my [background noise] statistics. I
21 [background noise] us [background noise] lies,
22 damn lies, and statistics but we need to look at
23 especially [background noise] some figures that
24 [background noise] the answers [background
25 noise]. Thank you very much.

1 MS. HARRIS: Thank you [background noise].
2 [Background noise]. Is someone [background
3 noise]? [Background noise].

4 [Crosstalk]

5 ASSEMBLYWOMAN VIVIAN COOK: [Background
6 noise] back of the bus [background noise]. A
7 lot of us have to change that just like a lot of
8 us had to help change [background noise]. I
9 [background noise] walk in this auditorium
10 [background noise]. When you pass [background
11 noise] property and you look up and say I don't
12 have to go to that school you have to
13 [background noise] and you're still driving
14 [background noise]. The board of education
15 didn't do that. The elected officials
16 [crosstalk] [background noise]. I want to know
17 [background noise] and I [background noise].
18 Let's go down there [background noise] those
19 people have [background noise] their hard work
20 and they're [background noise] but nobody went
21 to or wanted to go to, now you're [background
22 noise] and [background noise]. Let me say
23 something to you. If the community takes this
24 lying down then [background noise]. [Background
25 noise] Bloomberg [background noise] understand

1 he may [background noise] but this is our
2 community [background noise]. This is our
3 school and [background noise] talk about the
4 power of [background noise]. [Background noise]
5 talk about moving our school. Those are our
6 [background noise] people. Everybody seems to
7 [background noise] anybody [background noise]
8 and make some change in the laws [background
9 noise] efforts to bring this [background noise]
10 program here [background noise] with a spoon and
11 [background noise] in church and all [background
12 noise] want [background noise] they are the
13 voices and they are the people here and they are
14 [background noise] separate [background noise]
15 these kids [background noise] go upstairs and
16 have a [background noise] and we [background
17 noise]. This is not the board of education's
18 [background noise] okay? You [background
19 noise]. [Background noise] and [background
20 noise].

21 MS. HARRIS: Thank you [background noise].
22 [Background noise] official to be here this
23 evening [background noise] here and [background
24 noise] acknowledge him. Then [background noise]
25 American [background noise] Caucus and

1 [background noise] office and [background
2 noise] is here [background noise]. Mr.
3 [background noise] are you here?

4 MR. LEO CASEY: Good evening. My name is
5 Leo Casey and I am the Vice President of the
6 United Federation of Teachers [background
7 noise]. I'm here tonight to tell you that there
8 is no, and I mean no [background noise] for
9 closing down this school. And it's not just
10 [background noise] that this school has a
11 graduation rate that is better than the average.
12 Think about that. That means that at least half
13 the schools in New York City are doing more
14 poorly at graduating students in four years than
15 this school. It's not [background noise]. When
16 you realize that of all the schools they wanted
17 to close three-fourths of them do not meet the
18 city's own criteria and the states own criteria
19 for closure. This is not [background noise].
20 This is about politics. It's a major political
21 train wreck.

22 It's about a mayor who doesn't believe
23 [background noise] they got into a fight and
24 [background noise] lost and is taking out his
25 revenge on the schools. They said it doesn't

1 matter if you change the name of this school.
2 That [background noise] understand that this
3 school is rooted in this community. They don't
4 understand who August Martin was. They don't
5 understand that he [background noise] because
6 [background noise]. They don't understand that
7 he died bringing [background noise] food to
8 starving children in the [background noise].
9 They don't understand [background noise]. They
10 think the name is like a number, that you just
11 change it [background noise]. Well this school
12 has history. This school [background noise]
13 community and this school cannot die.

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you [background noise].
15 [Background noise] and then we will [background
16 noise] public comment. I [background noise] the
17 following [background noise] line up on
18 [background noise] microphone. Numbers one
19 through five, [background noise] followed by
20 [background noise] Diego.

21 Brian [background noise]. You are
22 [background noise] minutes. I will [background
23 noise] when you have 30 seconds remaining and
24 when your time is up. [Background noise].

25 MALE VOICE 1: Good evening. All I have to

1 say is we [background noise]. I was going to
2 [background noise] this school [background
3 noise]. We fought it then and we'll fight it
4 now. I want to say [background noise] I
5 [background noise] this [background noise]. I
6 also [background noise] and one of the things
7 that I [background noise] is that [background
8 noise] they are very [background noise]. This
9 [background noise] some school that don't even
10 have [background noise]. When you [background
11 noise], I [crosstalk]. You think that's
12 [crosstalk]. You [background noise] that's
13 [background noise]. We [background noise] this
14 for [background noise]. That this [background
15 noise] has almost 70% graduation rate
16 [background noise]. This school has [background
17 noise] to be the only [background noise] school
18 in the southeast [background noise] not every
19 school [background noise]. We [background
20 noise] in those [background noise]. We must
21 [background noise]. [Background noise] look for
22 [background noise] and I see that not only do
23 you [background noise] process, you [background
24 noise] the process. You [background noise]
25 [crosstalk] and you walk proud it's 'cause you

1 knew that you won. You [background noise] and
2 you will lose this [background noise] this
3 [background noise]. You [background noise].
4 That's [background noise].

5 MS. HARRIS: Thank you [background noise].

6 MALE VOICE 2: Good evening. [Background
7 noise]. [Background noise] close [background
8 noise]. [Background noise] educational facts.
9 That [background noise] negotiations with CSA
10 and New York [background noise]. The motivation
11 behind that [background noise] is not
12 [background noise] and [background noise] and
13 [background noise] schools [background noise].
14 What else [background noise]? There is
15 [background noise] that's being introduced
16 [background noise]. Not [background noise].
17 They will not [background noise] must have
18 [background noise]. Furthermore we [background
19 noise] more schools than [background noise]
20 schools [background noise] the New York City
21 area will be [background noise] one after the
22 other. [Background noise]. [Background noise]
23 the most important ones there are also
24 [background noise]. [Background noise] and the
25 [background noise] they [background noise]

1 facilities [background noise] one hundred
2 [background noise].

3 [Background noise] moment. Professionals
4 [background noise] and the face [background
5 noise] negotiations [background noise]. Instead
6 [background noise] chose to [background noise].
7 We [background noise].

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. [Background noise]
9 number four.

10 FEMALE VOICE 1: Hi again. I'm [background
11 noise] teaching here since 1984. [Background
12 noise]. I want to speak [background noise]
13 because I [background noise]. We're not even
14 [background noise] at all. [Background noise]
15 here today [background noise]. I really
16 [background noise]. [Background noise] the
17 staff and all [background noise] stand up.
18 Everybody stand up. They are [background noise]
19 stand up. Stand up. [Background noise] the
20 seniors [background noise] all of [background
21 noise] please stand up. [Background noise].
22 This is a shame on the Department of Education.
23 This is political [background noise] nothing to
24 do with [background noise]. This is political.
25 The [background noise] with [background noise]

1 and you know what? He lost. He lost so what
2 does he do [background noise] playground
3 [background noise] he's a bully on the
4 playground [background noise] so he closing 33
5 schools. And then [background noise] he thinks
6 is okay to [background noise] graduate so they
7 [background noise]. [Background noise] is
8 setting up [background noise]. Well you know
9 what? It's [background noise] and [background
10 noise] you're not going to accept it in Queens.
11 We are not. We have eight schools in Queens.
12 We are not [background noise] so I want to hear
13 everybody, shame on you. Shame on you. Shame
14 on you. Shame on you.

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. [Background noise].

16 MALE VOICE 3: The first thing I want to say
17 [background noise]. My name's [background
18 noise], I'm a [background noise] association and
19 [background noise] school [background noise].
20 [Background noise] I would [background noise].
21 [Background noise]. [Background noise]
22 principal and my [background noise].
23 [Background noise] this [background noise] us,
24 the alumni, the schools, the staff and
25 [background noise]. [Background noise] not a

1 criminal, it's not a [background noise], it's
2 not [background noise]. [Background noise].
3 That's first. Second [background noise] I would
4 [background noise] school [background noise].
5 [Background noise]. [Background noise] him
6 [background noise] have the [background noise]
7 so [background noise] then [background noise]
8 strongest [background noise] and I [background
9 noise] so we are [background noise]. The next
10 thing I wanted to show was that [background
11 noise] sitting there and change the school
12 [background noise]. What happens to [background
13 noise] that has [background noise] teach these
14 kids how to [background noise]. What happens to
15 [background noise]? What happens to that
16 teacher when [background noise]. What happens
17 to [background noise] school that teaches
18 [background noise] that DOE's going to
19 [background noise]? [Background noise]
20 competition. [Background noise] competition
21 they [background noise]. [Background noise]
22 teaching these kids [background noise] school
23 [background noise] and you cut [background
24 noise] off [background noise]. [Background
25 noise] what do you teach the parents. What do

1 you teach the students? What do you teach
2 [background noise] where you can [background
3 noise] home [background noise] teachers
4 [background noise] for [background noise]. They
5 worked so hard [background noise] work so hard
6 as [background noise], [background noise], this
7 school [background noise] 67% and [background
8 noise] the [background noise] of 70% [background
9 noise]. And these schools [background noise]
10 they [background noise] just as [background
11 noise] or even [background noise] to give
12 [background noise] hard [background noise] you
13 tell them that they're failing. How is it
14 [background noise] our [background noise] they
15 can pass [background noise] last two years, how
16 is it [background noise]. We need to assume
17 that's [background noise] because [background
18 noise]. This [background noise] a failed school
19 [background noise] not [background noise] up
20 [background noise] they tell [background noise]
21 school, [background noise] see in school, 90%,
22 100%, [background noise] school and [background
23 noise] [crosstalk] \$50,000 [background noise]
24 that school. [Background noise] that's the
25 [background noise] school [background noise].

1 So here's [background noise] for you,
2 [background noise] tell me one reason why this
3 school's called a failed school [background
4 noise] whose school has not failed [background
5 noise]. Explain it to me.

6 MS. HARRIS: There is [background noise]
7 will follow [background noise] public comment.
8 Right now [background noise] public comment
9 [background noise]. Again, we ask you
10 [background noise] just so that [background
11 noise] and then [background noise]. Okay.
12 Numbers six through ten.

13 FEMALE VOICE 2: Good evening [background
14 noise]. I [background noise]. The [background
15 noise]. [Background noise] my problem
16 [background noise]. [Background noise] first
17 [background noise] which [background noise]. So
18 [background noise] acceptance and [background
19 noise]. [Background noise] this [background
20 noise]. [Background noise] and I [background
21 noise]. Again, [background noise]. [Background
22 noise] one of the [background noise]. Show me
23 [background noise]. A lot of [background
24 noise]. [Background noise]. [Background noise]
25 this [background noise], this school, this

1 [background noise] school. At the [background
2 noise] that even though they get better every
3 year they're still not good enough. [Background
4 noise] shame. I'm ashamed.

5 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

6 MALE VOICE 4: My name is [background noise]
7 who [background noise]. [Background noise] see
8 [background noise]. This is [background noise].
9 They called this [background noise] notify
10 [background noise] anybody who's not employed
11 will get [background noise] by the Department of
12 Education I ask you to get up right now and walk
13 out.

14 [Crosstalk]

15 MALE VOICE 4: [Background noise]. The
16 security [background noise] and they must have
17 [background noise] people that you must have
18 [background noise]. Don't [background noise]
19 standing [background noise]. [Background noise]
20 walk out [background noise]. It took
21 [background noise] ten years [background noise]
22 finding out [background noise] in [background
23 noise] failing high school. Ten years of this
24 administration and now he's [background noise]
25 to close this school and [background noise] here

1 I don't see how [background noise],
2 [background noise] the [background noise], the
3 parents will allow for [background noise] will
4 allow [background noise] close this school.
5 It's [background noise]. [Background noise].
6 We want our [background noise] and take it out
7 of here [background noise] what's wrong
8 [background noise]. [Background noise] 'cause
9 [background noise] and she [background noise].
10 This is only a [background noise] and they
11 [background noise] supposed to be. [Background
12 noise] on our [background noise] now [background
13 noise] but [background noise] and that's it.
14 Stop blaming us, stop [background noise] these
15 principals [background noise] children
16 [background noise]. [Background noise] and then
17 [background noise] say that when you [background
18 noise] the school and [background noise] been
19 here [background noise] \$2 million [background
20 noise] each school you put in here. If you
21 [background noise] that money why can't you give
22 it to this school now [background noise]?

23 This school has the best [background noise]
24 in the city. This school [background noise]
25 program that they [background noise] teaching

1 our [background noise] ecology [background
2 noise]. They [background noise]. Where
3 [background noise]? All I'm saying and I think
4 [background noise] said it well. If we stand up
5 or sit down and let them close this school we
6 [background noise] a whole [background noise]
7 and [background noise]. We must not let them
8 close this school [background noise] every day
9 [background noise]. They say our parents
10 [background noise]. I understand that these
11 students [background noise]. They [background
12 noise]. They [background noise]. They
13 [background noise]. They [background noise] and
14 [background noise] two or three [background
15 noise] and [background noise] school age
16 children. It's almost impossible [background
17 noise] the Department of Education uses that to
18 say [background noise] children. We love our
19 children. We support our children and we will
20 stand by our children and if we don't do that we
21 need to [background noise] that we [background
22 noise] our schools. [Background noise] we have
23 it, let's [background noise]. [Background
24 noise] let's keep [background noise] from
25 closing our school. [Background noise].

1 [Background noise] that they're not going to
2 allow them to close this school. Thank you very
3 much.

4 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. Number eight.
5 Number nine. Okay, number ten. Alright. Miss
6 [background noise].

7 DOROTHY SWAGGART: I'm Dorothy Swaggart
8 [phonetic] [background noise] children and I'm
9 here because our community [background noise] in
10 New York City. We [background noise] and I want
11 to say [background noise] school [background
12 noise] and [background noise] in the time
13 [background noise] right now [background noise]
14 Bloomberg that [background noise]. [Background
15 noise] Bloomberg came up with this [background
16 noise] and he has destroyed our schools and our
17 community. [Background noise] Bloomberg
18 [background noise] but I am [background noise]
19 and [background noise] and I am proud
20 [background noise]. And I will [background
21 noise] school [background noise]. And I found
22 out that our school [background noise] in New
23 York City. [Background noise] principal
24 [background noise] I said [background noise] and
25 I [background noise]. I said why don't you

1 [background noise]. He said [background
2 noise]. [Background noise] I got news for you
3 [background noise] high school Bloomberg
4 [background noise]. [Background noise] you're
5 not [background noise]. [Background noise]
6 what's good for this school and how many of the
7 staff members are [background noise].
8 [Background noise] high school they are
9 [background noise]. [Background noise] they are
10 [background noise] from [background noise] and
11 they [background noise] not going to [background
12 noise] so we [background noise] and [background
13 noise] school [background noise]. So now
14 [background noise] there [background noise] and
15 that [background noise] school [background
16 noise] will be out in the streets and
17 [background noise]. [Background noise] and they
18 call [background noise]. [Background noise] now
19 [background noise] to say [background noise] and
20 I [crosstalk].

21 MS. HARRIS: Ma'am your time is up.

22 MS. SWAGGART: [Background noise] brought
23 out and [background noise] of this [background
24 noise] they are [background noise].

25 MS. HARRIS: Ma'am.

1 MS. SWAGGART: [Background noise] thank
2 you.

3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

4 STEVE: My name is Steve [background noise]
5 and I'm [background noise] education. You know
6 this is [background noise] same [background
7 noise]. We know [background noise] is saying.
8 We know [background noise] school. [Background
9 noise] create new [background noise]. New
10 school [background noise] years ago ten years
11 [background noise] is here [background noise].
12 This is [background noise] education [background
13 noise]. [Background noise] deputy chancellor is
14 here right now [background noise] law says so.
15 It's not [background noise]. And [background
16 noise] we know [background noise] from our
17 community [background noise] [crosstalk]
18 [background noise] not this [background noise].
19 They [background noise], they [background noise]
20 school. It doesn't seem to make a difference
21 [background noise] school has [background noise]
22 end of the year it doesn't seem [background
23 noise] difference [background noise] hard work,
24 students, parents, and [background noise], and
25 the community [background noise] hard work

1 [background noise]. [Background noise] close
2 the school and that's only [background noise].
3 We've got to [background noise].

4 MS. HARRIS: Thank you [background noise].
5 [Background noise] numbers 11 through 15 line
6 up. Number 11 through 15 [background noise].

7 FEMALE VOICE 3: [Background noise] I said
8 that [background noise] our community. The
9 first thing I would say [background noise] I
10 remember [background noise]. This is an attack
11 on our community; this is an attack on our
12 children, [background noise]. The [background
13 noise] years ago [background noise] our
14 [background noise]. How [background noise] our
15 [background noise]. [Background noise]
16 education [background noise]. [Background
17 noise] our family, [background noise] children
18 [background noise] people [background noise]
19 prove that they [background noise]. [Background
20 noise] prove they can [background noise]. Why
21 would [background noise]. They [background
22 noise] because [background noise]. [Background
23 noise] and they [background noise]. [Background
24 noise] we are about [background noise]. What
25 happens [background noise] they came in, they

1 [background noise] and now [background noise].
2 No, it's [background noise] you [background
3 noise] and your [background noise]. [Background
4 noise] this [background noise] or [background
5 noise]. [Background noise] how can [background
6 noise] new people [background noise].
7 [Background noise] what they deserve. They
8 deserve respect, they deserve dignity, and they
9 deserve an education that you owe them. You owe
10 them [background noise] raise our children
11 [background noise]. Don't blame [background
12 noise]. [Background noise] not about
13 [background noise] school, it's [background
14 noise] not [background noise] school [background
15 noise] who don't [background noise] and this
16 [background noise].

17 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

18 FEMALE VOICE 3: I'm proud [background
19 noise]. We [background noise]. I [background
20 noise] on [background noise]. [Background
21 noise] community and we will fight this closure
22 because it's not [background noise].

23 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. Number [background
24 noise]. [Background noise] 11. Miss
25 [background noise]. Mister [background noise].

1 Mister [background noise].

2 MALE VOICE 5: Good evening August Martin.

3 I am [background noise]. [Background noise] I

4 am [background noise]. [Background noise].

5 [Background noise] used to tell us that we

6 [background noise] for [background noise] and

7 that [background noise]. That's exactly

8 [background noise] to do. [Background noise]

9 say that [background noise]. [Background noise]

10 all [background noise] but [background noise]

11 school kids [background noise] changing those

12 tests. How [background noise] change each year

13 [background noise] only teach [background noise]

14 tests [background noise]. Now Mr. Bloomberg

15 [background noise] they change [background

16 noise]. First of all their \$1.1 million must

17 already be available so it [background noise]

18 and [background noise] is to why transportation

19 [background noise] promote these schools and

20 private schools. If that money is available

21 [background noise] proposed [background noise]

22 private school and not taking care of school

23 students here. [Background noise] you should

24 never [background noise]. [Background noise]

25 now have [background noise]. They [background

1 noise]. We must [background noise]. We must
2 talk to [background noise]. Now what
3 [background noise] and you [background noise] I
4 think [background noise]. [Background noise]
5 parents, [background noise], but students and
6 those students who are old enough to remember
7 [background noise] they were [background noise]
8 before and if necessary we will do it again.

9 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. Numbers 18 through
10 20. Oh, number 18 [background noise] number
11 [background noise].

12 MALE VOICE 6: [Background noise] I know you
13 can't hear me and you can't hear [background
14 noise]. Well you can hear me now can't you?
15 [Background noise]. Who said no? You can't.
16 Get up. Stand up. Who said no? [Crosstalk]
17 [background noise] getting out of control?
18 Getting a little [background noise] sir? I
19 don't want to [background noise]. I just want
20 to [background noise]. [Background noise]. In
21 any case [crosstalk]. I told you [background
22 noise].

23 MS. HARRIS: [Background noise].

24 MALE VOICE 6: I've been teaching for 18
25 years at the high school of economics and

1 finance. There was once the Andrew Jackson
2 School. I come here in support of everybody
3 [background noise]. Why? Because my school is
4 in danger of being closed too? Why? They got
5 [background noise], they got [background noise]
6 before [background noise] again. [Background
7 noise] support everybody here. [Background
8 noise] just finishing up. I came looking for my
9 dear friend [background noise]. My brother and
10 my dear friend and my question is where
11 [background noise] and that is not a rhetorical
12 program. And that is not a rhetorical question.
13 Where is [background noise] Palmer. You don't
14 know do you? You know [background noise]
15 question is sir? You don't know. You work for
16 the DOE. [Background noise] free speech and I
17 will finish [background noise]. [Background
18 noise] with three quotes [background noise]
19 tells you [background noise]. The first quote
20 [background noise] change you want to see in
21 your world. Once again [background noise]
22 change [background noise] in the world.
23 [Background noise] [crosstalk] sit down
24 [background noise] . Second quote another
25 famous person, [background noise] here.

1 [Background noise] Poet laureate [background
2 noise]. If you learn, teach. If you get, give.
3 I'll say it again. If you learn, teach. If you
4 get, give. [Background noise] give you another
5 hint. [Background noise] she gave [background
6 noise] press [background noise] in Albany. Who
7 would that be? [Crosstalk] I heard it.
8 [Crosstalk] My next one yes. This next one
9 [background noise]. [Background noise] does not
10 [background noise] and time, [background noise].
11 That's [background noise]. I [background noise]
12 believe in a war against poverty. I believe in
13 a war against injustice, and I believe in the
14 war against [background noise] education.
15 Finally I believe in the war against man's
16 inhumanity to man and I'm here to say that all
17 [background noise] should not [background noise]
18 and my dear friend [background noise] who's
19 [background noise]. Thank you.

20 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. [Background noise].

21 KATHLEEN: Good evening. My name is
22 Kathleen [background noise] and I'm a retired
23 teacher and I am also a community person. I
24 [background noise] for 57 years. My question or
25 statement is [background noise]. My question to

1 you is recently the AGs office [background
2 noise] teacher reserve pool, they [background
3 noise] big deal about trying to get rid of it
4 and now closing [background noise] schools that
5 you're talking about you're going to [background
6 noise] however [background noise] teacher
7 [background noise] because now this is what I
8 hear the teachers will have to reapply to work
9 in this school so if they reapply and they do
10 not get a position here then they go into the
11 ATR pool. The ATR pool they are just going to
12 be working [background noise] and I don't
13 understand that it was such a big deal, this
14 [background noise] to get through all the ATRs,
15 why are the [background noise] trying to close
16 schools and start adding a large number in this
17 school that [background noise] just trying to
18 get rid of. My asking is this is a community
19 school, we need it. When you close this school
20 you impact on all of the other schools in the
21 area because of the numbers. Right now there
22 are [background noise] class. You close this
23 school they'll have 35 [background noise]
24 children in the class and then you're going to
25 ask why [background noise].

1 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

2 MALE VOICE 7: I [background noise]. I am a
3 junior [background noise]. How come [background
4 noise]? I know [background noise], I
5 [background noise]. That's [background noise].
6 [Background noise] a school [background noise].
7 [Background noise] my school. [Background
8 noise]. It's not fair [background noise]. You
9 don't see [background noise]. [Background
10 noise] I [background noise] and I am not.
11 [Background noise] right on [background noise].
12 You make [background noise] becomes [background
13 noise] and every [background noise].
14 [Background noise]. I don't know what
15 [background noise] is and I don't care. I want
16 you [background noise]. This changes
17 [background noise]. [Background noise] I
18 believe that that should [background noise].
19 [Background noise] school body [background
20 noise]. That's what I [background noise].

21 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. [Background noise]
22 number 18. Number 18.

23 MARKUS: Good evening ladies and gentleman
24 [background noise]. My name is Markus
25 [background noise] here [background noise]. I

1 [background noise], I work [background noise],
2 I [background noise]. I was [background noise].
3 As with all issues [background noise]. I've had
4 [background noise]; I've had [background noise].
5 [Background noise] our visibility. [Background
6 noise] schools. [Background noise] school year
7 [background noise] next to our [background
8 noise]. We know this [background noise]. How
9 [background noise]? [Background noise] and yet
10 [background noise] close the school [background
11 noise]. Again, [background noise] all these
12 [background noise], all these [background noise]
13 be there [background noise] we like [background
14 noise]. I have [background noise]. Also
15 [background noise] to get [background noise]
16 came from [background noise] where [background
17 noise]. [Background noise]. I will do whatever
18 it takes to ensure this school [background
19 noise]. [Background noise] school [background
20 noise].

21 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. [Background noise].

22 FEMALE VOICE 4: Hello [background noise].

23 I just wanted to say that [background noise]

24 student [background noise] school and I

25 [background noise]. I don't think that closing

1 the school [background noise] because
2 [background noise]. [Background noise]. The
3 school buildings need [background noise] I think
4 before [background noise] started the school
5 [background noise] but I do know that they are
6 something [background noise] school that needs
7 to be [background noise]. [Background noise]
8 allow the schools that [background noise].
9 There are a lot of things that [background
10 noise] my [background noise] and I feel that she
11 [background noise] and that [background noise]
12 that [background noise]. [Background noise] and
13 some of the [background noise] was to
14 [background noise]. Some problems [background
15 noise] other [background noise] parents
16 [background noise] parent [background noise] but
17 [background noise]. [Background noise].

18 MS. HARRIS: Excuse me ma'am [background
19 noise]

20 FEMALE VOICE 4: Overall I would have to say
21 that I don't believe [background noise] teachers
22 [background noise] and I think teachers
23 [background noise] some of them that are
24 [background noise] actually deliver [background
25 noise] school year. So I believe that the

1 teachers that [background noise]. And I
2 [background noise] future for all [background
3 noise].

4 MS. HARRIS: [Background noise] Thank you.

5 FEMALE VOICE 4: [Background noise] our
6 students [background noise]

7 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

8 MALE VOICE 8: Good evening [background
9 noise]. [Background noise] want to say
10 [background noise]. [Background noise].
11 [Background noise] in our community and
12 [background noise]. [Background noise] however
13 all [background noise]. Whenever I [background
14 noise] instead of [background noise].

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. Number [background
16 noise].

17 FEMALE VOICE 5: Good evening everyone. I
18 would just like to start by saying [background
19 noise]. [Background noise] for our children,
20 for our [background noise]. [Background noise]
21 and I feel that [background noise] entity
22 [background noise]. [Background noise]. Now I
23 also [background noise] I [background noise]
24 high school. One [background noise].
25 [Background noise]. That is one of the most

1 beautiful stories I have ever [background
2 noise]. [Background noise] because I no longer
3 [background noise]. [Background noise] I
4 attended SLT. I [background noise] and I saw
5 [background noise] teachers. They [background
6 noise]. No one is perfect but they [background
7 noise] and I appreciate [background noise]
8 teachers [background noise], I appreciate
9 [background noise]. [Background noise]
10 successful so how [background noise] believe
11 [background noise]. [Background noise]
12 impossible. Everyone [background noise]. I
13 urge [background noise] please consider
14 [background noise] school. [Background noise]
15 education [background noise] in our schools
16 [background noise]. We'll get those students
17 [background noise] 65 maybe 70 [background
18 noise]. We look forward [background noise].
19 [Background noise] they need [background noise].

20 MS. HARRIS: Thank you ma'am.

21 MS. DAVIS: Good afternoon to everybody who
22 [background noise]. It is [background noise] I
23 want that [background noise] see but we don't
24 [background noise] informing the community about
25 what's going on [background noise] teachers

1 [background noise]. You [background noise]
2 standing here [background noise] as well to know
3 [background noise] said [background noise] you
4 [background noise] next day you close it.
5 [Background noise] we don't [background noise].
6 There is no [background noise]. How [background
7 noise] school [background noise] school and
8 [background noise] afternoon [background noise]
9 first school is going to be there. And
10 [background noise] and disgraceful. [Background
11 noise] in this school [background noise] you are
12 [background noise]. I am upset. I am
13 [background noise] and I [background noise]. I
14 am upset. And the reason I'm upset is because
15 [background noise]. Every [background noise]
16 school [background noise] close [background
17 noise]. Our [background noise]. [Background
18 noise]. No one told me [background noise]. I
19 [background noise] and I know [background noise]
20 school, [background noise] community school. I
21 [background noise] grandson to a community
22 school. He [background noise], I [background
23 noise]. It's my responsibility to be
24 [background noise] the school. [Background
25 noise]. What [background noise]. I'm tired of

1 [background noise] going on and [background
2 noise]. And [background noise] and do anything
3 [background noise]. I [background noise]. But
4 my [background noise] school is not being closed
5 [background noise] it's being transformed
6 [background noise]. What about [background
7 noise] and make sure that [background noise]
8 when they [background noise] to teach our kids.
9 [Background noise] teachers. [Background noise]
10 two years [background noise] school [background
11 noise] for our community.

12 MS. HARRIS: Ms. Davis.

13 MS. DAVIS: I [background noise] I'm upset.

14 MS. HARRIS: Ms. Davis.

15 MS. DAVIS: And I mean to be upset. I won't
16 [background noise], and [background noise]. You
17 know [background noise] too [background noise]
18 president [background noise] charter school
19 [background noise]. They [background noise] and
20 [background noise] down. This is [background
21 noise] they should [background noise].
22 [Background noise] look at [background noise].
23 This [background noise] if you [background
24 noise].

25 MS. HARRIS: Ms. Davis.

1 MS. DAVIS: What [background noise].
2 [Crosstalk] two minutes to express how they feel
3 [background noise]. What [background noise].
4 Where [background noise]. How do you
5 [background noise] and tell us [background
6 noise] school [background noise] best education
7 [background noise] school [background noise].
8 [Background noise] schools among [background
9 noise]. [Background noise] school they
10 [background noise] the same way [background
11 noise] they do. [Background noise] and she
12 [background noise] come back to school
13 [background noise] two years. [Background
14 noise] she's pregnant. These are the things
15 [background noise] school, nobody [background
16 noise].

17 MS. HARRIS: Ms. Davis [background noise].

18 MS. DAVIS: I am upset [background noise],
19 and I will [background noise]. [Background
20 noise] and not [background noise] where
21 [background noise]. Thank you.

22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you ma'am. [Background
23 noise].

24 MALE VOICE 9: Hello parents, students,
25 [background noise] school, [background noise].

1 I'm [background noise] and us students have
2 [background noise]. [Background noise] people
3 that [background noise] community and
4 [background noise] school, [background noise]
5 staff, [background noise] teachers and they
6 still [background noise] parents [background
7 noise] good [background noise]. [Background
8 noise] can tell you [background noise]
9 certification [background noise]. [Background
10 noise]. And also I'd like to say [background
11 noise] in our school and this school has a
12 history of [background noise] that also continue
13 [background noise] students [background noise]
14 and they're [background noise]. Thank you.

15 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. We will now
16 [background noise]. We will have [background
17 noise]. Any questions not answered [background
18 noise] website. If you have [background noise]
19 we ask that you [background noise] number is
20 212-374-7621 and again, 212-374-7621 [background
21 noise] at [background noise] at school
22 [background noise] at N-Y-C dot G-O-V.
23 [Background noise] okay telephone number again
24 is 212-374-7621. The [background noise] is 27
25 [background noise] that's P-R-O-P-O-S-A-L-S one

1 word, at schools with an S, dot N-Y-C dot G-O-
2 V. [Background noise].

3 MR. STERNBERG: Thank you. Thank you
4 everybody [background noise] standing here
5 providing your comments. [Background noise]
6 school and [background noise]. Before I answer
7 [background noise] answer questions that were
8 asked [background noise]. Some of the questions
9 that were [background noise] we're going to
10 [background noise]. The starting [background
11 noise] how I'm managing by first saying this is
12 not a [background noise] point, this is not a
13 moment in time when the department [background
14 noise] that they are wrong or they're right
15 [background noise]. I also said that
16 [background noise] voiced [background noise]
17 this evening [background noise] few students
18 [background noise], from parents [background
19 noise] this school that [background noise]
20 propose [background noise] and [background
21 noise] all around [background noise] all of the
22 [background noise].

23 Then we'll ask [background noise] questions
24 [background noise] asked and now [background
25 noise] that we will, as I've stated, my

1 intentions are [background noise] anyone and
2 we will [background noise] and there [background
3 noise] we'll [background noise] other avenues
4 [background noise]. So [background noise] has
5 passed out some [background noise] to the school
6 and I [background noise] graduation and it's
7 [background noise] the year. I will address at
8 the moment how we had to [background noise]
9 close the school and reopen it with a new school
10 here [background noise] school [background
11 noise]. [Background noise] acknowledge the
12 improvement in the school and I want to
13 acknowledge [background noise] programs
14 [background noise], and I [background noise] the
15 [background noise] history [background noise]
16 community. A conference meeting about concerns
17 [background noise] and I will [background noise]
18 acknowledge the [background noise] procedure. I
19 want [background noise] that would be for the
20 purpose of this [background noise] is to start a
21 new school that will honor the space of the
22 existing school that will [background noise]
23 structure [background noise] must be part of the
24 school [background noise] and principle school.
25 So there is [background noise]. There must be

1 [background noise] to [background noise] staff
2 [background noise] school who have passion and
3 [background noise] students well, [background
4 noise] and they've worked very hard to make
5 [background noise]. [Background noise] serves
6 [background noise] in this school. The
7 [background noise] question [background noise]
8 the decision [background noise] school has
9 [background noise] and I would say [background
10 noise]. First of all [background noise]
11 everyone or [background noise] across the city
12 against a peer group of schools across
13 [background noise] schools that serve
14 [background noise] student population
15 [background noise] very similar. [Background
16 noise] performance is not [background noise]
17 schools, it's not evaluated [background noise].
18 [Background noise] very similar to [background
19 noise], very similar to [background noise]. And
20 in other ways [background noise] not just
21 graduation rates. Evaluation [background noise]
22 the school based on [background noise] relative
23 to other schools. On [background noise] various
24 [background noise] student relative to other
25 schools. [Background noise] school on the

1 [background noise] and [background noise] all
2 our schools across the city are parents,
3 faculty, and students.

4 So we see the school in our [background
5 noise] that [background noise] improvement
6 [background noise] and [background noise] new
7 school [background noise] the structures that
8 are in place that are motivating [background
9 noise] turning it into a new school [background
10 noise]. What we see [background noise] we see
11 [background noise] data and this [background
12 noise] data [background noise] motivated to see
13 [background noise] this school [background
14 noise]. From this data includes the following;
15 classes [background noise], started at
16 [background noise] and ended at 107th Street and
17 so the legal [background noise] the school is
18 [background noise] we have to make [background
19 noise]. We looked at this year's tier
20 [background noise] and [background noise] 31
21 student's improvement [background noise] year.
22 Their improvement [background noise]. The first
23 [background noise] two years [background noise]
24 students did not [background noise] the school
25 and [background noise], so we need [background

1 noise]. We take [background noise] a
2 [background noise] school's enrollment
3 [background noise] school. In 2006/'07 the
4 school had total population [background noise]
5 over 1,800 and today [background noise] is
6 approximately [background noise] approximately
7 the same [background noise] enrollment the last
8 five years.

9 We also must acknowledge the feedback of the
10 parents, students, and faculty [background
11 noise] survey about [background noise], and the
12 results of these surveys among parents
13 [background noise] school in the area of
14 [background noise]. With regards to parent's
15 issue of safety at the school [background noise]
16 school and the parents [background noise] the
17 school [background noise] very [background
18 noise]. Teachers placed the school in
19 [background noise] school [crosstalk] 5% schools
20 citywide, and students over 500 of them,
21 [background noise] survey placed the school in
22 the [background noise] % of schools citywide in
23 terms of [background noise] of this area. So we
24 acknowledge the [background noise], we
25 acknowledge [background noise], but our

1 [background noise] felt that [background
2 noise] school in light of [background noise]
3 which we [background noise]. And it is
4 [background noise] of these [background noise]
5 that we asked to recommend a course of action
6 that will [background noise].

7 There are several questions about
8 [background noise] process and I'll [background
9 noise] the school and I [background noise] of
10 [background noise] accessibility to [background
11 noise] process, the [background noise] actually
12 is [background noise] our prior [background
13 noise] that this is outlined in our [background
14 noise] school [background noise]. [Background
15 noise] huge [background noise] here is
16 [background noise] the school. [Background
17 noise] and [background noise] those five
18 [background noise] who will be [background
19 noise] about [background noise] school.

20 [Crosstalk]

21 MR. PERRY: [Background noise] everybody
22 [background noise] parents [background noise]
23 students [background noise]. [Background
24 noise]. So I just wanted to let you know that
25 our community [background noise] students or you

1 feel that you are [background noise] going to
2 [background noise] or [background noise] parent
3 [background noise] see [background noise]
4 community [background noise]. [Background
5 noise] person that [background noise] can
6 [background noise] so we [background noise].
7 [Background noise].

8 MR. STERNBERG: This concludes my
9 [background noise]. The committee [background
10 noise] criteria [background noise] that will
11 [background noise] and those are [background
12 noise] alternative [background noise] process
13 [background noise]. [Background noise] answer
14 [background noise] question [background noise]
15 very specific. [Background noise] we actively
16 encourage [background noise] parents [background
17 noise]. [Background noise] and community
18 organizations as representatives of [background
19 noise] for the [background noise] process.
20 However there is no requirement that a parent be
21 a member of the [background noise].

22 MR. PERRY: Pardon me. We've really
23 [background noise]. [Background noise] that
24 excluded our community, that excluded the
25 parents [background noise]. [Background noise]

1 community [background noise] prided itself
2 [background noise] program where [background
3 noise] of the community [background noise].

4 MR. STERNBERG: [Background noise].

5 MALE VOICE 10: Excuse me. I think
6 [background noise] speak about that [background
7 noise].

8 MR. STERNBERG: I will.

9 MALE VOICE 10: [Background noise] know that
10 y'all set a meeting up for the kids to be
11 [background noise] the parents to go to another
12 school while this meeting is [background noise].
13 That's [background noise] wasn't here tonight.
14 I need you to tell me why is that [background
15 noise]? Is that [background noise]? Our
16 [background noise] are not here with [background
17 noise] what [background noise], what [background
18 noise], and not [background noise]. You
19 [background noise] they don't [background noise]
20 during vacation. The parents [background
21 noise]. These kids know about that but why
22 would you set that meeting at the same time as
23 this meeting to [background noise] instead of
24 here. That's sabotage. That's the [background
25 noise]. That's [background noise]. How is

1 that? Is that [background noise] to do that?

2 [Crosstalk]

3 MALE VOICE 10: I want to know [background
4 noise] do that.

5 MR. STERNBERG: [Background noise]

6 [Crosstalk]

7 MS. HARRIS: [Crosstalk].

8 MALE VOICE 10: [Background noise] I know
9 [background noise] but [background noise] my
10 mother's [background noise]. But at the end of
11 the day all I [background noise] these teachers
12 and these parents and anybody else in here
13 understands that you set a meeting for this
14 [background noise] community and you set that
15 transfer meeting at the same time. I want to
16 know did you [background noise] yes? Or I just
17 want a simple answer. I want you to tell me
18 [background noise].

19 MR. STERNBERG: [Background noise].

20 MALE VOICE 10: Thank you. [Background
21 noise] you see what he just did. You see what
22 [background noise] did? They set us up for
23 failure by setting them up, by having the
24 parents talking about transferring this school,
25 they go to another school to be transferred out

1 of there [background noise] how [background
2 noise]. You [background noise] sabotaging
3 [background noise] right here so that you can
4 hear our opinions. Now I [background noise]
5 'cause I don't [background noise] no more. But
6 I'm [background noise] sabotage. You didn't do
7 it, but somebody set that up. That's
8 [background noise] that's just sabotage period.

9 MR. STERNBERG: [Background noise] I will
10 acknowledge that [background noise] attend
11 [background noise] for [background noise]
12 schools [background noise] this school. I also
13 [background noise] that [background noise] one
14 opportunity for parents, students, community
15 members [background noise] [crosstalk] and you
16 will [background noise] program [background
17 noise].

18 They were community [background noise], one
19 was [background noise], and one was [background
20 noise] school [background noise] school. So the
21 [background noise] models we started this
22 examination [background noise] evaluation for
23 [background noise] turn around [background
24 noise]. Also [background noise] school,
25 [background noise] the new school. This is how

1 also [background noise] eligible for AC money
2 and we only add [background noise] teachers that
3 would make [background noise]. [Background
4 noise] the status of current students
5 [background noise] again, all our students
6 including those [background noise] all
7 [background noise] will get the [background
8 noise] school [background noise] all [background
9 noise] process. This includes seniors who
10 failed [background noise] scores necessary for
11 graduation [background noise].

12 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. We have [background
13 noise] policy [background noise]. [Background
14 noise] and we thank [background noise] program.

15 [END RECORDING]

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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: *Cynthia Romero*

Date: April 19, 2012